



Dominican International School
台北市私立道明外僑學校
No. 76, Dazhi Street, Taipei (104042), Taiwan, R.O.C.
10464 臺北市中山區大直街 76 號



RELIGIOUS STUDIES DEPARTMENT COURSE SYLLABUS

School Year	2025-2026
Subject	Religious Studies
Grade Level	11
Teacher	Fr. Francisco Carin
Email	fcarin@dishs.tp.edu.tw

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

“A friendly study of World Religion is a sacred duty.” -Mahatma Gandhi

Welcome to the World Religions course!

Understanding the basics of world religions in a multicultural and global world is a must. Students will learn to respect different religions' beliefs and to properly understand the worldviews they shape without prejudice or bias. This will help them recognize the diversity of human culture as a positive yet challenging characteristic.

By interviewing people of different faiths and connecting religion with other subjects, students will build positive relationships with people and across various academic and social fields. Reading and commenting on newspaper articles related to world religions is a routine exercise at this level.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND CONTENTS: (SWBAT) Students will be able to:

WORD: Learners are expected to comprehend and understand the basic concepts of all major religions in the world. This is to ensure that they are aware of the diversity of religions and will realize how essential it is to respect other's beliefs by knowing the basic tenets of each religion.

WITNESS: As learners are encouraged to respect one's religion, they are also encouraged to seek the truth as the object of our rationality. This is the truth that is universal yet salvific. Learners should become bearers of truth that is motivated by love.

WORSHIP: As learners aim for the truth and become bearers of truth, truth itself will lead and guide them to the real source of truth, who is God. And by the same truth, learners will become truthful and sincere to their beliefs in God who meets humanity and offers a path for fulfillment.

LITURGICAL FEASTS AND DIFFERENT SEASONS OF THE CHURCH

- Advent
- Christmas
- Lent
- Holy Week
- Easter
- Ordinary Time
- Feasts and Memorials of Dominican Saints
- Feasts in Honor of Mother Mary

DOMINICAN PILLARS AND CORE VALUES

- Study.....Truth
- Prayer.....Joy
- Community.....Justice
- Service/Preaching.....Compassion

PARAGONS OF VALUES: DOMINICAN SAINTS AND BLESSED

Months	Feasts/Memorials of Dominican Saints
August	02- <i>Bl. Jane of Aza</i> 08- <i>St. Dominic de Guzman</i> 14- <i>St. Dominic Ibañez</i> 17- <i>St. Hyacinth of Poland</i> 18- <i>Bl. Mannes de Guzman</i> 23- <i>Rose of Lima</i>
September	18- <i>St. John Macias</i> 20- <i>St. Francis Posadas</i> 28- <i>St. Lawrence Ruiz</i>
October	09- <i>St. Louis Bertrand</i>
November	03- <i>St. Martin de Porres</i> 15- <i>St. Albert the Great</i> 22- <i>Bl. Cecilia</i>
December	01- <i>Bl. John Vercelli</i> <i>The Holy Family</i>
January	07- <i>St. Raymond of Peñafort</i>

	18- St. Margaret of Hungary
February	13- Bl. Jordan of Saxony
March	07- St. Thomas Aquinas
April	05- St. Vincent Ferrer 06/29- St. Peter of Verona 20- St. Agnes of Montepulciano 29/30- St. Catherine of Siena 30- St. Pius V
May	10- St. Anthony of Florence 12- Bl. Imelda Lambertini 20- Bl. Columba of Rieti
Others	June 09- Bl. Diana July 17- Bl. Ceslaus

Schoolwide Learning Outcomes (SLOs): D'TORCH: Dominicans are Truthful, Organized, Reflective, Courageous, and Helpful

GRADING SYSTEM:

Part 1: Academic (50 %)

Section A: Homework, Seatwork, Projects.....16.66%

NOTE: Attendance will be included in the RS grading system.

Section B: Quizzes.....16.67%

Section C. Major Quarterly Exam.....16.67%

Part 2: Deportment/Behavior (50 %)

• Truthful.....19 points

• Organized.....19 points

• Reflective.....19 points

• Courageous.....19 points

• Helpful.....19 points

TOTAL.....95 points

Note: The highest possible grade students can get every quarter in Deportment is 95 points in conformity with the current grading

system. Students are guided how to do department self-evaluation truthfully and reflectively.

