



Education & Humanities Division  
3322 College Drive, Vineland, NJ 08360  
856-691-8600

## **RL 102 World Religions**

Syllabus

Lecture Hours/Credits: 3/3

### **Catalog Description**

*Prerequisites EN 101*

This course presents an introduction to the major religions of the world. Utilizing both a descriptive and interpretative approach, the origin and historical development of each religion is examined with attention given to the beliefs, and practices and social structures. The survey includes Hinduism, Buddhism, Daoism, Confucianism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

### **Textbook and Course Materials**

It is the responsibility of the student to confirm with the bookstore and/or their instructor the textbook, handbook, and any other materials required for their specific course and section.

Click here to see current textbook prices at [cccnj.bncollege.com](http://cccnj.bncollege.com).

### **Evaluation Assessment**

#### **Online Proctoring**

All courses offered at RCSJ, whether they are web-enhanced, hybrid, or fully online, may include assessments that make use of Online Proctoring. To find out more about Online Proctoring, and to learn about the minimum technical requirements, visit [rcsj.edu/elearning/online-proctoring](http://rcsj.edu/elearning/online-proctoring).

#### **Grading Distribution**

Grading to be determined by individual instructors.

Individual instructors may include the following assessment(s):

- Exams
- Final Project
- Participation in class and panel discussions
- Participation in group exercises
- Reflective journal writings

#### **Grading**

The grading scale for each course and section will be determined by the instructor and distributed the first day of class.

## Rowan College of South Jersey Core Competencies

(Based on the NJCCC General Education Foundation - August 15, 2007; Revised 2011; Adopted 2014)

This comprehensive list reflects the core competencies that are essential for all RCSJ graduates; however, each program varies regarding competencies required for a specific degree. Critical thinking is embedded in all courses, while teamwork and personal skills are embedded in many courses.

1. **Written and Oral Communication:** Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.
2. **Quantitative Knowledge and Skills:** Students will use appropriate mathematical and statistical concepts and operations to interpret data and to solve problems
3. **Scientific Knowledge and Reasoning:** Students will use the scientific method of inquiry, through the acquisition of scientific knowledge.
4. **Technological Competency:** Students will use computer systems or other appropriate forms of technology to achieve educational and personal goals
5. **Society and Human Behavior:** Students will use social science theories and concepts to analyze human behavior and social and political institutions and to act as responsible citizens.
6. **Humanistic Perspective:** Students will analyze works in the fields of art, history, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies; and/or will gain competence in the use of a foreign language
7. **Historical Perspective:** Students will understand historical events and movements in World, Western, non-Western or American societies and assess their subsequent significance.
8. **Global and Cultural Awareness:** Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples.
9. **Ethical Reasoning and Action:** Students will understand ethical issues and situations.
10. **Information Literacy:** Students will address an information need by locating, evaluating, and effectively using information.

### CO 310 Core Competencies

This course focuses on two of RCSJ's Core Competencies:

- Global & Cultural Awareness (Diversity)
- Humanistic Perspective (A&H)

## Student Learning Outcomes: World Religions

| Successful completion of RL 102 will help students:  | RCSJ Core Competencies | Evaluation / Assessment<br>(Additional means of evaluation may be included by individual instructors)   |
|--|------------------------|---|
| Describe the essential characteristics of religion.  |                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exams</li> <li>• Final Project</li> <li>• Participation in class and panel discussions</li> <li>• Participation in group exercises</li> <li>• Reflective journal writings</li> </ul> |
| Describe a general framework for analyzing (a) religious thought, (b) religious practice, and (c) religious fellowship |                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exams</li> <li>• Final Project</li> <li>• Participation in class and panel discussions</li> <li>• Participation in group exercises</li> <li>• Reflective journal writings</li> </ul> |
| Apply the framework to the major religions being studied.  |                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exams</li> <li>• Final Project</li> <li>• Participation in class and panel discussions</li> <li>• Participation in group exercises</li> <li>• Reflective journal writings</li> </ul> |
| Identify the similarities and dissimilarities of the major religions.  |                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exams</li> <li>• Final Project</li> <li>• Participation in class and panel discussions</li> <li>• Participation in group exercises</li> <li>• Reflective journal writings</li> </ul> |

## Topical Outline

- Fundamental Features of Religion
- Periods in Religious History
- Prehistoric and Tribal Religions
- Shamanism
- Hinduism
- Buddhism
- Confucianism
- Monotheism
- Judaism
- Christianity
- Islam

### **Affirmative Action Statement**

The Board of Trustees is committed to providing a work and academic environment that maintains and promotes affirmative action and equal opportunity for all employees and students without discrimination on the basis of certain enumerated and protected categories. These categories are race, creed (religion), color, national origin, nationality, ancestry, age, sex (including pregnancy and sexual harassment), marital status, domestic partnership or civil union status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, atypical hereditary cellular or blood trait, genetic information, liability for military service, or mental or physical disability, including AIDS and HIV related illnesses.

