



Religious Studies 11

Dominican International School



Course Syllabus

School Year 2026–27

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COURSE DESCRIPTION: WORLD RELIGIONS

"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:

WORD	<i>RS 11 students 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.</i>
WITNESS	<i>Encouraged to respect one's religion, students 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.</i>

WORSHIP	<i>As students 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.</i>
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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

Feasts/Memorials of Dominican Saints

August 02- Bl. Jane of Aza

- 08- St. Dominic de Guzmán
- 14- St. Dominic Ibañez
- 17- St. Hyacinth of Poland
- 18- Bl. Mannes de Guzman
- 23- Rose of Lima

September 18- St. John Macias

- 20- St. Francis Posadas
- 28- St. Lawrence Ruiz October
- 09- St. Louis Bertrand

November 03- St. Martin de Porres

- 15- St. Albert the Great
- 22- Bl. Cecilia

December 01- Bl. John Vercelli

- The Holy Family

January 07- St. Raymond of Peñafort

- 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

GRADING SYSTEM:

Part 1: Academic (50 %)	
Section A: Homework, Seatwork, Projects NOTE: Attendance will be included in the RS Grading System.	16.66%
Section B: Quizzes	16.67%
Section C: Major Quarterly Exam/PBL/PETA	16.67%
Part 2: Deportment/Behavior (50 %) STUDENT'S SELF-EVALUATION	
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 obtain every quarter in Deportment is 95 points in conformity with the current grading system. Students are guided on how to self-evaluate their deportment truthfully and reflectively. The Project D (Detention/Infraction) significantly affects students' Deportment Grade.	

GUIDELINES REGARDING THE UTILIZATION OF AI AND GADGETS

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, 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.*

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

The Google Classroom code will be given to all students to access 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.*

Gadget and Technology Guidelines

- **Cellphones Out of Sight:** Cellphones are strictly not allowed during class time. Cellphones must be surrendered to the prescribed authority in the school (Homeroom teacher and Discipline Officers, every day).
- **Laptops for Learning Only:** Laptops may only be used when explicitly instructed by your teacher for classwork or research.
- **No Social Media:** Accessing any social media platforms (Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat, YouTube, etc.) on any device is strictly prohibited while on school grounds.
- **Follow Digital Ethics:** Always practice responsible digital citizenship. Use school technology respectfully, stay on task, and follow all school internet rules.
- **Strict Usage Rules:** Gadget privileges are a responsibility. Unapproved use, unauthorized gaming, or browsing non-academic sites will result in device confiscation.

PRIMARY TEXTBOOKS AND ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

Books and Articles

Ravi, A. (n.d.). *The origin of world religions*. Khan Academy.

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/big-history-project/agriculture-civilization/firstcities-states/a/the-origin-of-world-religions-1>

Serra-Lima, F. (2014, January 28). *The awakening of Aquinas: The Living Church*.
<https://livingchurch.org/2014/01/28/awakening-aquinas/>

Thoman, D., & Santos, R. (Publication year needed). *Religions in North America*. Brown-Roa.

Electronic Resources (Videos)

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

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

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 Bellaimey* [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>

First Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week & Date	Topics / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 Aug 10 - 14	A. Orientation Agenda: Religious Studies as a Subject of Life • Google Classroom: Setup, notifications, and material access • Course Overview: Objectives, core content, references, and requirements • Grading System: Evaluation criteria (refer to syllabus) • Values and Character: RS Transformative Stamp and TORCH department standards • Classroom Expectations: Rules, responsibilities, and accountability • Tech Guidelines: Responsible use of AI and gadgets • Technology in Learning: Responsible use of AI, devices, and digital tools in the classroom B. Orientation and Classroom Management Plan • Community Building and Engagement -Student Welcome: Celebrating the gift of students' presence and participation -Classroom Culture: Group dynamics • Expectations and Values

	-Classroom Norms: RS Collective Agreement in the light of the D'TORCH Values • Student Data and Administration -Information Gathering: Student Information Form • Student Leadership Roles -Course Leadership: Q1 RS Student Coordinator -Spiritual Leadership: Prayer Leaders Assignment Friday: Opening Mass and Assumption of Our Lady 8:00
Week 2 Aug 17 - 21	A. DIS: Home of the D'TORCH! -Vision-Mission and Philosophy -Theme: <i>"Ripple by Ripple, Charity in Action: A Year to Seven Decades"</i> B. A Call to be a Dominican! -Class Saint: The Practice of the Dominican Pillar -TEA Talk (<i>T – Traditions and Text, E – Expression and Experience, A – Application and Awareness</i>) -Basic Prayers (<i>Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Angelus, and Dominican Blessings</i>) -The Fundamentals of the Holy Mass -Common Mass Songs -My Dominican Icon (Student's Favorite Dominican Saint) C. Background Knowledge Probe (BKP)
Week 3 Aug 24 - 28	TEA Talk (Modified Lectio Divina) A. Unit Overview and Core Theme Topics: • <i>Academic definition of World Religions</i> • <i>Significance of Studying World Religions</i> B. Hook: Watch: The five major world religions - John Bellaimey, 🇵🇭 The five major world religions - John Bellaimey C. Religion In-Focus: Relevant News about World Religions • <i>Reflective Writing/Reaction Paper</i> D. Assessment and Reflection <i>Chapter Review/ Evaluation</i> Supplementary: <i>Reflecting the Life of St. Dominic de Guzman in the 21st Century</i>
Week 4 Aug 31 - Sep 4	TEA Talk (Modified Lectio Divina) A. Unit Overview and Core Theme Topics:

