***World Religions:***

**Acceptable Reading List for Required Commentary**

**Directions:** Select a book from the list, and acquire it either through purchase (either at a bookstore, or online) or borrow (at either the BCC libraries or a municipal library). Read it. Write a commentary (your opinion) on the ideas expressed (not on the book or the presentation). The ideal paper will be 500-700 words. Some credit will be lost if it is either too brief or too verbose.

**Religion Author / Approx. Book General Concept**

**– Branch Book Title (ISBN) Editor Cost ($) Format Readability Difficulty**

Atheist How Are We To Live? (0879759666) Peter Singer 12 Explain 3 2

Baha’i Emerging Global Religion (1931847061) Hatcher & Martin 12 Explain 3 3

Buddhism

– Zen The Zen of Oz (1580630200) Joey Green 12 Metaphor 4 2

– Mahayana Being Peace (0938077007) Thich Nhat Hahn 8 Explain 3 3

– Vajrayana The Four Noble Truths (0722535503) XIVth Dalai Lama 12 Explain 2 4

Christianity

– Christian Science Introduction to Christian Science\*1 Ann Beals 13 Explain 3 3

Unity of Good\*2 Mary Baker Eddy 7 Presentation 2 4

Science and Health (0879520388) Mary Baker Eddy 13 Presentation 2 3

– Divine Science Mysteries\*3 Nona L Brooks — Explain 3 3

– Eastern Orthodox The Orthodox Way (I913836583) Kallistos Ware 10 Explain 3 3

– Friends (Quaker) Why Friends are Friends (0913342459) Jack L Willcuts 5 Explain 4 4

– Fundamentalist The Purpose Driven Life (0310205719) Rick Warren 12 Lessons 3 2

– LDS (Mormon) What is Mormonism all About? (0312289626) Walker F Johnson 10 Q & A 4 2

– Roman Catholic Why Do Catholics Do That? (0345397266) Kevin Orlin Johnson 12 Explain 3 3

– Southern Baptist The Ways of God (0805423737) Edgemon & Blackaby 12 Explain 3 3

– Unity It’s All God (092984506) Walter Starcke 16 Explain 4 3

Heaven’s Gate Planet About to be Recycled\*4 Marshall Applewhite — Lesson 4 2

Hinduism

– Advaita Vedanta Advaita Vedanta: An Introduction Arvind Sharma 11 Explain 4 3

Advaita Vedanta Eliot Deutsch Explain 4 3

– Applied The Only Dance There Is (0385084137) Ram Dass 9 Biographical 4 3

– Traditional The Essentials of Hinduism (1884852041) Swami Bhaskarananda 12 Explain 3 3

Islam Learning About Islam (1889820194) Yahiya Emerick 10 Lessons 4 3

Islam for the Western Mind (157174424X) Richard Henry Drummond 13 Explain 3 3

Idealism

– Course in Miracles 50 Miracle Principles of ACIM (0933291159) Kenneth Wapnick 8 Lessons 4 3

– Infinite Way The Art of Spiritual Healing (0062503642) Joel Goldsmith 10 Lessons 4 3

– Rosicrucian Mysticism: Ultimate Experience (9990929246) Cecil A Poole 17 Explain 2 4

– Vedanta Teachings of Ramana Maharshi (187801918X) Matthew Greenblatt 12 Review 4 5

Self Enquiry\*5 Ramana Maharshi — Lessons 1 5

Jainism Life Force (089581899X) Michael Tobias 13 Explain 4 2

Judaism What Do Jews Believe? (0805210598) David Ariel 10 Q&A 4 2

Basic Judaism (0156106981) Milton Steinberg 9 Explain 2 4

Miscellaneous Jonathan Livingston Seagull (0380012863) Richard Bach 6 Metaphor 5 4

Kinship With All Life (0060609125) J Allen Boone 10 Metaphor 5 3

Raëlian The True Face of God (2940252009) Claude Vorilhon 9 Biographical 5 2

Scientology Theory & Practice of a Contemporary Religion\*6 *none given* — Explain 3 2

Shinto Shinto … (0195218868) C Scott Littleton 16 Explain 3 2

Taoism The Tao of Pooh (0140067477) Benjamin Hoff 9 Metaphor 5 1

Wicca The Truth About Witchcraft Today (087542127X) Scott Cunningham 5 Explain 4 1

Witchcraft: The Old Religion (0806510285) Dr Leo Louis Martello 17 Explain 3 2

**Notes:** \*1 Available directly from author at [http://thebookmark.com/](http://www.thebookmark.com) (Order item # S3-ATB-2)

\*2 Available at Christian Science Reading Rooms (*e.g.* one in Cocoa Village or downtown Melbourne), and also available free online at [www.mbeinstitute.org/Prose\_Works/Unity\_of\_Good.html](http://www.mbeinstitute.org/Prose_Works/Unity_of_Good.html)

\*3 Available free online at [www.angelfire.com/wi2/ULCds/mystA.html](http://www.angelfire.com/wi2/ULCds/mystA.html)

\*4 Available free online at [www.sacred-texts.com/ufo/hg/txt/vt100596.txt](http://www.sacred-texts.com/ufo/hg/txt/vt100596.txt)

\*5 Available free online at [http://www.arunachala-ramana.org/publications/books.htm](http://www.ramana-maharshi.org/books.htm) (click on the book, format & language)

\*6 Available free online at [www.bonafidescientology.org](http://www.bonafidescientology.org)

**Ratings:** Readability (1 to 5) — the higher the number the “easier” it is for most students to read this book.

Difficulty of Concept (1 to 5) — the higher the number the more difficult the typical student finds the concepts.

**General:** BCC Avail: indicates availability at BCC campus libraries — C (Cocoa), M (Melbourne), T (Titusville), P (Palm Bay)

Format — Explain (text introduction to topic), Biographical (intro through narrative), Metaphor (intro by analogy), Lessons (a set of introductory lessons), Q&A (questions and answers), Review (summary of teachings), Anthology (collection of writings), Presentation (introduction by founder).