

World Religions Syllabus (Friday Elective)

Ms. Kotie's Class - School Yr 2022-2023

kellis@greenwoodcharter.org * Classroom Code (TBA)

Refer to it throughout year as needed

Welcome to World Religions! I'm looking forward to a very interesting and exciting semester!

Read the information below to know what to expect this term in my classroom. Come to me with any questions, concerns, or suggestions. I am here for your growth, so let's collaborate to make that happen.

World Religions is a course to dive into the variety of faiths the world professes and practices. Students have the opportunity to virtually visit sacred sites, read from sacred texts, and connect with people from several sacred faiths. They learn the difference between a philosophy and a religion. They learn relevant terms, cultural norms, and world history. The goal of this course is to build compassion and understanding for people of different cultures through the faiths they practice. Students leave this course excited to see the similarities and differences between faiths, as well as be able to tell new stories and explain an array of practices and holidays.

Parents and students can check the Digital Classroom for the learning targets and scheduled assignments. Having a discussion with your child each week is the best way to know how they are truly doing. It is also important that they have a quiet place (and time) to complete their homework. There will be homework. This is a FRIDAY ONLY elective, which means students will need to perform work outside of class time to reap the benefits of this exploration.

Students will be expected to participate in discussions with students, teachers and persons from a variety of faith backgrounds with extreme respect and integrity.

Academic Grades: Greenwood uses Standards-Based Mastery grading. This means students earn grades according to their level of mastery in each of the standards (learning targets) taught. The scoring is as follows:

- 4 Exceptional and beyond standard (Master)
- 3 Average/proficient in standard (Skilled Practitioner)
- 2 Developing standard (Amateur)
- 1 Introduced to standard (Novice)

JumpRope: Using our online grade book, students and parents can track a student's academic scores throughout the year; it allows you to know, at any time, a student's progress towards academic mastery in each standard and a separate character grade to let you know how the student is developing outside academics. Go to jump.rope and login with either your parent or student Greenwood Google account. More guidance will be shown to students; they can be easily asked to show parents.

Books and Materials: These are to be brought to class every day. They are to be used with respect and in a manner that says students understand their value and place. Any mistreatment will not be tolerated and will result in appropriate restorative practices.

Absence/Late Work: Students are responsible for turning in all work assigned in class, whether absent or not. They will be expected to turn work in on time.

- ***Absences:*** When absent, students are required to check in with their teacher or on Google classroom in order to remain current with assignments. It is the **student's responsibility** to obtain any missed work. As a standard, students will have one day for every day missed to make up the missing work. If a student misses a day, they have an extra day to make-up the work. *See late work policy.*
- ***Late Work:*** Late work is ONLY accepted when proper effort has been being made and negotiations make sense to all parties involved. See me for clarification of this policy if needed.
- ***Missing Work:*** If you are present, do the work. Otherwise, review absent and late work policies.

Habits of Work Grades: Academic grades are based on academic standards. Habits of work grades are based on behavioral dedication to developing character. They include: being accountable for work and actions, setting intentions, committing to act and reflecting on the outcomes of personal actions and improving the quality of personal work through revision.

Classroom Norms:

1. **Be responsible:** Materials are ready & work is completed. On Time and In Class. Communicate your needs.
2. **Be engaged:** PLANT (Posture, Listen, Ask & Answer questions, Notice, Track the Speaker). Do your best work. Have a positive attitude. Follow directions the first time.
3. **Be respectful:** Use professional language. Protect the speaker. Speak kindly. Care for your environment.
4. **Be safe:** Use walking feet. Keep bodies and objects to yourself. Use furniture as designed.

Video/DVD Policy: Videos are frequently shown to reinforce material being taught. Often, a video may be shown to provide a new perspective. We will compare and contrast things that are written, with things that are produced in a video. **By signing the attached sheet, you are giving permission to view all videos in our classrooms.**

Note: Bathroom breaks are dependent on teacher discretion. Students are provided the 3-minute passing period as a "break," and should utilize the restroom, get water, etc. at designated break times and NOT during class, as much as possible.

Texts being reviewed in class:

The Holy Bible - 4 versions (Christianity)

The Tanakh (Judaism)

The Quran (Islam)

Bhagavad-Gita/Vedas (Hinduism)

Guru Granth Sahib (Sikhism)

Various pieces of Tripitaka (Buddhism)

... and other texts from various individually-studied faiths.

***** Contact me with me any questions or concerns at kellis@greenwoodcharter.org***

COMPLETE ONLINE SIGNATURE SHEET AND RETURN BY THURSDAY AUGUST 25th

<https://forms.gle/uGVVBmdJaUrLSdZD9>