PRIMARY TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER RESOURCES

Books and Electronic Books:

Anita Ravi. *The Origin of World Religions by Khan Academy*.
<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/big-history-project/agriculture-civilization/first-cities-states/a/the-origin-of-world-religions-1>

Serra-Lima, Federico (2014). *The Awakening of Aquinas*.
<https://livingchurch.org/2014/01/28/awakening-aquinas/>

Thoman, Dwayne and Robert Santos. *Religions in North America*. Brown-Roa.

Electronic Resources:

BBC. (2021, April 14). *The power of the turban | Being Sikh – BBC* [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=seOeMrhCJIU>

HinduismTodayVideos. (2014, June 30). *The History of Hindu India (English narration and English subtitles)* [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nB2toz5p5Mw>

TED-Ed. (2013, November 15). *The five major world religions - John Bellaimy* [Video]. YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m6dCxo7t_aE

The Infographics Show. (2019, January 11). *Atheist VS Agnostic - How Do They Compare & What's The Difference?* [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cRmX9RVeNkU>

University of Santo Tomas – Manila. (2023, June 24). *Break Time - June 25, 2023 - Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time with Rev. fr. Rolando de la Rosa, O.P.* [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LXNp6MKp2jU>

5 MINUTES. (2021, October 25). *Origin of Judaism - A Brief History* [Video]. YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q_QYTd14nN0

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- *The Google Classroom code will be given to all students to access all the Religious Studies' learning guide and tasks.*
- *There will be NO Homework to be given during the weekend except during major exams or quizzes. It is to give students a chance to spend quality time with their family.*

- *The Project D (Detention) significantly affects the Department Grade of students.*

ON ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

Academic Dishonesty means employing a method or technique or engaging in conduct in an academic endeavor that contravenes the standards of ethical integrity expected at DIS. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to, the following:

- *Purposely incorporating the ideas, words of sentences, paragraphs, or parts thereof without appropriate acknowledgment and representing the product as one's own work; and*
- *Representing another's intellectual work such as photographs, paintings, drawings, sculpture, or research or the like as one's own, including failure to attribute content to an AI.*
- *Employing a tutor, making use of Artificial Intelligence without acknowledgement, getting a parent to write a paper or do an assignment, paying for an essay to be written by someone else and presented as the student's own work.*
- *Committing any act that a reasonable person would conclude, when informed of the evidence, to be a dishonest means of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work.*

Any act of academic dishonesty will result in an automatic zero on the entire assignment and deduction from the Department.

FIRST QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

Week / Date	Topic /Learning Tasks/ Assessments
Week 1 Aug 12 to 15 <i>10 - First Day / Orientation Day</i>	Welcome back to school, Dominicans! • Overview of the Subject • Course contents for the whole quarter and subject's requirements • Grading system (See the syllabus.)

14-St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe, priest and martyr 15-The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Assigned Prayer Leaders: STUCO, DYM, and House Captains	• Rules and Regulations • Review: DIS Vision-Mission and Philosophy • D' TORCH values and Dominican Ethos • Basic Prayers • Students' Profile • Practice for the Mass • Review: Parts of the Mass • Organizing prayer before RS class (news+prayer) August 12: School's Opening and General Orientation Day August 15: Opening Mass Assumption of Our Lady
Week 2 Aug 18 to 22 17-Saint Hyacinth of Poland 18- Blessed Mannes 21- St. Pius X, Pope 22-The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary Assigned Prayer Leaders: STUCO	1ST QUARTER Foundations of World Religions Topics: (1) Academic definition of World Religions (2) Significance in Studying World Religions Students' Engagement: Watch: <i>The five major world religions</i> - John Bellaimey, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m6dCxo7t_aE Assessment: Diagnostic Test Pedagogy: Socratic Method Activity: About St. Dominic de Guzman August 18: St. Dominic de Guzman Feast Day Celebration
Week 3 Aug 25 to 29 23- Saint Rose of Lima 24- St. Bartholomew, apostle 27- St. Monica	Continuation: Topics: (3) List of Major World Religions (4) Its differences (and similarities) to non-religions Pedagogy: Socratic Method

