Course Overview and Objectives

This course, required of all history majors at Kennesaw State, serves as an introduction to the origins of several of the world’s most important religious and intellectual traditions. It is designed to give exposure to ideas that have molded the past and continue to shape the way peoples across the globe live today. Particular emphasis will be placed on the points of intersection and contrast between these traditions and on the ways in which these modes of thought and belief continue to evidence themselves in the current day.

Our chief means of studying these traditions will be through the careful examination of primary sources. Much of our class time will be taken up with discussion of these texts. The primary task of the student in this class will be to engage in the careful consideration of this material, in both written and spoken form.

GeorgiaVIEW

This course is supported by GeorgiaVIEW. All required course materials, apart from the texts available at the KSU Bookstore, are accessible online. You should familiarize yourself with the site early in the semester and check the site regularly for assignments, readings and announcements.

Texts:

- Numerous additional readings available on this course’s GeorgiaVIEW site.

Required work

- Portfolios (collected at midterm and final – 25% of final grade EACH) – must be **bound** in folders
  1. **Quick-writes** – Short writing assignments on questions/topics asked by the instructor concerning assigned readings for the day.
  2. **Site Visits** – Minimum 2 FULL pages write-up visits to local cultural sites during a ceremony (if allowed) outside of your tradition. (No tradition may be visited more than once. One visit MUST be to the Shri Swaminarayan Mandir in Lilburn - http://atlanta.baps.org/ )
  3. **Interviews** – Minimum 2 FULL pages write-up of interviews with **knowledgeable** individuals (preferably community leaders) outside of your tradition.
4. **Restaurant visits** – Minimum 2 FULL pages write-up of experiences of traditional non-American/European/non-Americanized ethnic cuisine outside of your tradition. Must be approved by the professor.

5. **Mini-reports** – 5 page research reports on the topic which most interested you concerning your interview.

(Number’s 2-5 above must be TYPED, 12 point Times New Roman font, DOUBLE SPACED, one inch margins, paragraph format)

**(Contents of Midterm portfolio: All Quick-writes plus ONE EACH of numbers 2-5 above)**

**(Contents of Second portfolio: All Quick-writes plus TWO EACH of numbers 2 & 3 above, ONE Restaurant visit, and ONE mini-report)**

**At the end of the semester, your portfolios will have:**
- All Quick-writes
- Three Site Visits
- Three Interviews
- Two Restaurant Reviews
- Two Mini-reports

- Midterm (multiple choice and essay) – 20% of final grade
- Final (multiple choice and essay) – 20% of final grade
- Final Essay – 10% of final Grade

**Tentative Schedule**

This schedule is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. It is up to the student to stay abreast of any announced changes in the schedule of assignments and readings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 17</td>
<td>Introduction-Syncretism</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 22</td>
<td>Origins of Great Traditions</td>
<td>Redfield</td>
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<td>Aug 24</td>
<td>Oral History</td>
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<td>Aug 29</td>
<td>African tradition</td>
<td><em>Sundiata</em></td>
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<td>Aug 31</td>
<td>From Indus Valley to Vedic India</td>
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<td>Sept 7</td>
<td>Hinduism</td>
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<td>Sept 12</td>
<td>Rebellion: Jainism &amp; Buddhism</td>
<td><em>Buddhakarita</em></td>
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<td>Sept 14</td>
<td>Theravada and Mahayana</td>
<td>Selected Buddhist texts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 19</td>
<td>Warring Princes &amp; Classical India</td>
<td><em>Ramayana, Gita, Laws of Manu</em></td>
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<td>Sept 21</td>
<td>Early China</td>
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<td>Sept 26</td>
<td>Daoism</td>
<td><em>Tao Te Ching, Dao of Pooh</em></td>
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<td>Sept 28</td>
<td>Confucianism &amp; Legalism</td>
<td><em>Analects, Han Feizi</em></td>
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<td>Oct 3</td>
<td>Imperial China</td>
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<td>Oct 5</td>
<td>Midterm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 10</td>
<td>Early Monotheism</td>
<td><em>Zoroastrian docs</em></td>
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**Attendance & Participation**

