

## COURSE SYLLABUS

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# World Religions Basics

Our Daily Bread University

## Course Description

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The world is getting smaller all the time. People are moving into your neighborhood that have different religious beliefs than you do. How can you be respectful and genuine with them if you don't really know and understand what they believe? The *World Religions Basics* course will provide you with an overview of the religious faiths and practices of Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, and Judaism, comparing their beliefs about God, creation, sacred scriptures, and salvation.

## Course Objectives

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Upon completion of this course, you should be able to:

- Define the term “religion.”
- Explain why a familiarity with the five most influential religions is foundational to begin exploring other belief systems.
- Explain why studying other world religions is important and explore how other religions have affected you and your community.
- Understand some of the problems connected with the naturalistic view of God and creation.
- Explain how Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Judaism, and Christianity view God and creation.
- Explain the central teachings of the sacred texts for Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Judaism, and Christianity.
- Explain the views of salvation for Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Judaism, and Christianity.

## Course Methods

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Throughout this course, a number of methods will be used to engage you in understanding, processing and applying the information learned in this course to your life. These methods include the following:

- **Video-based teaching**  
The primary teaching session in each lesson is provided in video format. If you do not

have the bandwidth required to view the video, we provide the option of listening to the lesson or reading the lesson from a transcript.

- **Additional Resources**

Lessons may be accompanied by additional readings, images, etc. that you can use to supplement your learning.

## Course Requirements

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To earn a Certificate of Completion, you must complete the course requirements. Course requirements include:

1. Viewing the following for each lesson:
  - **Lesson Overview:** A brief outline of what the lecturer will cover in the lesson.
  - **Lesson Objectives:** Objectives describe the learning outcomes you should achieve by the end of the lesson.
  - **Lectures:** 10-20 minute lessons that can be viewed as many times as needed.
2. Responding to the discussion questions for each lesson.
3. Earning a 70% or higher score on each lesson Quiz and the Final Exam.  
Quizzes and the Final Exam will cover the material presented in the lectures.