

科目コード／科目名 (Course Code / Course Title)	DM428 / Religion and Society in Asia		
担当者名 (Instructor)	ムスリン, I(MUSULIN ILJA)		
学期 (Semester)	秋学期(Fall Semester)	単位 (Credit)	2単位(2 Credits)
科目ナンバリング (Course Number)	ICC3471	言語 (Language)	英語 (English)
備考 (Notes)			

授業の目標 (Course Objectives)

The main goal of this course is acquiring basic knowledge of religions in Asia, with a focus on Japan and East Asia. The course also aims to help students develop the ability to think of social and cultural issues pertaining to religion from different angles, and to encourage them to foster an attitude of understanding and respect for different worldviews and value systems.

授業の内容 (Course Contents)

In this course, through a study of different religious worldviews and values, students will explore the role of religious thought and practice in various social issues and the formation of culture. The course will focus on Shinto, Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, and Christianity in Japan and East Asia, but will also touch on Southeast and South Asia.

授業計画 (Course Schedule)

- Course introduction; Religions in Asia
The main objectives, the content of the course, as well as the requirements for students and grading criteria will be introduced.
We shall take a broad look at the Asian continent and religions present on it, with a focus on those religions that have had a significant cultural and social influence on Japan and East Asia.
- Shamanism in East Siberia, Korea and Japan
During this class we shall talk about shamanistic practices in East Asia and Japan, the powers shamans are believed to possess and their spiritual and social role.
- Shinto and Japanese Society and Culture I
Here we shall take a broad look at Shinto: examine what kind of a religion it is, how it could be classified, and what its main characteristics are in terms of faith, ritual and values. We shall also consider how its worldview has influenced Japanese culture.
- Shinto and Japanese Society and Culture II
We shall take up the topic of polytheistic beliefs in the Japanese Archipelago preceding the arrival of Buddhism and explore the early influence of Taoism and Buddhism on Shinto, especially the ideal, but also the organizational and physical impact in terms of architecture and the representation of deities that these two had in the Asuka, Nara and Heian periods. We shall particularly focus on the fusion of Shinto and Buddhism (shinbutsu shuugou).
- Shinto and Japanese Society and Culture III
Here we shall trace the development of Shinto doctrine in Medieval and Premodern times in relation to Buddhism and Confucianism, and examine the National Learning (kokugaku) teachings and the shift towards the so called "state Shinto" in the Meiji era. We shall also discuss the issue of whether there is one, single Shinto, or whether "Shinto" is a construct consisting of several different traditions.
- Taoism in China and Japan
This lesson will be dedicated to the Taoist thought and practices in China, as well as the influence Taoism has had on Japanese culture through its pantheon, worldview, divination methods and techniques for improving health, achieving longevity and immortality.
- Religions in India
Here, we shall talk about religions in India, with a focus on Hinduism and the birth of Buddhism.
- Buddhism in East Asia
Here we shall take up topics such as the spread of Buddhism through Asia, the differences between Theravada and Mahayana Buddhism and consider how Buddhism has influenced the culture and society of Southeast and East Asia. We shall also look at how Buddhism was received and understood in Japan in the Asuka period, what its social meaning and function was in the Nara and early Heian periods were, and what strains of Buddhist thought were transmitted to Japan in those periods.
- Buddhism in Japan
We shall learn basic tenets of various Japanese Buddhist sects, especially those originating in the Kamakura period, and outline the main doctrinal and social issues tackled by Japanese thinkers in medieval times. We shall also examine the social role of Buddhism in the Edo period and beyond, and analyze the influence Buddhism has exerted on Japanese

people's worldview, Japanese culture and art.

10. Guidelines for writing the term-end paper.

During this class students will be given concrete and detailed advice on how to write a well-structured, objective and logically consistent paper, how to select and use literature and argue in a persuasive way.

11. Confucianism in China

We shall introduce the main tenets of Confucianism and its history in China.

12. Confucianism in Japan

We shall examine the Confucian thought in Japan and the influence of Confucianism on Japanese and other East Asian cultures and societies: on the family, interpersonal relationships, social status of men and women, and attitudes toward learning, work and the state.

13. Christianity in East Asia I

We shall examine the history of Christianity in East Asia, how the religion has been perceived and treated and what cultural, organizational and political challenges it has encountered in Japan and elsewhere in East Asia.

14. Christianity in East Asia II; Religions and Religiosity in East Asia

We shall discuss the present influence of Christianity on Japanese and other East Asian societies.

In closing the course, we shall examine some overall characteristics of religion in East Asia, such as rich diversity, pervasive syncretism and adaptability, as well as current attitudes of East Asians toward religion. Furthermore, we shall discuss the concept of religion in Japan, religiosity among contemporary Japanese, and the attitudes of the broader public and media towards religion in present-day Japan.

授業時間外(予習・復習等)の学習 (Study Required Outside of Class)

Students will be required to read one or more books so that they can write their term-end assignment.

成績評価方法・基準 (Evaluation)

レポート試験(Report Exam)(80%)/Attitude in class(20%)

テキスト(Textbooks)

Handouts will be distributed in each lesson.

参考文献 (Readings)

1. Eliade, Mircea (ed.). 1987. *The Encyclopedia of Religions*. Macmillan
 2. Hawkins, Bradley .K.. 2003. *Introduction to Asian Religions*. Longman
 3. Kasahara, Kazuo. 2002. *A History of Japanese Religions*. Kosei
- Other reading material will be introduced in the class.

その他(HP等) (Others(e.g.HP))

The first and last class will be held online.

注意事項 (Notice)

It is recommended that the student's English level is at or above TOEFL iBT 76, IELTS 6.0, TOEIC 700, or TOEIC IP 700.