Attendance is mandatory. The bulk of this course will include class discussion of texts and reflection on the traditions that we are considering. It is essential that you come to class prepared to engage in creative and respectful discussion, participation will be a significant deciding factor in borderline grades. You may miss **TWO** classes, excused or not. Each additional absence will count **2 points off your final average**. Extended medical absences should be discussed with the professor. **More than 6 absences will result in a failing grade for the course.**

**Grading scale**

90-100=A; 80-90=B; 70-80=C; 60-70=D; below 60=F  
Late work will be penalized one letter grade for each class session it is late. No papers more than one week late will be expected. Missed exams may be made up only with a documented medical excuse. Any grade appeals must be submitted to me in writing and within a week of receiving the grade.

**Academic Integrity and Integrity**

Research has indicated that 40-60% of American college students reported cheating on examinations in college. Over half of the students who reported cheating in college were repeat offenders who used a variety of nefarious techniques to achieve their objective. While I assume the best of all students, I am well aware of these realities.

Please read the statement on Academic Honesty in the Kennesaw State University Undergraduate Catalog on pages 243-4. Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section II of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the University’s policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to University materials, misrepresentation/falsification of University records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or destruction of library materials, malicious/intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or services, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct 12</td>
<td>Biblical Judaism / <strong>Last Day to Withdraw</strong></td>
<td><em>Genesis</em> selections</td>
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<td>Oct 17</td>
<td>Second Temple Judaism &amp; the Hellenistic World</td>
<td><em>Book of Daniel, Daniel debate</em></td>
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<td>Oct 19</td>
<td>Sister Traditions: Rabbinic Judaism</td>
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<td>Oct 24</td>
<td>Sister Traditions: Rabbinic Judaism</td>
<td><em>Haggadah</em></td>
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<td>Oct 26</td>
<td>Sister Traditions: New Testament</td>
<td><em>Nativity &amp; Crucifixion</em></td>
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<td>Oct 31</td>
<td>Sister Traditions: Early Christianity to Constantine</td>
<td><em>Creeds of Christianity</em></td>
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<td>Nov 2</td>
<td>Christianity: Canon and Heresy</td>
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<td>Nov 7</td>
<td>Christendom</td>
<td><em>Portfolio Due</em></td>
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<td>Nov 9</td>
<td>Christianity Divided</td>
<td><em>95 Theses</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 14</td>
<td>Muhammad</td>
<td><em>Sirat Rasul Allah</em></td>
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<td>Nov 16</td>
<td>The Qur’an</td>
<td><em>Muslim Jesus</em></td>
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<td>Nov 21</td>
<td>Islam</td>
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<td>Nov 23</td>
<td>Fall Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 28</td>
<td>Islam Divided</td>
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<td>Nov 30</td>
<td>Children of Abraham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 5</td>
<td>The Modern World: When Great Traditions Collide</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 12</td>
<td><strong>Final Exam 12:30-2:30</strong></td>
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will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which includes either an “informal” resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct’s minimum one semester suspension requirement.

I take instances of plagiarism very seriously. If I have questions about the integrity of your work, I will ask to meet with you. If outstanding questions remain, I will adhere to the policies above. Please note: the penalty for cheating and/or plagiarism in this course is a failing grade for the semester.

A = Excellent. Your essay will:
- Have a strong thesis (main point) that is clearly supported by an organized essay/letter/speech where appropriate.
- Provide excellent examples to support your thesis.
- Show thorough comprehension of the ideas presented in class and in the reading.
- Demonstrate innovative ideas and approaches.
- Have strong analyses of material and arguments found in lecture, reading, and research.
- Contextualize ideas and arguments to the overall historical period.
- Have proper citations as per syllabus.
- Be written clearly, with few errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation or usage.