For questions concerning discrimination, contact Almarie J. Jones, Special Assistant to the President, Diversity and Equity/Title IX and Compliance, 856-415-2154 or [ajones@rcsj.edu](mailto:ajones@rcsj.edu) or (Cumberland) Nathaniel Alridge, Jr., JD, Director, Diversity and Equity/Title IX and Judicial Affairs, 856-691-8600, ext. 1414 or [nalridge@rcsj.edu](mailto:nalridge@rcsj.edu). For disability issues or any barriers in the learning or physical environment related to a document condition/disability please contact: Gloucester campus – Dennis M. Cook, Director, Department of Special Services, ADA/504 Officer at 856-415-2265 or [dcook@rcsj.edu](mailto:dcook@rcsj.edu); or Cumberland Campus – Meredith Vicente, Senior Director, Physical & Learning Disabilities, Center for Academic & Student Success (CASS) at 856-691-6900 ext. 1282 or [mvicent1@rcsj.edu](mailto:mvicent1@rcsj.edu)

### **Department of Special Services**

The Department of Special Services, located in the Enrollment and Student Services building, within the Testing Center, welcomes students of all abilities. The staff members in Special Services are committed to providing support services and ensuring equal access to eligible students with documented conditions/disabilities as outlined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Americans with Disabilities Act with Amendments Act (ADAAA). For more information, please visit our website-[Department of Special Services](#) or call 856-691-8600 x1445 or x1487.

**Reporting Allegations of Sexual Assault Resource Referrals (8/2020)**  
**Cumberland Campus**

There are multiple safe places for students to report allegations of sexual assault, both on and off campus. Reports of sexual assault can be made to any of the following offices listed in the chart below.

All students are encouraged to report alleged crimes on campus. Employees must report crimes that pose an immediate threat to the campus to the Security Office, the local Police Department or the Sheriff's Office.

| <b>Service</b>  | <b>Resource</b>   | <b>Phone Number/Location/Website</b>  |
|---|---|---|
| <b>Non-Confidential Reporting</b><br><br>Law Enforcement            | Vineland Police Dept.   | 856-691-4111  |
|   | Millville Police Department   | 856-825-7010  |
|   | Cumberland Co. Sheriff's Office   | 856-451-4449  |
|   | Cumberland County Emergency Services  | <b>9-1-1</b>  |
|   | Cumberland Campus Security<br>856-200-4706 (Direct)   | Andres Lopez, Director<br>Safety and Security<br>856-691-8600, ext. 1777  |
| <b>Non-Confidential</b><br><br>On-Campus Reporting Support Services | Almarie J. Jones<br>Special Assistant to the President<br>Diversity and Equity, Title IX and Compliance | 856-415-2154<br>College Center, room116<br><a href="mailto:ajones@rcsj.edu">ajones@rcsj.edu</a>   |
|   | Nathaniel Alridge, Jr., JD, Director<br>Diversity and Equity, Title IX and Judicial Affairs             | 856-200-4712<br><a href="mailto:nalridge@rcsj.edu">nalridge@rcsj.edu</a><br>Academic Building, 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor                                      |
|   | Kellie W. Slade<br>Executive Director<br>Student Services, Student Life                                 | 856-200-4615<br><a href="mailto:kslade@rcsj.edu">kslade@rcsj.edu</a><br>Student Life Building (near gym)  |
| <b>Confidential</b><br>On-Campus Counseling and Support Services    | Heather Bense, LCSW, ACS<br>Director  | 856-200-4759<br><a href="mailto:hbense@rcsj.edu">hbense@rcsj.edu</a><br><a href="#">Academic Building downstairs</a>                                      |
|   | John Wojtowicz, LSW, VACW<br>Mental Health Counselor  | 856-200-4760<br><a href="mailto:jwojtowicz@rcsj.edu">jwojtowicz@rcsj.edu</a>  |
|   | <b>Student Counseling and Wellness Center</b>   | <b>Academic Building – 1<sup>st</sup> floor</b>   |
| <b>Confidential</b><br>Off-Campus Full-Service Support              | <b>Center for Family Services – Services Empowering Rights of Victims (SERV)</b>                        | 24/7 Hotlines<br><b>Cumberland Co. – 1-800-225-0196</b><br>Camden & Glo. Co. 1-866-295-7378<br><a href="http://centerffs.org/serv">centerffs.org/serv</a> |
| <b>Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner on Site</b>                        | <b>Inspira Medical Center<br/>Vineland</b>  | <b>1505 W. Sherman Ave., Vineland, NJ<br/>856-641-8000</b>  |