Course Description

REL1210 | Religion of the Old Testament |3.00 credits

This course is an introductory study of the literature, religions and beliefs present within the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible with a view toward understanding its cultural and historical development. The aim of this course is to study various levels and forms of religion as mirrored in Jewish and Christian scriptures, and further reflect upon how these levels and forms of religion interacted with society through time. (3 hr. lecture)

Course Competencies
Competency 1: The student will increase their understanding of the historical relationship between a changing culture and its effect on religion by:

- Identifying and describing the ways in which religion influences daily practice of secular and religious life in early Judaism.
- Analyzing how different cultural contexts affects an individual's ability to practice religion based on status and gender.
- Applying theological principles to understand the relationship between the individual and religious practice.
- Analyzing the issue of theodicy and changes to it through time.
- Analyzing the correlation/causation considering religious differences and similarities in modern practices of faith worldwide.

Learning Outcomes

- Communication
- Cultural / Global Perspective
- Ethical issues
- Social Responsibility

Competency 2: The student will create a framework of religious practices and meanings to analyze the differences and similarities between the use of the Hebrew Bible and the Christian Old Testament.

- Identifying and defining specific religious beliefs and practices for each religion.
- Analyzing both religions practices and theology for its connection to its sacred reality.
- Defining and analyzing each religions' unique characteristics
- Analyzing the ethical principles of each religion and compare it to modern secular ethical principles.
- Analyzing death rituals and connecting them to understanding of the sacred reality.

Learning Outcomes

- Cultural / Global Perspective
- Ethical issues

- Social Responsibility
- Critical Thinking

Competency 3: The student will practice college-level research and analytical writing skills with short-essay responses and comprehensive term papers.

- Defining and accessing academic online research practices for journal articles.
- Analyzing sources for academic writing
- Using resources in the campus library and online to interact with the librarians as part of an academic research assignment regarding different aspects of the religions studied.
- Using online resources for editing and AI to improve writing skills.

Learning Outcomes

- Communication
- Computer / Technology Usage
- Ethical issues
- Social Responsibility
  Cultural / Global Perspective