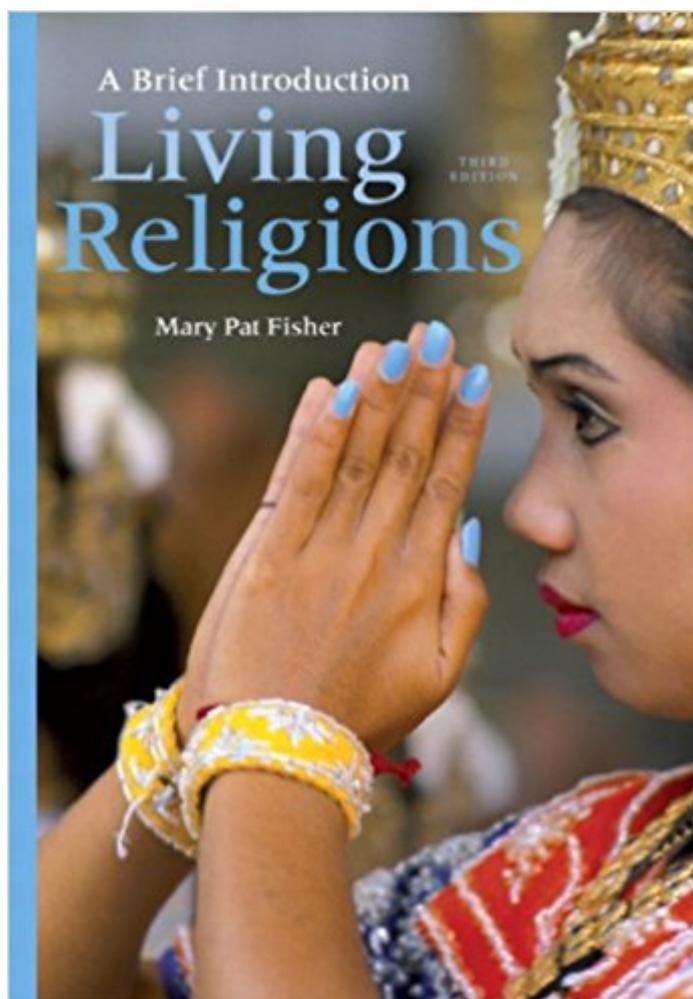


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# Living Religions: A Brief Introduction (3rd Edition)



## Synopsis

Reflecting modern religions in today's changing world. **Living Religions: A Brief Introduction 3/e** presents a highly readable and stimulating concise survey of the modern religious world though an emphasis on the personal consciousness of believers and their own accounts of their religion and relevance in contemporary life. Along with a team of specialist consultants in each faith, and drawing on a wealth of scholarly research and firsthand source material, Mary Pat Fisher provides a fresh and challenging insight into the historical development and teachings of traditional faiths, indigenous religions, and new religious movements. She considers how the contemporary beliefs and practices of each of these traditions has evolved, and explores the changing nature of each religion; particularly the role of women, and the issues and controversies such as fundamentalism, violence, globalization, and interfaith initiatives.

**Teaching and Learning Experience**

- Personalize Learning** - MyReligionLab delivers proven results in helping students succeed, provides engaging experiences that personalize learning, and comes from a trusted partner with educational expertise and a deep commitment to helping students and instructors achieve their goals.
- Improve Critical Thinking** - Outstanding student pedagogy - including lists of key topics, review and discussion questions, a suggested reading list, Teaching Stories boxes, primary source quotations, a timeline, world map, key terms and more! - encourages students to examine their assumptions, discern hidden values, evaluate evidence, assess their conclusions, and more!
- Engage Students** - Living Religions: A Brief Introduction provides personal interviews with followers of each faith, Religion in Practice and Religion in Public Life boxes, and an impressive image program - all which help to bring each major world religion to life.
- Support Instructors** - Teaching your course just got easier! You can create a Customized Text or use our Instructor's Manual, Electronic MyTest • Test Bank or PowerPoint Presentation Slides. Plus, Living Religions: A Brief Introduction 3/e is concise enough that you can opt to use additional handouts, course packs, or supplemental readings.

