

Type: Core

Course Code: CHCU E1025

Title: Religions of Sri Lanka and Diverse Christian Churches

Pre-requisites: General requirements for entrance to CDCE

Aims and Objectives: The main objective of this course is to present a basic understanding of the doctrine, worship, life and discipline of Hinduism, Buddhism and Islam and to point out that even though many persons claim to be followers of Jesus of Nazareth, there is a diversity of expression of this claim as represented by the many different Christian Churches

Learning Outcomes: The students will learn the basic tenets of Hinduism, Buddhism and Islam, and the similarities and differences among diverse Christian Churches.

Course Content:

Part I: Religions of Sri Lanka

1. The doctrine, culture, worship and discipline of Hinduism.
2. The doctrine, culture, worship and discipline of Buddhism.
3. The doctrine, culture, worship and discipline of Islam.

Part II: Diverse Christian Churches

1. The interaction with Judaism, and the basic characteristics of the Church as found in the Acts of the Apostles.
2. The doctrinal issues arising as a result of the interaction with the Greco-Roman culture; the separation of the Eastern Churches which accept only the first three councils.
3. The separation of the Eastern Churches which accept only the first seven councils; the controversies which caused this division.
4. The historical and cultural background of the Lutheran Reformation; the characteristics of the Churches founded by Luther, Zwingli and Calvin; the Anglican Church.
5. The history and doctrinal background of the following Churches: Baptist, Methodist, Adventist, Salvation Army, and Jehovah's Witnesses.
6. The origin and development of the "Free Churches" and the phenomenon of "Christian Fundamentalism".

Methodology: Lectures, discussions, visual aids and presentations.

Scheme of Evaluation:

Year-end examination.

Recommended Reading:

Part I

Tiwari, K.N. (1983). *Comparative Religions*, New Delhi.

ගලමංගොඩ, එස්. (1994). *ආදි බෞද්ධ දර්ශනය. මූලධර්ම විග්‍රහයක්*. අහය, කැලණිය.

නානාසක්කාර, එස්. (1998). *බුදුදහම හා ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ සෙසු ආගම්*. දෙහිවල.

ප්‍රනාන්දු, ඒ. (1997). *සමයාන්තර දැනුම සඳහා ඉස්ලාම් ආගම*. කඩවත: අන්තර් සංස්කෘතික පොත් ප්‍රකාශකයෝ .

ප්‍රනාන්දු, ඒ. (1997). *සමයාන්තර දැනුම සඳහා හින්දු ආගම*. කඩවත: අන්තර්

සංස්කෘතික පොත් ප්‍රකාශකයෝ, කඩවත.

රාහුල (හිමි), ඩබ්. (1965). *බුදුන් වදාළ ධර්මය*. කොළඹ: ගුණසේන සහ සමාගම.

Part II

Dawson, C. (1987). *The Dividing of Christendom*. New York.

Dueto, M.P. (1995). *History, Fundamental Doctrines and Founders*. Manila: St. Paul Press.

Koodepuzha, X. (1996). *Oriental Churches An Introduction* Oriental Institute of Religious Studies, Kottayam.

Madey, J. (1986). *Ecumenism, Ecumenical Movement and Eastern Church*. Kottayam.

Schultze, B. (1989). "Eastern Churches", in *Sacramentum Mundi* 2, Rahner, K., et al. (ed.) TPI, Bangalore, 120-132.

ප්‍රනාන්දු, ඒ. (1994). *නූතන ක්‍රිස්තියානියේ විවිධ ශාඛා හා මූලධර්ම*. කඩවත: අන්තර් සංස්කෘතික පොත් ප්‍රකාශකයෝ.