Special Subject Week – Open to all u3a membersin the UK

**Exploring World Faiths - 12th-16th April**

**To register click on** [**https://u3asites.org.uk/west-midlands/events**](https://u3asites.org.uk/west-midlands/events)

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| Britain is already a multi-faith society, 70% of the population professed to have a religious faith (2011 census), higher in metropolitan parts of the West Midlands.  Although Christianity still predominates, in theory, a sizeable number practise and live other religions  Come and find out more from ordinary people of faith with plenty of opportunity to discuss and ask questions.  All sessions are from 10-11.30  **Monday April 12th**  **Introduction:** Have you wondered what is a faith, when did they start, and how did they develop?  Dr Peter Rookes, u3a National Adviser on Exploring World Faiths has an extensive background in faith and health, will give an overview of the course including how world religions are ordered in time and place.  **Christianity**, why is the story of Jesus’ birth and life told differently in Matthew and Luke’s gospel? Why did Jesus talk in parables: Bernie Morton, Catholic church member.  **Tuesday April 13th**  **Islam**: How does Islam influence family life: Mahmooda Quereshi, West Midlands Regional Coordinator, Faiths and Beliefs Forum  **Christian Science**, Mary Baker Eddy, its founder and its beliefs: Gill Hartley and Robin Harragin-Hussey, Midland and London Christian Science Publication Offices  **Wednesday April 14th**  **Hinduism** and its contribution to science: Anjana Shelat, Midland Regional Coordinator of Hindu Mandir Network UK  **Buddhism**:  'Buddhism and Value Creation' - an overview of the history of Buddhism and the development of the Soka Gakkai (value creation society) - Vicki Squire,  Buddhist Faith Advisor at University of Warwick Chaplaincy  **Thursday April 15th**  **Baha’I Faith**: "We spend our lives trying to unlock the mystery of the universe, but there was a Turkish Prisoner, Baha'u'llah, in 'Akka, Palestine, who had the key”. Dr. Stephen Vickers  **Sikh Faith**, a virtual tour of the Gurdwara and Nishkam Centre including the kitchens in Handsworth: Gopinder Kaur Sagoo, Faith Guide, Guru Nanak Nishkam Sewak Jatha, Birmingham  **Friday April 16th**  **Scientology:** What do Scientologists believe and what do they do – Graeme Wilson, National Publicity Officer, Scientology UK  **Judaism:** What do people of the Jewish faith belief and how do they practice their faith: Yvonne Stollard, Vice-President of Birmingham Progressive Synagogue, the Jewish representative on the Worcestershire SACRE, and Chair of Worcestershire Interfaith Forum. |  |