Course Title: Abrahamic Religions (Judaism, Christianity and Islam)

Course Code

Course Description:

The course aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the Abrahamic religions (Judaism, Christianity, and Islam) by exploring their historical origins, key beliefs, practices, sacred texts, rituals, and ethical teachings. Students will gain insights into their shared heritage, as well as appreciate the similarities, differences, and interfaith interactions among these influential religious traditions.

Course Objectives

- 1. To demonstrate an understanding of the history, beliefs, and texts of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.
- 2. To interpret and explain the core concepts and practices of Abrahamic religions.
- 3. To apply knowledge to analyze and compare religious rituals and practices.
- 4. To critically evaluate the impact of Abrahamic religions on society and culture.
- 5. To construct meaningful connections between beliefs, practices, and historical contexts.
- 6. To assess different interpretations, moral teachings, and contemporary issues within Abrahamic traditions.

Learning Outcomes:

LO1: Develop a comprehensive understanding of the historical development, key beliefs, practices, and sacred texts of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam as distinct Abrahamic religions.

LO2: Analyze the theological and philosophical aspects of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, identifying similarities, differences, and points of intersection among these religious traditions.

LO3: Examine the social, cultural, and historical contexts in which Judaism, Christianity, and Islam emerged, understanding their evolution and contributions to religious thought and practice.

LO4: Evaluate the ethical teachings and moral frameworks within Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, and their implications for individual behavior, social justice, and global ethics.

LO5: Explore the role of scripture, tradition, and religious authorities in shaping beliefs, practices, and interpretations within Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, fostering an understanding of religious authority and diversity within these traditions.

LO6: Engage in critical reflection and analysis of contemporary issues, interfaith dialogue, and religious pluralism within the context of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, promoting an appreciation for religious diversity and interfaith understanding.

1. Introduction to Abrahamic Religions

- 1.1 Historical background and origin of Abrahamic religions
- 1.2 Significance of Abraham as a central figure
- 1.3 Common beliefs, values, and practices

2. Judaism

- 2.1 History, beliefs, and practices of Judaism
- 2.2 Major Jewish texts: Torah, Talmud, and other sacred scriptures
- 2.3 Key beliefs and practices

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3. Christianity

- 3.1 Life and teachings of Jesus Christ
- 3.2 The Bible: Old Testament and New Testament
- 3.3 Christian denominations and their variations

4. Islam

- 4.1 Introduction to Islam: history, beliefs, and Practices
- 4.2 The Life and Teachings of Prophet Muhammad
- 4.3 The Quran as the holy scripture of Islam

5. Comparative Analysis and Interactions

- 5.1 Cmparative Study of Abrahamic Religions
- 5.2 Similarity and differences in beliefs, practices, and rituals
- 5.3 Interactions and Influences among Judaism, Christianity, and Islam

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Suggested Readings

- 1. Adam J. Silverstein and Guy G. Stroumsa, The Oxford Handbook of Abrahamic Religions" Publisher: Oxford University Press, 2015
- 2. Anwar Moazzam, Abrahamic Religions in India: Judaism, Christianity and Islam, Publisher: D.K. Printworld Ltd., 2018.
- 3. Charles L. Cohen, The Abrahamic Religions: A Very Short Introduction" Publisher: Oxford University Press, 2012.
- 4. Huston Smith, The World's Religions" by Publisher: HarperOne, 2009.
- 5. William A. Young, The World's Religions: Worldviews and Contemporary IssuesPublisher: Pearson 2014.
- 6. पंकजजैन, अब्राहमीधर्म: यहूदीधर्म, ईसाईधर्मऔरइस्लाम" (AbrahmiDharm: YahudiDharm, Isai Dharm aur Islam), जगतप्रकाशन (Jagat Prakashan), 2018.

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