



A Concise Introduction to World Religions, 2nd Edition

By Willard G. Oxtoby, Alan F. Segal

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Based on the best-selling two-volume *World Religions: Eastern and Western Traditions*, this concise, contributed second edition is a survey of faiths throughout the world. Renowned scholars trace the origins and evolution of the major traditions, explain their essential teachings, outline their practices, and examine their interactions with modern culture and society, while insightful introductory and concluding essays suggest countless avenues for further reflection and study. With extracts from each tradition's most important thinkers, both ancient and modern, along with timelines, maps, glossaries, guides to key geographic sites, annotated reading lists, vibrant color photographs, handy "Tradition at a Glance" summaries, and a brand-new chapter on new religious movements, *A Concise Introduction to World Religions*, Second Edition, offers a rich introduction to the subject.

ENGAGING PEDAGOGY: A wealth of learning tools throughout help students appreciate and understand world religions:

- * **"Focus" boxes** provide insight into rituals or practices that are specific to each religion, such as going to temple in the Jain tradition, the daily routine of liturgical prayers for Sikhs, and taboo words for male and female Shinto priests in Japan.

- * **"Tradition at a Glance" sidebars** offer an insightful overview of each tradition--covering founders, noteworthy doctrines, and distribution of adherents--facilitate comparative analysis, and serve as quick review references.

- * **"Major Branches of" boxes** break down the internal divisions and sects within each faith.

- * **Chapter timelines** highlight key events in each religion's history.

- * **Detailed maps** depict locations of important reference points for each tradition.

* **"Sites" boxes** indicate locations of special significance to each tradition.

* **"Document" boxes** highlight key passages from each tradition's sacred texts.

* **End-of-chapter glossaries** serve as quick-reference guides that help students learn and review key terms.

INSTRUCTOR RESOURCES:

Instructor's Manual:

Chapter overviews and notes

Classroom discussion questions

Test Generator:

For each chapter:

50 multiple-choice questions

20 true/false questions

10 short-answer questions

5 essay questions

Answer key with page references for all questions

PowerPoint-based Slides:

Fully revised and updated for the second edition

STUDENT STUDY GUIDE:

Chapter summaries

List of learning objectives

For each chapter:

20 multiple-choice questions

5 short-answer questions

10 research paper questions

5 reflection questions

List of 5-8 additional resources

Field trip guidelines

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Editorial Review

Review

"This is a good, solid edition usable in a wide variety of classroom settings."--William Acres, Huron University College at the University of Western Ontario

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"This is one of the most clearly written of all the world religions textbooks I have viewed. My students would appreciate the clear writing style." --Curtis D. Smith, Penn State University

About the Author

The late Willard G. Oxtoby, the original editor of this work, was Professor Emeritus at the University of Toronto, where he launched the graduate program in the study of religion. His books include *Experiencing India* and *The Meaning of Other Faiths*.

Alan F. Segal is Professor of Religion and Igeborg Rennert Professor of Jewish studies at Barnard College, Columbia University. He has written extensively in the fields of comparative religion, Judaism, and early Christianity. His books include *Rebecca's Children*, *Paul the Convert*, and *Life after Death*.

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Keith Robertson:

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