B = Very Good. Your essay will:
- Have a good thesis that is supported by a mostly well organized essay/letter/speech where appropriate.
- Provide appropriate examples to support your thesis.
- Demonstrate comprehension of the ideas presented in class and in the reading.
- Analyze material and arguments found in lecture, reading, and research.
- Connect ideas and arguments to the overall historical period.
- Have proper citations with few mistakes as per syllabus.
- Be written clearly, with minor errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation or usage.

C = Good/Average. Your essay will:
- Have a thesis, perhaps flawed, or one that is incompletely supported by the essay/letter/speech where appropriate.
- Organized.
- Provide examples to support your thesis.
- Demonstrate basic comprehension of the ideas presented in class and in the reading.
- Reveal some incompleteness in the research.
- Incompletely analyze material and arguments found in lecture, reading, and research.
- Incompletely connect ideas and arguments to the overall historical period.
- Improper use of citations, or incorrect format as per syllabus.
- Be written clearly, with some errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation or usage.

D = Below Average/Barely passing. Your essay will have one or more major problems:
- A weak thesis; or one that is incompletely supported by the essay/letter/speech where appropriate.
- Incomplete or weak organization.
- Weak examples or neglect to include textual examples.
- Show minimal comprehension of the ideas presented in class and in the reading.
- Show incomplete research.
- Partially analyze material and arguments found in lecture, reading, and research.
- Missing, or use incorrect citation format as per syllabus.
- Show lack of coherence, or many errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation or usage (>5/page).

F = Failing. Your essay will receive an F if it meets ANY of the criteria below:
- Does not meet the minimum requirements for a D.
- Shows evidence of plagiarism.
- Does not fulfill the requirements of the assignment.
- Contains unacceptable amount of compositional errors.
- Written in stream of consciousness or incoherent argumentation (babbling).
Plagiarism

The following discussion of plagiarism was produced by Writing Tutorial Services, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN and can be found at http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/wts/plagiarism.html.

What is Plagiarism and Why is it Important?

In college courses, we are continually engaged with other people's ideas: we read them in texts, hear them in lecture, discuss them in class, and incorporate them into our own writing. As a result, it is very important that we give credit where it is due. Plagiarism is using others' ideas and words without clearly acknowledging the source of that information.

How Can Students Avoid Plagiarism?

To avoid plagiarism, you must give credit whenever you use

- another person's idea, opinion, or theory;
- any facts, statistics, graphs, drawings--any pieces of information--that are not common knowledge;
- quotations of another person's actual spoken or written words; or
- paraphrase of another person's spoken or written words.

How to Recognize Unacceptable and Acceptable Paraphrases

Here's the ORIGINAL text, from page 1 of Lizzie Borden: A Case Book of Family and Crime in the 1890s by Joyce Williams et al.:

The rise of industry, the growth of cities, and the expansion of the population were the three great developments of late nineteenth century American history. As new, larger, steam-powered factories became a feature of the American landscape in the East, they transformed farm hands into industrial laborers, and provided jobs for a rising tide of immigrants. With industry came urbanization the growth of large cities (like Fall River, Massachusetts, where the Bordens lived) which became the centers of production as well as of commerce and trade.

Here's an UNACCEPTABLE paraphrase that is plagiarism:

The increase of industry, the growth of cities, and the explosion of the population were three large factors of nineteenth century America. As steam-driven companies became more visible in the eastern part of the country, they changed farm hands into factory workers and provided jobs for the large wave of immigrants. With industry came urbanization the growth of large cities like Fall River where the Bordens lived which turned into centers of commerce and trade as well as production.

What makes this passage plagiarism?

The preceding passage is considered plagiarism for two reasons:

- the writer has only changed around a few words and phrases, or changed the order of the original's sentences.
- the writer has failed to cite a source for any of the ideas or facts.

If you do either or both of these things, you are plagiarizing.

NOTE: This paragraph is also problematic because it changes the sense of several sentences (for example, "steam-driven companies" in sentence two misses the original's emphasis on factories).

