

REL 332: Religions of Japan

This course counts for EALC and EASC credit!

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Section 60072R
Online

Wednesdays, 2-4:50 PM

Time to be broken up between pre-recorded lectures, online discussions, and group work using tools like Perusall and VoiceThread.

(You will not be required to sit on Zoom for three hours consecutively, I promise!)



In this course, you will study religious life in the Japanese islands, from prehistoric times through the contemporary period. Our approach will be multidisciplinary, drawing on the methods of historical, literary, and social scientific studies. We will also incorporate as many primary sources as possible, giving you the opportunity to explore the religious traditions of Japan from the perspectives of both historical actors and contemporary practitioners.

To make the best of the fact that we will be meeting online this term, I am organizing regular guest appearances for the class. Some of my colleagues who have written books and articles we're reading in the class will join our Zoom sessions to talk about their work and answer your questions. I am also inviting some Buddhist priests, nuns, and other religious professionals to join us virtually. And finally, if conditions permit, we may be able to hold occasional (and optional) office hours in person and on campus (outdoors and wearing masks, of course).