Religion and Media, Minor

The undergraduate minor in religion and media is designed to focus on the intersection of religion and media and to build critical skills in cultural and media literacy. Students are educated on the vital role that religion and media play, historically and in contemporary society, by introducing interdisciplinary perspectives.

The Departments of Religious Studies and Communication Studies collaborate to offer the minor in religion and media. The minor is administered by the Department of Religious Studies.

The minor requires a minimum of 18 s.h., including 12 s.h. in courses taken at the University of Iowa. Students must maintain a cumulative g.p.a. of at least 2.00 in all courses for the minor and in all UI courses for the minor. Course work for the minor may not be taken pass/nonpass.

Students completing a communication studies major or a religious studies major also may complete this minor. Students may double-count up to 6 s.h. of course work for the religion and media minor with other programs of study. Courses with General Education (GE) status are excluded from this double-counting policy.

The minor in religion and media requires the following course work. Students must complete at least 6 s.h. in communication studies course work (prefix COMM) and at least 6 s.h. in religious studies course work (prefix RELS).

| Methods and Approaches in Media Studies | 3 |
| Methods and Approaches in Religious Studies | 3 |
| Themes of Religion and Media Courses | 6 |
| Religion and Media in Context Courses | 6 |
| Total Hours | 18 |

Themes of Religion and Media

These courses raise broad thematic questions about the relationship of religion and media in diverse historical, geographical, and social contexts.

At least 6 s.h. from these:
- RELS:2182/CLSA:2482 Ancient Mediterranean Religions 3
- RELS:2272 Religion and Film 3
- RELS:2930/COMM:2079 Digital Media and Religion 3
- RELS:3524/CLSA:3524 The Devil in Judaism and Christianity 3
- COMM:4153/RELS:4153 Magic Machines: Technology and Social Change 3

Religion and Media in Context

These courses engage specific historical, geographical, and cultural contexts in which a relationship between religion and media is important. They teach students to think about the way religion and media matter in everyday life.

At least 6 s.h. from these:
- RELS:2064 Tricksters, Fools, and Creators: Mythical Agents of Change 3
- RELS:2260 Hard Cases in Healthcare: Ethics at the Beginning of Life 3
- RELS:2877/SPST:2077 Sport and Religion in America 3
- RELS:3243/CLSA:3443 Pagans and Christians: The Church from Jesus to Muhammad 3
- RELS:3247/CLSA:3247 Banned from the Bible: Pseudepigrapha and Apocrypha 3
- RELS:3745/AFAM:3245 Twentieth-Century African American Religion: Civil Rights to Hip-Hop 3
- RELS:3976/AINS:3276 American Indian Environmentalism 3
- COMM:2080/RELS:2080 Public Life in the U.S.: Religion and Media 3
- COMM:2088 Media and Democracy 3

Methods and Approaches in Media Studies

These courses convey major methodological approaches to the study of media.

One of these (3 s.h.):
- COMM:1168 Media, Music, and Culture 3
- COMM:1174 Media and Society 3

Methods and Approaches in Religious Studies

These courses convey major methodological approaches to the study of religion.

One of these (3 s.h.):
- RELS:1001 Judaism, Christianity, and Islam 3
- RELS:1015 Religions in a Global Context: The Critical Role of Religion in International Affairs 3