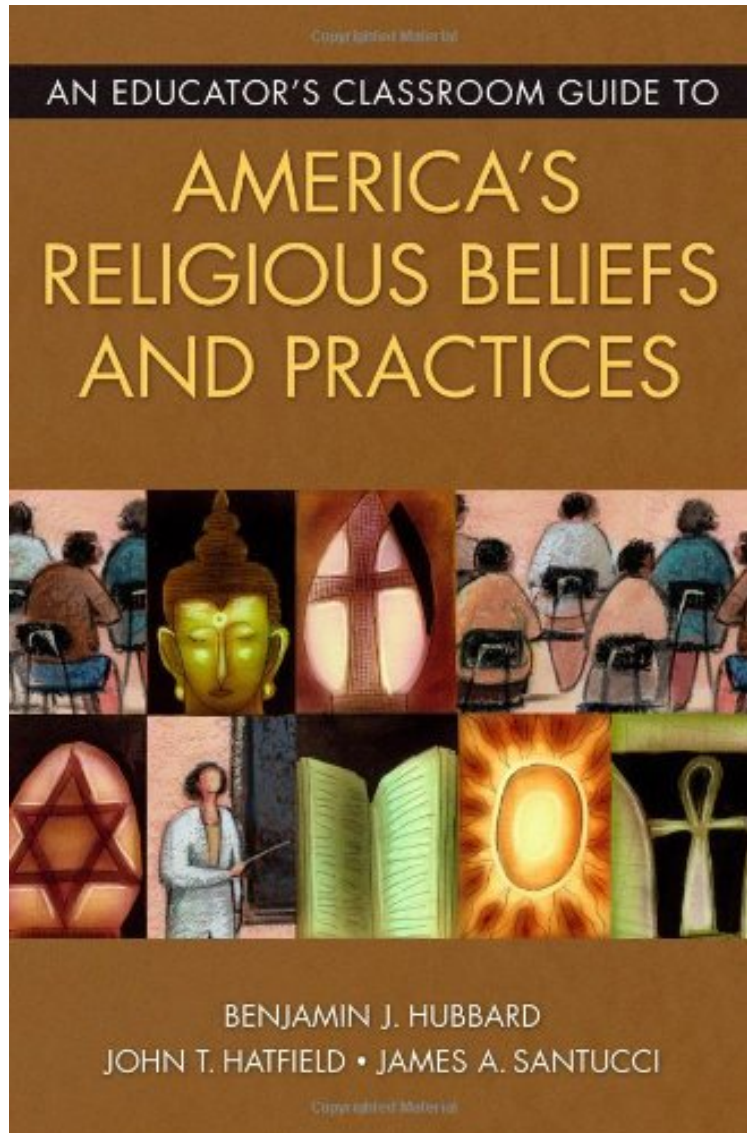


An Educator's Classroom Guide to America's Religious Beliefs and Practices

Benjamin J. Hubbard, John T. Hatfield, James A. Santucci
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Today, with all of the controversies surrounding religion in the schools and in the public sphere, it would seem more important than ever that teachers and librarians have a quick source of up-to-date, correct, unbiased information to give to patrons and students. The authors of this book (all are or have been professors of religion at various well known universities) offer just that. The book is arranged to cover most all of the known (and little known) religions in America. Today, with all of the controversies surrounding religion in the schools and in the public sphere, it would seem more important than ever that teachers and librarians have a quick source of up-to-date, correct, unbiased information to give to patrons and students. The authors of this book (all are or have been professors of religion at various well- known universities) offer just that. The book is arranged to cover most of the known (and little-known) religions in America. Each section includes: Origins, Beliefs, Sacred Book/Scriptures, Practices, Main Subgroups, Common Misunderstandings and Stereotypes, Classroom Concerns, Population Data, and Further Readings. Though there are many guides to religions, this book has the unique advantage of looking at each religion as it may affect the classroom and other student groups and activities.

"This book is highly recommended to schools and school districts for both the wealth of information about religions and religious beliefs and the practical guidelines, which support educators as they go about their daily responsibilities of teaching students." - American Reference Books Annual "The authors' primary purpose in creating this helpful resource is to supply the public school teacher with accurate, at-a-glance information about religious beliefs in North America. . . . This book does an exemplary job of combining correct, impartial information from authoritative sources with much-welcomed brevity." - VOYA "Hubbard, a school administrator, and Jon T. Hatfield and James A. Santucci, who are not further identified, set out fundamentals of behavior typical or expected of people from various religious backgrounds to help classroom teachers avoid discourteous or offensive behavior of their own. The 1997 first edition is here expanded with chapters on four additional traditions, and revised to make the resource more useful in elementary as well as secondary schools." - Reference Research Book News About the Author Benjamin J. Hubbard, PhD, is professor emeritus of comparative religion at California State University, Fullerton where he was department chair for 15 years. He has been a frequent contributor on religion-related issues to the Los Angeles Times/Orange County and the Orange County Register. His specialties include Judaic studies, the interfaith movement, and religion and media studies. John T. Hatfield, PhD, is professor emeritus of Ethnic and Women's Studies at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. He is a past president of the American Academy of Religion's Western Region and of the Far Western Philosophy of Religion Society. His special interests include Native American religion, and religion and public education. James A. Santucci, PhD, is professor and chair of the Department of Comparative Religion, California State University, Fullerton. For nearly 20 years he has edited the journal Theosophical History. He is an expert on Theosophy and other non-traditional religious movements, as well as the religions of South Asia (Hinduism, Buddhism and Jainism).