



Purpose

This document is a resource for educators teaching the *Grade 12: World of Religions: A Canadian Perspective* optional course. Within the course, learners explore important aspects of human diversity, and develop greater understanding and awareness of the historical and contemporary significance of religious diversity in Manitoba, Canada, and the world.

It is important to understand and value religious diversity while recognizing that some aspects of diverse religions may be similar and others may be unique or different. The intent is not to put forward a reductionist view that all religions in some way are the same or are fundamentally at odds with each other. As a result, the curriculum proposes an approach that promotes critical dialogue. “Critical dialogue has several prerequisites. It requires mutual respect, thoughtful listening, knowledgeable inquiry, recognition of the multi-dimensionality of the other’s situation, creative interaction, careful cooperation and, when appropriate, concerned confrontation.” (Erdel)

The intent of religious diversity and world religions courses should not be to encourage the practice or promotion of a specific religion or spiritual belief system, nor the development of religious faith. Rather, the intent should be the development of understanding and appreciation for the diversity of religious belief systems and practices, and their roles in society and people’s lives. The current course also aims to challenge misinformation and biases, both explicit and implicit, that learners may have developed or to which they may have been exposed.

Delivery of the Course

This course may be delivered as a full-credit course or a half-credit course. As a half-credit course, students would explore 2–3 distinct religious traditions.

Reporting Credits		
Title	Subject Code	Credits
World of Religions	0606	40S 1 credit, 40E 1 credit, 40M 1 credit
World of Religions	0606	40S 0.5 credit, 40E 0.5 credit, 40M 0.5 credit