Note: MyReligionLab does not come automatically packaged with this text. To purchase MyReligionLab, please visit [www.MyReligionLab.com](http://www.MyReligionLab.com) or you can purchase a valuepack of the text + MyReligionLab (VP ISBN-10: 0205242081, VP ISBN-13: 9780205242085)

## Book Information

Paperback: 376 pages

Publisher: Pearson; 3 edition (October 16, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0205229700

ISBN-13: 978-0205229703

Product Dimensions: 6.4 x 0.6 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 209 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #63,218 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #43 in Books > Textbooks >

Humanities > Religious Studies > Comparative Religion #160 in Books > Religion & Spirituality >

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## Customer Reviews

I think the Fisher text's comprehensive coverage of the basics of each religion is commendable. Even if I don't teach every religion in the book (an impossible feat), I still direct students to those chapters as reference or further information. -Professor Jonathan Tan, Xavier University

Plenty of examples are cited. Primary sources, personal interviews, etc. are all very useful for the students understanding of course topics. -Instructor Sarah McCombs, University of West Florida

I do like that the material is organized somewhat historically, splitting between the "east" and the "west." I do not need to skip up and down the various chapters, which I like.

The text is teachable in the sense that whereas Fisher does not problematize the information, the instructor has plenty of in-roads to do so while teaching. -Instructor Dorcas Chung, Folsom Lake College

For an introductory text, I find it to be very accurate and representative of a solid textbook. I have looked over MANY similar texts in the same genre, yet I find myself coming back to Living Religions again and again. -Instructor Fotini Katsanos, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

The Fisher text is good in providing both past and present perspectives. -Professor Leena Taneja, Stetson University

Living Religions: A Brief Introduction is a brief edition of Living Religions, fourth edition. It presents a stimulating survey of today's religious world. Exploring the historical developments and teachings of traditional faiths, indigenous religions, and new religious movements, this brief edition considers how each of these traditions has evolved into contemporary beliefs and practices. It examines the changing nature of each religion, the spread of religious pluralism, and the movement toward interfaith dialogue. With the help of a team of specialist consultants in each faith, and drawing on a wealth of scholarly research and firsthand source material, Mary Pat Fisher gives a fresh and

challenging insight into how believers of today's faiths perceive their religion and its role in the changing world in which they live. **SPECIAL FEATURES** Seven feature boxes on religious figures in public life. Quotes from contemporary teachers and practitioners of each faith. Coverage of the role of women in each tradition. Coverage of the socio-political context of contemporary religious practice. Map and timeline providing the geographical and historical context for each religion. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Coming from a nation with multi ethnicity multi religiosity, I realize after reading this book for a world religions class that it has not been objective in the way it portrays each religion and there are parts that are misleading. Very disappointed especially when you are truly seeking to understand the different religions, both the good and the bad. The book also seems biased towards Islam as the entire read on the chapter on Islam seems to portray Christianity in a bad light and Islam as peaceful and we know enough of history to know that both religions have violent historical backgrounds.

Unfortunately I only found out towards the end of my semester, but this particular print was obviously botched. It's missing the last few pages of the Christianity chapter and the first few pages of the Islam chapter. There are also another 10 pages of the Islam chapter that are repeated but perhaps this is to make up for a batch of missing pages in the middle of the chapter. Pretty frustrating.

This is a textbook, and my assumption was that all 9th edition texts would be the same, but evidently different colleges can make modifications, and even though my school is using this edition, the chapters are in a different order, and each chapter is a little different in the way the parts are put together.

I had to get this textbook for a class I was taking and I really enjoyed reading it. It wasn't very detailed on the Christianity chapter but the other chapters (Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Judaism and others) were very easy to follow and you wanted to keep reading and find out about the other religious beliefs and cultures. I am very happy that my instructor chose this book to help us learn about different religions.

Good Deal. Well written and Illustrated. More interesting than most textbooks with some incite into

daily lives of people with different social and religious backgrounds. I would recommend this book to someone that is not taking college courses and just wants a well-rounded understanding of the world's major religions.

I've been using this book (or a version of it) for years. Mary Fisher does a great job of getting as much information in as possible while keeping it accessible for undergrads. It is a great resource and a great text for World Religions classes.

This is a great book written by open-minded, compassionate people who love God and humanity and treasure the common heritage of mankind -- religion. They observe religions from a positive, objective point of view, whereby bring out the currency, strengths and issues of the religions for the readers to understand and ponder. It is written in the language that is lucid and cogent. Read it to expand your horizon of faith, knowledge, understanding and compassion!

It is what was needed and reasonable price for a college text book. I will be buying online more often. There was no damage to this book, the cd was included (even tho I did not need it). I am very happy with the book.

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