Contact Information

• Instructor: Stephen Bartlett
• Phone: 470-578-2280
• Office: Social Science (SO) 4124
• Office Hours: T/TH 10:00-3:00 & By Appointment
• Email address: sbartlet@kennesaw.edu
Electronic Communication

Note: The University provides all KSU students with an “official” email account with the address “students.kennesaw.edu.” As a result of federal laws protecting educational information and other data, this is the only email account you should use to communicate with your instructor or other University officials. I will not respond to emails from any other account address.

Please include your full name in your email so I know who is writing.

I will respond to email within 24-48 hours during the week and ASAP on weekends. If you require a more immediate response, you may also call 470-578-2280. Please leave a message with your full name and phone number if I do not answer.
Course Description & Overview

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.
As the bulk of this course will include class discussion of texts and reflection on the traditions that we are considering, attendance is critical. 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 six classes, excused or not. More than six absences for any reason will result in a failing grade for the course.
Required Reading and Technology

• Numerous additional readings available on this course’s D2L site.

• Dependable online access to Desire2Learn
• You will need a computer with a functioning internal or external camera & microphone (purchased for $10-$15 on Amazon if you do not have them), sound card, and dependable Internet access.
• You will need Microsoft Office Suite including Microsoft Word, Microsoft Explorer, PowerPoint, and Flash. You can download a free clone version of MS Office at [http://www.openoffice.org](http://www.openoffice.org)
• You will also need Adobe's Flash Player and Adobe reader, both available free from [http://www.adobe.com/](http://www.adobe.com/)
Course Assessments and Assignments

• 10 Reading Quizzes – On D2L, 10 pts each

• 3 Multiple Choice Exams – On D2L (recorded using Respondus Webcam Monitor) 100 points each

• Final Essay Exam – take home (submitted via dropbox on D2L), 200 points

Grades: (900=A, 800=B, 700=C, 600=D, below 600=F)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 Quizzes x 10 points</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Multiple Choice Exams x 100 points</td>
<td>300 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Essay Exam</td>
<td>200 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midterm Portfolio</td>
<td>200 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Portfolio</td>
<td>200 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1000 points</td>
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Experiential Learning Portfolios

- Portfolios (collected near the midterm and final – 200 points each)
  1) Site Visits – minimum 3 FULL page write-ups of visits to local cultural sites outside of your tradition.
  2) Interviews – minimum 3 FULL page write-ups of interviews with knowledgeable individuals (preferably community leaders) outside of your tradition.
  4) Mini-reports – 5-7 FULL page research reports on the topic which most interested you concerning your interview or site visit. Reports must be internally cited (footnotes) and include a bibliography (not part of the page count).

- (Format: TYPED, 12 point Times New Roman font, DOUBLE SPACED, one inch margins. Information from sources other than personal interviews or class notes MUST BE CITED. Portfolio assignments must be secured to the spine of the portfolio folders via brad, ring, or clip. See the guides on D2L.)

- (Contents of Midterm portfolio: Signed syllabus sheet, Midterm Check Sheet, ONE EACH of 1-4 above)

- (Contents of Second portfolio: Final Check Sheet, Your Midterm Portfolio, TWO ADDITIONAL of numbers 1 & 2 above, ONE ADDITIONAL Restaurant visit, and ONE ADDITIONAL mini-report)

- At the end of the semester, your portfolio will have:
  - Three Site Visits
  - Three Interviews
  - Two Restaurant Reviews
  - Two Mini-reports

