COURSE TITLE: Comparative Religion

COURSE NUMBER: HUM 306

I. COURSE OBJECTIVES:

By the end of the course, the participant will be able to:

1. Gain a broader understanding and appreciation of intellectual/cultural activity (music, science, literature, etc.)
2. Learn to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view.
3. Identify and describe distinguishing features of the histories, core teachings, values, practices, and social structures of major world religions, including Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, Shintoism, Judaism, Islam, and Christianity.
4. Comparatively analyze and discuss similarities and differences between and within these diverse religions, recognizing and respecting their complex, subtle, and rich cultural traditions, appreciating how diverse religious worldviews can lead to different ethical approaches to social issues.
5. Analyze and describe a contemporary religious observance based on newly acquired knowledge and appreciation of religious historical/cultural backgrounds and value systems.
6. Demonstrate effective mastery of these objectives through proficient written expression of ideas through tests, essays, discussion, and field assignment.