	• Academic definition of World Religions • Significance of Studying World Religions B. Hook: Watch: The five major world religions - John Bellaimey, 🇵🇭 The five major world religions - John Bellaimey C. Religion In-Focus: Relevant News about World Religions • Reflective Writing/Reaction Paper D. Assessment and Reflection Chapter Review/ Evaluation Supplementary: Reflecting the Life of St. Dominic de Guzman in the 21st Century
Week 5 Sep 7 - 11	TEA Talk (Modified Lectio Divina) A. Unit Overview and Core Theme Topics: Continuation... • Discovering the Major Religions • Tracing the common grounds and differences of Major Religions B. Hook: Reflection in Action Church's Encyclical: NOSTRA AETATE Link: https://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_decl_19651028_nostra-aetate_en.html C. Religion In-Focus: Relevant News about World Religions • Reflective Writing/Reaction Paper D. Assessment and Reflection Chapter Review/ Evaluation
Week 6 Sep 14 - 18	TEA Talk (Modified Lectio Divina) A. Unit Overview and Core Theme Topics: Continuation... • Discovering the Major Religions • Tracing the common grounds and differences of Major Religions B. Hook: Reflection in Action Church's Encyclical: NOSTRA AETATE Link: https://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_decl_19651028_nostra-aetate_en.html

	C. Religion In-Focus: Relevant News about World Religions • <i>Reflective Writing/Reaction Paper</i> D. Assessment and Reflection <i>Chapter Review/ Evaluation</i>
Week 7 Sep 21 - 25	TEA Talk (Modified Lectio Divina) • Unit Overview and Core Theme Topics: Continuation... • <i>Contributions of World Religions to Contemporary Time</i> • <i>Its Consequences and Value</i> • Hook: Read and Reflect Read: The Origin of World Religions by Anita Ravi, https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/big-history-project/agriculture-civilization/first-cities-states/a/the-origin-of-world-religions-1 https://frasercentre.ca/sm-archive/www.scarboromissions.ca/interfaith-dialogue/the-church-dialogue/official-church-documents-on-interfaith-dialogue.html • Religion In-Focus: Relevant News about World Religions • <i>Reflective Writing/Reaction Paper</i> • Assessment and Reflection <i>Chapter Review/ Evaluation</i> • Completion of Q1 Requirements • Q1 Department Self-Assessment • Q1 Subject Evaluation • Q1 Quarter Review/Pointers to Review Wednesday: <i>Pre-Exam Days</i> Thursday: <i>Pre-Exam Days</i> Friday <i>Moon Festival ~ Public Holiday</i>
Week 8 Sep 28 - Oct 2	Monday <i>Confucius' Birthday ~ Public Holiday</i> Wednesday Thursday <i>Major Exams Day 1</i> Friday <i>Major Exams Day 2</i>
Week 9 Oct 5 - 9	Monday <i>Record Day ~ Student Holiday</i> T-W-Th <i>Teachers Conference ~ Student Holiday</i> Friday <i>Double 10 Day ~ Public Holiday</i>

Second Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week & Date	Topics / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (10) Oct 12 - 16	Q1 Grades, Feedback, and Plan of Action TEA Talk (Modified Lectio Divina) A. Unit Overview and Core Theme Topics: Monotheistic Religions - 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 B. Hook: <i>Watch: Origin of Judaism - A Brief History 5 MINUTES</i>  <i>Origin of Judaism - A Brief History 5 MINUTES</i> C. Religion In-Focus: Relevant News about World Religions - Reflective Writing/Reaction Paper D. Assessment and Reflection <i>Chapter Review/ Evaluation</i>
Week 2 (11) Oct 19 - 23	TEA Talk (Modified Lectio Divina) A. Unit Overview and Core Theme Topics: Monotheistic Religions - 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 B. Hook: <i>Watch: Origin of Judaism - A Brief History 5 MINUTES</i>  <i>Origin of Judaism - A Brief History 5 MINUTES</i> C. Religion In-Focus: Relevant News about World Religions - Reflective Writing/Reaction Paper D. Assessment and Reflection <i>Chapter Review/ Evaluation</i>
Week 3 (12) Oct 26 - 30	Monday Retrocession Day ~ Public Holiday TEA Talk (Modified Lectio Divina) A. Unit Overview and Core Theme Topics: Christianity - History of Christianity and its trajectory - Founders and Origin

