IAC 3813: Global Religions and Community Engagement  
Spring 2016 – Wednesday 9:00-12:00

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will prepare students for leadership in a multifaith society through the study of world religions and active engagement with the diverse religious communities of Atlanta. It emphasizes service learning through site visits and field research in collaboration with faith-based community partners. Through this course, students will come to understand the core beliefs and practices of the world’s major religions, including Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism. Students will also encounter the unique manifestations of these faith traditions in America and the particular needs and aspirations of Atlanta’s religious communities. This course is part of the Leadership and Multifaith Program (LAMP), a collaborative endeavor between Georgia Tech’s Ivan Allen College and Candler School of Theology at Emory University (http://lamp.iac.gatech.edu). It is an introductory course intended for students majoring in any field. There are no prerequisites.

TEXTBOOKS


COURSE HIGHLIGHTS

• Field trips to five religious sites: The Temple-Hebrew Benevolent Congregation, Ebenezer Baptist Church, al-Farooq Mosque, SGI Buddhist Center, and BAPS Hindu Temple
• Guest lectures: Community leaders will speak on topics including sacred architecture, “Religion in the Civil Rights movement,” and “1000 Inventions of the Muslim World.”
• Service learning web design: In teams, students will create a website documenting the sacred spaces of Atlanta, filling a gap in the available information on religious diversity in Atlanta.