Here's an ACCEPTABLE paraphrase:

Fall River, where the Borden family lived, was typical of northeastern industrial cities of the nineteenth century. Steam-powered production had shifted labor from agriculture to manufacturing, and as immigrants arrived in the US, they found work in these new factories. As a result, populations grew, and large urban areas arose. Fall River was one of these manufacturing and commercial centers (Williams 1).
Why is this passage acceptable?

This is acceptable paraphrasing because the writer:

- accurately relays the information in the original uses her own words.
- lets her reader know the source of her information.

Here's an example of quotation and paraphrase used together, which is also ACCEPTABLE:

Fall River, where the Borden family lived, was typical of northeastern industrial cities of the nineteenth century. As steam-powered production shifted labor from agriculture to manufacturing, the demand for workers "transformed farm hands into industrial laborers," and created jobs for immigrants. In turn, growing populations increased the size of urban areas. Fall River was one of these hubs "which became the centers of production as well as of commerce and trade" (Williams 1).

Why is this passage acceptable?

This is acceptable paraphrasing because the writer:

- records the information in the original passage accurately.
- gives credit for the ideas in this passage.
- indicated which part is taken directly from her source by putting the passage in quotation marks and citing the page number.

Note that if the writer had used these phrases or sentences in her own paper without putting quotation marks around them, she would be PLAGIARIZING. Using another person's phrases or sentences without putting quotation marks around them is considered plagiarism EVEN IF THE WRITER CITES IN HER OWN TEXT THE SOURCE OF THE PHRASES OR SENTENCES SHE HAS QUOTED.

Plagiarism and the World Wide Web

The World Wide Web has become a more popular source of information for student papers, and many questions have arisen about how to avoid plagiarizing these sources. In most cases, the same rules apply as to a printed source: when a writer must refer to ideas or quote from a WWW site, she must cite that source.

If a writer wants to use visual information from a WWW site, many of the same rules apply. Copying visual information or graphics from a WWW site (or from a printed source) is very similar to quoting information, and the source of the visual information or graphic must be cited. These rules also apply to other uses of textual or visual information from WWW sites; for example, if a student is constructing a web page as a class project, and copies graphics or visual information from other sites, she must also provide information about the source of this information. In this case, it might be a good idea to obtain permission from the WWW site's owner before using the graphics.

Strategies for Avoiding Plagiarism

1. Put in quotations everything that comes directly from the text especially when taking notes.

2. Paraphrase, but be sure you are not just rearranging or replacing a few words.

   Instead, read over what you want to paraphrase carefully; cover up the text with your hand, or close the text so you can't see any of it (and so aren't tempted to use the text as a "guide"). Write out the idea in your own words without peeking.

3. Check your paraphrase against the original text to be sure you have not accidentally used the same phrases or words, and that the information is accurate.
Terms You Need to Know (or What is Common Knowledge?)

Common knowledge: facts that can be found in numerous places and are likely to be known by a lot of people.

Example: John F. Kennedy was elected President of the United States in 1960.

This is generally known information. You do not need to document this fact.

However, you must document facts that are not generally known and ideas that interpret facts.

Example: According the American Family Leave Coalition's new book, Family Issues and Congress, President Bush's relationship with Congress has hindered family leave legislation (6).

The idea that "Bush's relationship with Congress has hindered family leave legislation" is not a fact but an interpretation; consequently, you need to cite your source.

Quotation: using someone's words. When you quote, place the passage you are using in quotation marks, and document the source according to a standard documentation style.

The following example uses the Modern Language Association's style:

Example: According to Peter S. Pritchard in USA Today, "Public schools need reform but they're irreplaceable in teaching all the nation's young" (14).

Paraphrase: using someone's ideas, but putting them in your own words. This is probably the skill you will use most when incorporating sources into your writing. Although you use your own words to paraphrase, you must still acknowledge the source of the information.

