

<b>Module code</b>	SEL610	<b>Level</b>	6
<b>Module title</b>	Living Religions in London	<b>Credit value</b>	10
<b>Common/Core/ Elective</b>	Elective	<b>ECTS Credits</b>	5
		<b>Notional learning hours</b>	100
<b>Courses on which the module is taught</b>	All	<b>Teaching Period</b>	Autumn/ Spring

### 1. Module description

This module will introduce you to a range of religious communities including Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism, by utilising London as a rich resource for religious studies. By focusing on the living traditions, we will deconstruct and challenge essentialist assumptions concerning the category 'religion'. You will explore how religion affects continuity and change among diverse cultures and communities. By applying the basic concepts of comparative religious studies and experiential learning on a series of field trips, you will learn how to integrate perspectives from multiple sources, including history, philosophy, art and architecture. Social interaction with people of faith will yield a multi-faceted understanding of what religion means to people, fostering a greater appreciation for the many ways of living in this world other than our own. Through self-reflection, we will learn how our own belief systems interact with others.

### 2. Learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of the module, you will be able to:

#### **Interdisciplinary Perspectives (MLO 09)**

Integrate perspectives from comparative religious studies, history, philosophy, sociology, art and/or architecture.

#### **Human and Environmental Impact (MLO 10)**

Evaluate the impact of religious observance on human society.

### 3. Learning and teaching methods

Your learning will take place through workshops and, where appropriate, fieldtrips. The focus of each week's learning experience will be the small and large group discussions in relation to the material prepared for the session. Classes for the module will use a range of learning and teaching methods to facilitate understanding of various religious doctrines. Classes will include, in-class practical demonstrations, topic-based debates, essential and recommended reading, micro-lectures, and personal reflections. During fieldtrips you will actively communicate with religious adherents and engage with the surroundings to facilitate your learning and understanding.

<b>Learning hours</b>	
<b>Directed learning</b>	36

Workshops/classes	36
<b>Guided/Self-guided learning</b>	<b>64 hours</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

#### 4. Assessment, formative feedback and relative weightings

##### Assessment: Essay

**Weight (%):** 100%

Wordcount or Equivalent: 1500 words

For this essay, you must attend a worship, ritual ceremony, or conduct fieldwork in a religious community, other than your own. The location for your fieldwork must be pre-approved. In your paper, you will both research the history and beliefs of the relevant religion in relation to the chosen ritual and reflect on aspects of the ritual (such as location, physical space, adherents, actions, words, leaders, music, texts, art, etc.) by recording your observations, reactions, understandings and questions.

Each summative assessment will be preceded by an opportunity of formative assessment accompanied by formative feedback

#### Mapping of assessment tasks for the module

Assessment tasks	MLO5	MLO9	MLO10							
Essay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>							

#### 5. Indicative resources

Fisher, M.P. (2011). *Living Religions*, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> ed. Pearson

Markham, I. Ruparell, T. eds. (2000). *Encountering Religion: Religion in the Modern World*. Wiley Blackwell

Gwynne, P. (2008). *World Religions in Practice*. Wiley Blackwell.

Smart, N. (1998). *The World's Religions*. Cambridge University Press

Harries, R.; Solomon, N. and Winter, T. (2006). *Abraham's Children: Jews, Christians, and Muslims in Conversation*, T&T Clark

MacCulloch, D. (2010) *A History of Christianity: the first three thousand years*, Penguin

Ayoub, M. (2005) *Islam, Faith and History*, Oneworld Publications

Flood, G. (1996) *An Introduction to Hinduism*, Cambridge University Press

Knott, K. (1998) *A Very Short Introduction to Hinduism*, Oxford University Press

Keown, D. (1996) *A Very Short Introduction to Buddhism*, Oxford University Press

Cush, D. (1993) *Buddhism, A Students Approach to World Religion*, Hodder

Cohn-Sherbok, D. (2003) *Judaism: History, Belief, Practice*, Routledge