28- St. Augustine Assigned Prayer Leaders: <i>DYM</i>	Journal Writing Notebook #1: (1) Which among the religions you think is the most reasonable one? And why? 5-10 sentences.
Week 4 Sept 1 to 5 <i>01-Launching of the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation (During the Monday Assembly)</i> <i>03-St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor</i> <i>05-Anniversary of deceased Dominican friends and benefactors</i> Assigned Prayer Leaders: <i>House Captains</i>	Continuation: Topics: (5) Contributions of World Religions to Contemporary Time (6) Its Consequences and Value Students' Engagement: Read: <i>The Origin of World Religions</i> by Anita Ravi, https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/big-history-project/agriculture-civilization/first-cities-states/a/the-origin-of-world-religions-1 Pedagogy: Socratic Method Assessment: Formative Test #1
Week 5 Sept 8 to 12 <i>11- St. Ambrose, Edward Barlow</i> Assigned Prayer Leaders: <i>RS 12</i>	Activity (Think, Pair and Share): Make a (1) one-page insightful criticism on any (global or local) issue/s (political, ethical, environmental, etc.) based on any lesson/s we have discussed. Sept 08- Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Holy Mass & VIP Induction
Week 6 Sep 15 to 19 <i>14-The Exaltation of the Holy Cross</i> <i>15-Our Lady of Sorrows</i> Assigned Prayer Leaders: <i>RS 12</i>	<i>Creative Presentation of the Monotheistic Religions</i> Conclusion/Synthesis/Evaluation The value of spirituality and religion for present times <i>15- Catholic Bridge Program for all New Students (After the Monday Assembly at the Gymnasium)</i>

	Sept 16-18, Pre-Exam Days
Week 7 Sep 22 to 26 <i>18- Saint Juan Macias</i> <i>21- St. Matthew, apostle and evangelist</i> <i>22- Celebration of the International Day of Peace-Peace Pole Ceremony (During the Monday Assembly)</i> <i>28-Saint Dominic Ibanez, Friar and Priest, Saint James Kyushei Tomonaga, Friar and Priest, Saint Lawrence Ruiz, layman and Companions, Members of the Dominican Family, Martyrs of Nagasaki, Japan</i> Assigned Prayer Leaders: <i>RS 11 Ant</i>	Review of the Topics for the Quarterly Examination: (1) Academic definition of World Religions (2) Significance in Studying World Religions (3) List of Major World Religions (4) Its differences (and similarities) to non-religions (5) Contributions of World Religions to Contemporary Time (6) Its Consequences and Value Students' Engagement: Recitation and Question Assessment: Checking of Notes Journal Writing Notebook #2: Personal Reflection
Week 8 Sep 29 to Oct 03 <i>29-Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael archangels</i> <i>30-St. Jerome, priest and doctor</i> Assigned Prayer Leaders: <i>RS 11 Louis</i>	Self-Assessment Student's Department Preparation for the Quarter Exam Completion of the Subject's Requirements for the 1st Quarter Sept 29- Launching of the Month of the Most Holy Rosary (during the Monday assembly) October 1 and 2 – First Quarter Examinations

	Oct 06 – Moon Festival Holiday Oct 07 – 09 – Teachers’ Conference (No Class for Students) Oct 10 Double Ten – Public Holiday (No Classes)
--	---

SECOND QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

Week / Date	Topic /Learning Tasks/ Assessments
Week 1 (10) Oct 13 to 17 <i>12-Our Lady of Pillar</i> <i>13-St. Theophilus</i> <i>15-St. Teresa of Jesus, virgin and doctor</i> Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 10	PRELIMINARIES ● Rechecking of 1st Quarter Exam ● Showing of Grades ● One-on-one Conference (Department) ● Other Matters/ Announcement ● Activity about Marian Celebration Oct 14- 30 Visit of Mother Mary to Classrooms (During the morning prayer)
Week 2 (11) Oct 20 to 24 <i>22-Anniversary of the Dedication of the Church</i> <i>22-St. John Paul II, Pope</i> Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 10	2ND QUARTER MONOTHEISTIC RELIGIONS Topics: (1) History of Judaism and its trajectory (1.1) Founders and Origin (1.2) Present condition (1.3) Belief system (1.4) Practices and Traditions (1.5) Its contribution to the world

