Module Definition Form (MDF)

Module code: MOD007287	**Version:** 2 **Date Amended:** 27/Jan/2025

1. Module Title
The World Religions

2a. Module Leader
Tristan Moyle

2b. School
School of Humanities and Social Sciences

2c. Faculty
Faculty of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences

3a. Level
4

3b. Module Type
Standard (fine graded)

4a. Credits
30

4b. Study Hours
300

5. Restrictions

Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:			

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

This module takes a global and world-historical view of belief systems and values, in order to illuminate our own contemporary ideas about life and death, justice, and morality, in new ways. We begin with philosophy in Ancient China, before turning to Indian philosophy, especially Hinduism and Buddhism. Next we examine Judaism, before examining Christianity and Islam, the other two monotheistic world religions. Throughout we will be comparing and contrasting the moral and metaphysical systems in East and West and, along the way, reflecting on the importance, value and nature of comparative philosophy within an interconnected world. You will develop a sound understanding of the development of religion and philosophy in the Far East, as well of the essential features of Judaic, Christian and Islamic medieval philosophy. Linked workshops will allow for further exploration of ideas and questions concerning the meanings of life, inspired by the main module themes, and will also form the basis for a practical project management assessment which will take place at Level 5. The workshops will also allow us to examine the history of these key ideas through material objects. We will visit local museums to enhance our understanding of the link between beliefs and values and practical everyday life concerns (field trip free of charge).

This module emphasizes the development of cultural and intercultural awareness, together with strong communication and presentation skills. Group homework questions and class debates will enhance your capacity for teamwork. The comparative approach will build your capacity to be open, empathic, global citizens and the knowledge base of world philosophies is an advantage for possible future careers in teaching, for example.

6b. Outline Content

- Metaphysics, religion and moral philosophy in China and India
- Medieval Christian and Islamic philosophy
- Issues in philosophy of religion
- Questions about the meaning/s of life

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

None.

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)		
No.	**Type**	**On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:**
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate understanding of key aspects of Eastern philosophy.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate understanding of key aspects of medieval philosophy.
3	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate an ability to make substantive connections between Western and Eastern philosophy.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Demonstrate an ability to apply the key elements of world philosophies to contemporary issues.
5	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Demonstrate skills in debating and presenting issues relevant to beliefs and values covered in the module, both verbally and in writing.
6	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Demonstrate project planning skills in developing an idea for a workshop to run in Level 5.

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	**Occurrence**	**Period**	**Location**	**Mode of Delivery**
2026/7	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	**Hours**	**Learning Outcomes**	**Details of Duration, frequency and other comments**
Lectures	24	1,2,3,6	2 hour weekly lecture/seminars.
Other teacher managed learning	12	4,5,6	2 hour fortnightly workshops.
Student managed learning	264	1-6	Structured tasks in Canvas, group work tasks, reading and researching for assignments.
TOTAL:	300		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence

The assessment for some modules includes a presentation (see below for details on how this particular module is assessed). We recognise that presenting, especially to a large group, can cause significant anxiety or distress for some students. If this may affect you, please contact your Module Leader or the Disability and Neurodiversity Service as early as possible. We will work with you to consider appropriate reasonable adjustments. Depending on your individual needs, these might include, for example, presenting to a smaller group or presenting only to a member of academic staff.

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-3	50 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Essay 2,500 words					

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Coursework	4-6	50 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Written report 2,500 words					

Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
012	Practical	5	0 (%)	Pass/Fail	100 (%)
Presentation-based report 1,000 words					

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).

In addition, students are required to:
(a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above
(b) pass any pass/fail elements

[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]