



# RELIGION IN EAST ASIA: DIVERSITY AND DIFFUSION

NATIONAL ONLINE SEMINAR FOR SECONDARY TEACHERS

**SEPTEMBER 24 - NOVEMBER 11, 2025**

Developing “religious literacy” in East Asian religious and philosophical traditions is challenging at the secondary level, given the diversity and diffusion of these traditions in China, Korea, and Japan. Equally complexing is the co-existence of these traditions and East Asians’ identification with multiple religious and philosophical affiliations. In this course, teachers will gain basic understandings of beliefs, practices and experiences of the diverse belief systems in East Asia and discern their influences in history and society. The course will pay special attention to: 1) China as the gateway for Buddhism and the source of Daoism and Confucian philosophy in East Asia; 2) Korean’s negotiation of shamanism, Buddhism, Confucianism, and Christianity; and 3) Japanese Shinto and Buddhism including how and why many Japanese embrace both. The course aligns with the World History Content Standards, AP World History Course Guidelines, and Religious Studies supplement to the C3 Framework.

## **Course Format and Expectations:**

Each module is two weeks long, divided as follows: 1) a one-week reading period; 2) a live webinar with a specialist on the topic; and 3) a second week for asynchronous online discussion focusing on classroom integration. The course begins on Sept 24 with an Intro Week. The three two-week modules run Oct 1-Nov 11. Participants must be able to attend the live Zoom webinars with specialists: Oct 7, Oct 21, and Nov 4 all at 7 pm ET, and participate in the week-long asynchronous discussion period following each live meeting. The Curriculum Implementation Plan (CIP) and evaluation are due November 23.

## **Benefits:**

- Discussion with specialists and access to resources.
- Upon submission of all assignments, a certificate of completion for 27 professional development hours, & a \$100 completion stipend.

## **Eligibility:**

Secondary teachers nationwide are invited to apply. Priority will be given to contract world history and world religions teachers whose required curriculum includes East Asia. Course size caps at 25.

For inquiries:

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**APPLY ONLINE AT:**

[tinyurl.com/TEAcourseregistration](https://tinyurl.com/TEAcourseregistration)



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