	Students' Engagement: Watch: <i>Origin of Judaism - A Brief History 5 MINUTES</i>, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q_QYTd14nN0 Pedagogy: Socratic Method Oct 24 - Retrocession Day/ Public Holiday
Week 3 (12) Oct 27 to 31 28- Sts. Simon and Jude, apostles 1. Solemnity of All Saints 02-The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Soul's Day) Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 9	Topics: (2) History of Christianity and its trajectory (2.1) Founders and Origin (2.2) Present condition Students' Engagement: Watch: <i>Break Time - June 25, 2023 - Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time with Rev. fr. Rolando de la Rosa, O.P.</i> by University of Santo Tomas, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LXNp6MKp2jU Journal Writing Notebook #1: In one word, how would you describe the Crucified Jesus Christ? And why? 5-10 sentences. Nov. 29 (Wed) Grade 11 Career Educational Trip
Week 4 (13) Nov 3 to 7 03-Saint Martin de Porres 06-Blessed Bonaventura Gracia Paredes, Friar, Priest and Master of the Order Blessed Josefina Saulea Paulis, Virgin and Nun, Blessed	Continuation Topics: (2) Basic Tenets of Christianity (2.3) Belief system (2.4) Practices and Traditions (2.5) Its contribution to the world Pedagogy: Socratic Method Nov 3 Feast of St. Martin de Porres Mass

<i>Ramona Fossas Roman, Virgin and Sister Blessed Antero Mateo, Married Man and Lay Dominican And Companions, Members of the Dominican Family martyrs of the Spanish Persecutions of the XX Century 07- All Saints of the Order of Preachers</i> Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 9	
Week 5 (14) Nov 10 to 14 <i>9- The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica 10-St. Leo the Great, pope and doctor 11- St. Martin of Tours, Bishop 13- St. Frances Xavier Cabriní 15- Saint Albert the Great 16-St. Margaret of Scotland, queen St. Gertrude, virgin 17-St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious</i> Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 8	Activity # 1: (Think, Pair and Share): Choose a Saint and make a creative collage with the brief story of the life of the chosen Saint and share it in the class.
Week 6 (15) Nov 17 to 21 <i>18- Dedication of the Basilicas of Sts. Peter and Paul, apostles</i>	Topics: (3) History of Islam and its trajectory (3.1) Founders and Origin (3.2) Present condition

21- Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 8	Students' Engagement: Watch: <i>Islam Explained</i> by Cogito, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XlvEymU-S4o Pedagogy: Socratic Method Nov 25 and 27- Gr. 12 Second Quarter Exam
Week 7 (16) Nov 24 to 28 25-Saint Ignatius Delgado, Friar and Bishop Saint Vincent Liem De La Paz, Friar and Priest Saint Dominic Pham Trong An Kham, Lay Dominican And Companions Martyrs of Vietnam 30-St. Andrew, apostle Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 7	Continuation: Topics: (3) Basic Tenets of Islam (3.3) Belief system (3.4) Practices and Traditions (3.5) Its contribution to the world (4) Fundamental Similarities and Dissimilarities of the Monotheistic Religions Pedagogy: Socratic Method Students' Engagement: Recitation (<i>Question and Answer</i>) Journal Writing Notebook #2: Do you agree or disagree of Polygamy or Polyandry in Marriage? Why? 5-10 sentences. Nov 25 to 27 Pre-Exam Days Nov 28 and 12/1 - Gr. 12 Second Quarter Exam
Week 8 (17) Dec 1 to 5 03-St. Francis Xavier Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 7	Review of the Topics for the Quarterly Examination: (1) History of Judaism, its trajectory and basic Tenets of Judaism (2) History of Christianity, its trajectory and basic Tenets of Christianity (3) History of Islam, its trajectory and basic Tenets of Islam (4) Similarities and Dissimilarities of the Monotheistic Religions

	Students' Engagement: Recitation (<i>Question and Answer</i>) Assessment: Checking of Notes Journal Writing Notebook #3: Personal Reflection <i>Dec 01- First Week of Advent/ Lighting of the Christmas Tree in the afternoon</i> <i>Dec 05 – Christmas Fair (whole day)</i>
Week 9 (18) Dec 08 to 12 <i>07- St. Ambrose, bishop and doctor</i> Assigned Prayer Leaders: RS 6	<i>Self-Assessment Student's Department</i> <i>Individual Conference</i> <i>Preparation for the Quarter Exam</i> <i>Completion of the Subject's Requirements for the 2nd Quarter</i> <i>Dec 08 - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, principal Patroness of the Philippines</i> <i>DIS 67th Foundation Day Celebrations</i> <i>Dec 11-13 Second Quarter Exam</i> <i>Dec 14 to Jan 3 Christmas Holiday begins</i>

“Kindling the Light of Faith, Hope, and Love: The Legacy of St. Dominic de Guzmán”