

Liberal Studies Program

Learning Outcomes and Writing Expectations

RELIGIOUS DIMENSIONS

Approved by the Liberal Studies Council, Spring 2011

Learning Outcomes:

Students successfully completing a Religious Dimensions Learning Domain course will be able to:

1. Explain beliefs and practices of one or more religious traditions in their specific social and cultural contexts. In courses in which the focus is on one religious tradition, students will be able to describe the diversity of strands within the tradition and to explain with significant depth the modes of interpretation of the world the tradition offers both to adherents and to others.
2. Identify religious modes of thinking, acting, and feeling such as: myth and narrative, symbol, ritual, law, doctrine, ethics, religious experience.
3. Analyze the impact of religion on personal as well as communal dimensions of human life, including for example the relationship between religion and power, social integration, social transformation, and social justice.

Writing Expectations:

By the end of the quarter, a student will have written a minimum total of 10 pages of writing. This writing may include assignments such as essays, response papers, reading journals, take-home essay exams, critical analyses, reaction papers to their readings, essays answering questions posed by the instructor, or reports on fieldwork. The syllabus will indicate this through its assignments.

Students will demonstrate skills in the following areas:

1. An adequate use of language pertinent to the study of religions
2. An adequate use of sources
3. An adequately skillful use of methodological approaches