**IMPORTANT NOTE:**
You may NOT use the same tradition (including all sects) more than once per portfolio assignment category. The default assumption is that you are familiar with Christian traditions. Therefore, you must receive approval from the instructor for any Christian interview as you are not allowed to interview your own tradition. (Protestants denominations, Wiccan (pagan) sects, and Messianic Judaism are not permitted for these assignments)
The nature of this course requires a fluid schedule to match the environment of the class. Therefore, 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 (either in class or on D2L) in the schedule of assignments and readings.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 15</td>
<td>Syncretism: The Yezidi</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>August 17</td>
<td>Biblical Judaism</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>August 22</td>
<td>Biblical Judaism</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>August 24</td>
<td>The Torah</td>
<td>Quiz: <em>Genesis</em> selections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 29</td>
<td>2nd Temple Judaism</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 31</td>
<td>2nd Temple Judaism</td>
<td>Quiz: <em>Book of Daniel</em>, Daniel debate</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 5</td>
<td>Rabbinic Judaism</td>
<td>Quiz: <em>Haggadah</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>September 7</td>
<td>Whose Bible?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>September 12</td>
<td>Zoroastrianism</td>
<td>Quiz: <em>Avesta</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>September 14</td>
<td>Origins of Christianity</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 15-19</td>
<td>MC #1 Window</td>
<td>Due by 3:00 PM, September 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 19</td>
<td>The Gospels</td>
<td>Quiz: Gospels: Nativity &amp; Passion</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 21</td>
<td>Defining Jesus</td>
<td>Creeds of Christianity</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 26</td>
<td>Christendom</td>
<td>Midterm Portfolio Due</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 28</td>
<td>Islam Created</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 3</td>
<td>Islam Defined</td>
<td>Selections from the Qur’an</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 4</td>
<td>Sharia</td>
<td>Last Day to Withdraw without academic penalty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 5</td>
<td>Sharia</td>
<td>Quiz: Selections from <em>Muslim Jesus</em> &amp; Hadith</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 10</td>
<td>Islam Divided</td>
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**Late Work:** Late work will be penalized one letter grade for each class session it is late. No portfolios more than one week late will be accepted. Missed exams may be made up only with a documented medical excuse. Any grade appeals must be submitted to me in writing within a week of receiving the grade.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 12</td>
<td>Vedic India</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 13-17</td>
<td>MC #2 Window</td>
<td><strong>Quiz:</strong> RigVeda &amp; Upanishads</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 17</td>
<td>Hinduism</td>
<td></td>
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<td>October 29</td>
<td>Hinduism</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>October 24</td>
<td>Hinduism</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>October 26</td>
<td>Jainism</td>
<td><strong>Quiz:</strong> over Online Lecture</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 31</td>
<td>Theravada</td>
<td><strong>Quiz:</strong> Buddhakarita</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 2</td>
<td>Classical India</td>
<td><strong>Quiz:</strong> Ramayana &amp; Laws of Manu</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 7</td>
<td>Early China</td>
<td><strong>Final Portfolio Due</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 9</td>
<td>Daoism</td>
<td><strong>Quiz:</strong> Tao Te Ching &amp; Dao of Pooh</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 10-14</td>
<td>MC #3 Window</td>
<td>Due by 3:00 PM, November 14</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 14</td>
<td>Confucianism</td>
<td><strong>Quiz:</strong> Analects</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 16</td>
<td>Legalism</td>
<td>Han Feizi</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 28</td>
<td>Mahayana</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 30</td>
<td>3 Traditions = 1 China</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 8</td>
<td>Final Exam Essay</td>
<td>Due by 11:59 PM</td>
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Academic Integrity

• The high quality of education at Kennesaw State University is reflected in the credits and degrees its students earn. The protection of high standards of academic integrity is crucial since the validity and equity of the University's grades and degrees depend upon it.

• Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. Section 5. C 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 will be handled through the established procedures of the Department of Student Conduct and Academic Integrity (SCAI), 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. See also https://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/ksu-student-code-conduct.

• 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 established procedures of the University Judiciary Program above.

Please note: the penalty for cheating and/or plagiarism in this course is an automatic failing grade for the semester.

• If a student is unsure of what constitutes plagiarism or how to avoid it, it is recommended that they access the following websites. NO excuses along the lines of “I didn’t know I was plagiarizing” will be accepted.

  • http://plagiarism.org/
  • http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml
  • http://www.library.arizona.edu/help/tutorials/plagiarism/index.html
**ADA Compliance**

- Students with qualifying disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act who require “reasonable accommodation(s)” to complete the course may request those from Office of Student Disability Services. Students requiring such accommodations are required to work with the University’s Office of Student Disability Services rather than engaging in this discussion with individual faculty members or academic departments.

- If, after reviewing the course syllabus, a student anticipates or should have anticipated a need for accommodation, he or she must submit documentation requesting an accommodation and permitting time for a determination prior to submitting assignments or taking course quizzes or exams.

- Students may not request retroactive accommodation for needs that were or should have been foreseeable. Students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations.

- Student Disability Services is located in the Carmichael Student Center in Suite 267. Please visit the Student Disabilities Services website at [www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/sds](http://www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/sds) for more information, or call the office at 470-578-6443.
Essay/Paper Rubric

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 readings.
• 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.
Essay/Paper Rubric

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 readings.
• 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.
Essay/Paper Rubric

C = Good/Average.

Your essay will:

• Have a thesis, perhaps flawed, or one that is incompletely supported by the essay/letter/speech where appropriate.
• Be organized.
• Provide examples to support your thesis.
• Demonstrate basic comprehension of the ideas presented in class and in the readings.
• 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.
Essay/Paper Rubric

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 readings.
• 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.
• Less than the required length
Essay/Paper Rubric

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.
• **Minimal to no use of material covered in lectures evident in the essay.**
• Shows clear evidence of plagiarism.
• **Does not fulfill the requirements of the assignment, including failing to answer ALL parts of the question.**
• Contains unacceptable amount of compositional errors.
• Written in stream of consciousness or incoherent argumentation (babbling)
• Significantly less than the required length