

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL
COURSE OUTLINE



Course Code: World Religions: Beliefs, Issues, and Religious Tradition/HRT3M (University/College Grade 11)/HRF3O (Open Grade 11)/HRT3MF (University/College in French)

Course Prerequisite: None

Course Description:

World Religions introduces students to the various expressions and responses to humanity's encounter with mystery in our quest for life's meaning. The course explores the life wisdom found in the responses of the major faith traditions to the compelling questions concerning the spiritual dimension of human experience, self-understanding, and the role of the individual within the family. In the Family Life Education strand, students explore a variety of topics related to the themes of personhood, family relationships, and sexuality.

Its purpose is to familiarize students with the language of religious discourse and to develop their awareness of the place and function of religion in human culture. This exploration can lead students to a more authentic adherence to their religious tradition and a deeper commitment to the Catholic faith. It can help to break down prejudices and misconceptions about other religious traditions and, at the same time, strengthen and affirm the students' own search for answers to life's meaning.

This course enables students to discover what others believe and how they live, and to appreciate their own unique heritage. Students will learn about the teachings and traditions of a variety of religions, the connections between religions and the development of civilizations, the place and function of religion in human experience, and the influence of a broad range of religions on contemporary society. This course also introduces students to skills used in researching and investigating world religions.

Catholic Graduate Expectations: A fundamental premise of this course is that students are becoming discerning believers who are being formed in the Catholic faith tradition, intent on participating in the transformation of society.

Understanding that students operate from, and yearn to deepen, their spirituality; this course encourages students to articulate Catholic beliefs, and to continue to journey as reflective, creative thinkers. By raising important questions about their faith and the faith traditions of other religions in the world, this course leads students to a deeper understanding of their relationship with God and with neighbour. The students are called to be caring family members and responsible citizens who respect and understand the history, cultural heritage, and pluralism of today's contemporary society.

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Units of Study

Unit 1	The Religious Impulse
Unit 2	Indigenous Spirituality
Unit 3	Early Religions (Basic)
Unit 4	Hinduism
Unit 5	Buddhism
Unit 6	Judaism
Unit 7	Islam
Unit 8	Christianity (Incorporated during the course material)

Evaluation

70%	30%
Knowledge/Understanding	Culminating Task and Exam
Thinking/Inquiry	
Communication	
Application	

Course Resources Required:

*Exploring World Religions or
World Religions A Canadian Catholic Perspective*

For a detailed course description of this course, please visit
<https://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/secondary/subjects.htm>