



EM220 World Religions

Australian College of Theology name: *Study of Religion*

Learning Outcomes

1. To ensure that you acquire an introductory knowledge of some non-Christian living faiths;
2. To give you an appreciation of the insights to be found in these faiths and a sensitivity to their world views;
3. To equip you to identify and respond to contemporary points of encounter and challenge arising out of the interface between Christian and non-Christian faiths;
4. To assist you to begin to engage in critical analysis of various Christian approaches to people of other faiths.

Content

Section A: Issues in the Study of Religion and Significant Religious Emphases in the Contemporary World

1. The nature and function of religion; the religious quest of humanity and its origin
2. Methodological issues, especially as these arise in the study of primal and folk religion, Marxism and secularism
3. Christianity's claim to the uniqueness of Christ; the challenge to Christian theology raised by religious experience, religious activity and religious truth in non-Christian religions
4. Cross-cultural approaches to the peoples of other faiths

Section B

The historical roots, beliefs, practices, cultural influences and contemporary reforms in ONE of the following living faiths: Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Islam, Australian Aboriginal religion.