The following handout is quoted from the Purdue University Online Writing Lab and can be accessed at http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/research/r_plagiar.html

Avoiding Plagiarism

Brought to you by the Purdue University Online Writing Lab at http://owl.english.purdue.edu

Academic writing in American institutions is filled with rules that writers often don’t know how to follow. A working knowledge of these rules, however, is critically important; inadvertent mistakes can lead to charges of plagiarism or the unacknowledged use of somebody else’s words or ideas. While other cultures may not insist so heavily on documenting sources, American institutions do. A charge of plagiarism can have severe consequences, including expulsion from a university. This handout, which does not reflect any official university policy, is designed to help writers develop strategies for knowing how to avoid accidental plagiarism.
Since teachers and administrators may not distinguish between deliberate and accidental plagiarism, the heart of avoiding plagiarism is to make sure you give credit where it is due. This may be credit for something somebody said, wrote, emailed, drew, or implied.

Choosing When to Give Credit

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Need to Document</th>
<th>No Need to Document</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- When you are using or referring to somebody else’s words or ideas from a magazine, book, newspaper, song, TV program, movie, Web page, computer program, letter, advertisement, or any other medium</td>
<td>- When you are writing your own experiences, your own observations, your own insights, your own thoughts, your own conclusions about a subject</td>
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<tr>
<td>- When you use information gained through interviewing another person</td>
<td>- When you are using “common knowledge”—folklore, common sense observations, shared information within your field of study or cultural group</td>
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<tr>
<td>- When you copy the exact words or a &quot;unique phrase&quot; from somewhere</td>
<td>- When you are compiling generally accepted facts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- When you reprint any diagrams, illustrations, charts, and pictures</td>
<td>- When you are writing up your own experimental results</td>
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<tr>
<td>- When you use ideas that others have given you in conversations or over email</td>
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Making Sure You Are Safe

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action during the writing process</th>
<th>Appearance on the finished product</th>
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| When researching, note-taking, and interviewing | • Mark *everything* that is someone else’s words with a big Q (for *quote*) or with big quotation marks  
• Indicate in your notes which ideas are taken from sources (S) and which are your own insights (ME)  
• Record all of the relevant documentation information in your notes  

| Proofread and check with your notes (or photocopies of sources) to make sure that *anything* taken from your notes is acknowledged in some combination of the ways listed below: |
| • In-text citation  
• Footnotes  
• Bibliography  
• Quotation marks  
• Indirect quotations  |
|---|---|
| When paraphrasing and summarizing | • First, write your paraphrase and summary without looking at the original text, so you rely only on your memory.  
• Next, check your version with the original for content, accuracy, and mistakenly borrowed phrases  

| Begin your summary with a statement giving credit to the source: *According to Jonathan Kozol, ...*  
• Put any *unique words or phrases* that you cannot change, or do not want to change, in quotation marks: ... *"savage inequalities" exist throughout our educational system (Kozol).*  |
|---|---|
| When quoting directly | • Keep the person’s name near the quote in your notes, and in your paper  
• Select those direct quotes that make the most impact in your paper -- too many direct quotes may lessen your credibility and interfere with your style  

| Mention the person’s name either at the beginning of the quote, in the middle, or at the end  
• Put quotation marks around the text that you are quoting  
• Indicate added phrases in brackets ([ ]) and omitted text with ellipses (….)  |
|---|---|
| When quoting indirectly | • Keep the person’s name near the text in your notes, and in your paper  
• Rewrite the key ideas using different words and sentence structures than the original text  

| Mention the person’s name either at the beginning of the information, or in the middle, or at that end  
• Double check to make sure that your words and sentence structures are different than the original text  |
Deciding if Something is "Common Knowledge"

Material is probably common knowledge if . . .

- You find the same information undocumented in at least five other sources
- You think it is information that your readers will already know
- You think a person could easily find the information with general reference sources

Sources used in creating this handout:


This page is located at http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/research/r_plagiar.html

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PLEASE READ AND SIGN THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT

I, ________________________________________, certify that I have read and understand the ENTIRE syllabus including the guidelines concerning plagiarism. I will address any questions I have concerning information on the syllabus, including plagiarism, to the instructor BEFORE the due date of the exam/assignment.

_________________________________________  ______________________
(Signature)                                 (Date)