	• <i>Present condition</i> B. Hook: Watch: <i>Break Time - June 25, 2023 - Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> with Rev. Fr. Rolando de la Rosa, O.P. by University of Santo Tomas,  <i>Break Time - June 25, 2023 - Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary...</i> C. Religion In-Focus: Relevant News about World Religions • <i>Reflective Writing/Reaction Paper</i> D. Assessment and Reflection <i>Chapter Review/ Evaluation</i>
Week 4 (13) Nov 2 - 6	TEA Talk (Modified Lectio Divina) A. Unit Overview and Core Theme Topics: Christianity • <i>Belief system</i> • <i>Practices and Traditions</i> • <i>Its contribution to the world</i> B. Hook: Watch: <i>Break Time - June 25, 2023 - Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> with Rev. Fr. Rolando de la Rosa, O.P. by University of Santo Tomas,  <i>Break Time - June 25, 2023 - Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary...</i> C. Religion In-Focus: Relevant News about World Religions • <i>Reflective Writing/Reaction Paper</i> D. Assessment and Reflection <i>Chapter Review/ Evaluation</i>
Week 5 (14) Nov 9 - 13	TEA Talk (Modified Lectio Divina) A. Unit Overview and Core Theme Topics: Islam • <i>History of Islam and its trajectory</i> • <i>Founders and Origin</i> • <i>Present condition</i> B. Hook: Students' Engagement: Watch: <i>Islam Explained by Cogito</i>, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XlvEymU-S4 C. Religion In-Focus: Relevant News about World Religions • <i>Reflective Writing/Reaction Paper</i> D. Assessment and Reflection <i>Chapter Review/ Evaluation</i>
Week 6 (15)	PBL (Project-Based Learning)/PETA (Performance Task)

Nov 16 - 20	
Week 7 (16) Nov 23 - 27	PBL (Project-Based Learning)/PETA (Performance Task) Wednesday: Pre-Exam Days Thursday: Pre-Exam Days Friday: Grade 12 Exams
Week 8 (17) Nov 30 - Dec 4	PBL (Project-Based Learning)/PETA (Performance Task) Monday Grade 12 Exams Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 9 (18) Dec 7 - Dec 11	Monday TBD Tuesday Foundation Day Mass 9:00, Cutting of the Cake Ceremony, Christmas Fair (Whole day) Wednesday: TBD Thursday: Major Final Exams half day Friday: Major Final Exams half day
Dec 14 to Jan 1: Christmas Break	

Third Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week & Date	Topics / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (19) Jan 4 - Jan 8	Monday Record Day ~ Student Holiday Wednesday Thursday Friday Friday New Year Mass at 8:00
Week 2 (20) Jan 11 - Jan 15	Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 3 (21) Jan 18 - Jan 22	Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 4 (22) Jan 25 - Jan 29	Wednesday Thursday Friday

Week 5 (23) Feb 1 - Feb 5	Wednesday Thursday: Little New Year's Eve ~ Public Holiday Friday: Lunar New Year ~ Public Holiday
February 8 to 12 Chinese New Year Holiday	

Fourth Quarter Tentative Course Content

Week & Date	Topics / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (30) Apr 5 - Apr 9	Monday Tomb Sweeping Day ~ Public Holiday Tuesday Children's Day ~ Public Holiday Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 2 (31) Apr 12 - Apr 16	Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 3 (32) Apr 19 - Apr 23	19 - 23 AP Mock Exams Wednesday Thursday Friday
Week 4 (33) Apr 26 - Apr 30	Wednesday-Thursday: Pre-Exam Days Friday: Labor Day ~ Public Holiday
Week 5 (34) May 3 - May 7	3 - 7 Final Exams (K, Gr. 5, 8, & 12 Only) 3 - 14 AP Exams Wednesday

	Thursday Friday
Week 6 (35) May 10 - May 14	3 - 14 AP Exams Wednesday Major Final Exams Undergraduates half day Thursday Major Final Exams Undergraduates half day Friday Record Day - Student Holiday
Week 7 (36) May 17 - May 21	Monday Gr. 12 Recollection (Morning) Monday Baccalaureate Mass (Afternoon, Schoolwide) Wednesday House Sports Day Thursday High School Field Trip Friday House Culminating Activity All Week Student Clearance Days & Special Events
Week 8 (37) May 24 - May 28	Monday Middle & High School Sports Day Monday LS Field Trip Tuesday Kindergarten Graduation/Gr. 5 Promotion Wednesday Gr. 8 Graduation and Gr. 12 Graduation Thursday Pre-Kindergarten & Gr. 1 - 4, 6 & 7, 9-11 Recognition Friday Last Day of School for Students

"Ripple by Ripple, Charity in Action: A Year to Seven Decades"