

Phil.353; 10667; **D115** Oriental Religions
Day-to-day syllabus; Fall '07 (31 classes)

Robert Buckenmeyer

OFFICE HOURS: **4:30- 5:50PM**

TuesTh.

Tues. & Thur. 4:30-5:50. PM

ROOM 401, DAVIES' HALL

TOPIC QUESTION

LASSES

DATES

READINGS

The Question: Whether or not God exists? "God language"

2

8/28,30

Prol, Pref, Introduction; Chap.Two/Three; notes: **Bks.**

THE ORIGINAL MYTH: Eastern origins of "god" in **Gilgamesh**

2

9/04, 9/06

Required:Eliade: *Sacred and Profane*.and Jos.Campell, *Oriental Mythology*
 Chap. One

THE ORIENTAL VIEW
Chinese

3

9/11,13, 18

Chap. Four, *The Way* - notes

Lao-tzu: *The Way*

THE Hindu VIEW
Indian Vyasa

3

9/20,25, 27

Chap. Five, *The Gita*; notes

THE Zen VIEW

3

10/2,4,9

Chap. Six, *The Book of Tea*; notes

Japanese: **Kakuzo Okakura**

DISCUSSION PAPER # 1:question to be answered:**What relation, if any, does the literal meaning of the Latin word "religion" have to you?** (Students read in class.)2 **10/11;16**

The BUDDHIST VIEW

The Dhammapada
& Ten Dharmarealms
PRESOCRATIC/GREEK

4

10/18,23,25, 30

Chap.Seven, notes

VIEW: Heraclitus
Socrates

3

11/06,08,13

Chap.Eight, *The Fragments*-notes.
 Chap.Nine, *Apology*; notes

2

11/15,20

JEWISH VIEW

Old Testament

Moses Maimonides

3

11/22,27, 29

Chap. Ten, *Eight Chaps on Ethics*; notes

CHRISTIAN VIEW

New Testament

Jesus Christ

2

12/04,/06

Chap. Eleven, *New Testament*; notes

RELIGION REVIEW

Denominational vis á vis natural religion

2

12/11,13

Chap. Twelve, notes

DISCUSSION PAPER #2:question to be answered:**What effect has this course had on your view of religion as you view it from AD To BC?** **12/18 & 20***

Students shall read each of the two discussion papers in class; they shall be graded both on form and content. This syllabus constitutes a contract.

If a mid-term appears, it will be a "take-home," to be given **10/9**, due back in class on **10/16**; in that case, the **second discussion paper will take the place of the final, contingent on the quality of the first discussion paper.** Students **shall read** each of the two discussion papers during the assigned class dates; this is **non-negotiable. Absence on scheduled discussion days without prior permission means an F for the course.** Basic Requirements for the discussion papers: 2 pages DOUBLE-SPACED, proof-read, a clear, concise and coherent answer to the question asked.