University of Iowa 2015-16 General Catalog

Religious Studies

Chair

- Diana Fritz Cates

Undergraduate major: religious studies (B.A.)
Undergraduate minor: religious studies
Graduate degrees: M.A. in religious studies; Ph.D. in religious studies
Faculty: http://clas.uiowa.edu/religion/people/faculty
Web site: http://clas.uiowa.edu/religion/

The Department of Religious Studies encourages multidisciplinary inquiry into religious ideas, experiences, philosophies, cultural expressions, and social movements. It studies a rich array of traditions and paths, including South Asian religions, ancient Judaism and early Christianity, African diaspora and Native American traditions, Chinese Buddhism, modern European Christianity, various Islamic sects, popular religions in Japan, American Christianities, and new forms of religion that many people may not yet recognize as religions.

Religion has taken countless forms over the millennia, and it continues to wind its way through history. The Department of Religious Studies helps students to think clearly and creatively about the many forms that religion takes and the subtle ways in which it operates.

Students gain many benefits through the critical study of religion. They learn how people from around the world have responded to age-old questions about life, love, suffering, and death. In the process, they deepen their own engagement with life. They learn about religion's impact on global events, especially its influence on the construction of personal and communal identities, and its roles in shaping processes of social change, historically and in the contemporary, digital era.

Undergraduate Programs of Study

- Major in religious studies (Bachelor of Arts)
- Minor in religious studies

The major in religious studies helps students gain strengths they will need in an increasingly globalized world: curiosity, open-mindedness, critical thinking and effective communication skills, global cultural competency, knowledge of diverse religions and their influences, and the ability to use intelligence and creativity in addressing humanitarian concerns.

Because religious ideas inform every aspect of life, many students who major in religious studies choose to earn a second major in another discipline, such as anthropology, biology, classics, English, history, journalism and mass communication, philosophy, political science, or psychology. Religious studies students often go on to graduate school; professional study in law, medicine, or dentistry; and careers in nursing, social work, human rights, nongovernmental organizations, counseling, or business, especially in areas that involve human resource management.

Bachelor of Arts

The Bachelor of Arts with a major in religious studies requires a minimum of 120 s.h., including 30 s.h. of work for the major. Students must maintain a g.p.a. of at least 2.00 in all courses for the major and in all UI courses for the major. They also must complete the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences General Education Program. A maximum of 15 s.h. of transfer credit may be counted toward the major; transfer credit is evaluated individually.

Course work for the major includes core courses and electives. Courses for the major may not be taken pass/ nonpass. Students may count a maximum of three religious studies courses toward General Education Program requirements.

The major in religious studies requires the following course work.

CORE COURSES

Both of these (6 s.h.):
RELS:1015 Religions in a Global Context: The Critical Role of Religion in International Affairs 3 s.h.
RELS:4950 Senior Majors Seminar 3 s.h.

The course RELS:1015 Religions in a Global Context: The Critical Role of Religion in International Affairs provides an introduction to the study of the world's religions; students should take it as early as possible.

The capstone course RELS:4950 Senior Majors Seminar is offered each spring semester. Ideally, students take it during their senior year, but they may take it during their junior year.

ELECTIVES

Students complete 24 s.h. of elective course work (at least eight courses) chosen from either or both of two categories: religious traditions and critical issues (listed below). Students choose courses as follows.

- At least two foundation courses numbered 1000-1999 6 s.h.
- At least three advanced courses numbered 2000-4999 9 s.h.
- At least three courses at any level 9 s.h.

The department advises students to choose electives that will enable them to examine a variety of traditions and issues.

Religious Traditions

Courses in this category generally focus on religious traditions or movements in historical perspective, within particular geographical areas, or across regions. They may address foundational stories of creation and cosmic order, archaeological findings, the compilation and interpretation of revered texts, religious doctrines, social norms, rituals and practices, or conflicts and schisms.

- RELS:1000 First-Year Seminar 1 s.h.
- RELS:1001 The Judeo-Christian Tradition 3 s.h.
- RELS:1070 Introduction to the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament 3 s.h.
- RELS:1080 Introduction to the New Testament 3 s.h.
- RELS:1113 Gateway to the Bible 3 s.h.
- RELS:1130 Introduction to Islamic Civilization 3 s.h.
- RELS:1225 Medieval Religion and Culture 3 s.h.
Critical Issues

Critical issues courses generally focus on ideas, arguments, or problems, often with reference to influential texts or oral traditions. They may explore religious perspectives on the nature of reality or the meaning of human existence, and they may focus on issues of gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, class, globalization, human rights, or law and politics.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RELS:1250</td>
<td>Modern Religion and Culture</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS:1323</td>
<td>Life in the Biblical World</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS:1410</td>
<td>Introduction to Indian Religions</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:1506</td>
<td>Introduction to Buddhism</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:1510</td>
<td>Gods, Buddhas, and Ghostly</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:1610</td>
<td>Japanese Religions</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS:2090</td>
<td>Issues in American Catholicism</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS:2182</td>
<td>Ancient Mediterranean Religions</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:2225</td>
<td>Messianic and Apocalyptic Prophecy in the Bible</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:2272</td>
<td>Religion and Film</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS:2320</td>
<td>Jesus and the Gospels</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:2361</td>
<td>Middle East and Mediterranean: Alexander to Suleiman</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:2700</td>
<td>Sacred World of Native Americans</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:3003</td>
<td>Classical and Hellenistic Periods I</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:3103</td>
<td>Biblical Archaeology</td>
<td>1-3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:3105</td>
<td>The World of the Old Testament</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:3190</td>
<td>Traditions of Religious Reform</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:3243</td>
<td>Pagans and Christians: The Church from Jesus to Muhammad</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:3245</td>
<td>Mythology of Otherworldly Journeys</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:3247</td>
<td>Banned from the Bible: Pseudepigrapha and Apocrypha</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:3385</td>
<td>Early Modern Catholicism</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:3560</td>
<td>Topics in Asian Religions</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<td>RELS:3655</td>
<td>Zen Buddhism</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:3660</td>
<td>Japanese Religion and Thought</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:3666</td>
<td>The History of a Religious and Spiritual Practice: Yoga in Asia and Beyond</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:3704</td>
<td>Egyptian Art</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<td>RELS:3716</td>
<td>Greek Religion and Society</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:4001</td>
<td>Biblical Hebrew I</td>
<td>4 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:4002</td>
<td>Biblical Hebrew II</td>
<td>4 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:4155</td>
<td>Religious Conflict: Early-Modern Period</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:4181</td>
<td>Special Topics in Western Religion</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:4352</td>
<td>The Dead Sea Scrolls</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:4404</td>
<td>The Literature of Daoism</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:4870</td>
<td>Islamic Cultural Presence in Spain</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:4970</td>
<td>Honors Tutorial</td>
<td>2-3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>RELS:4975</td>
<td>Honors Essay</td>
<td>2-4 s.h.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Critical Issues Courses:

Critical Issues courses generally focus on ideas, arguments, or problems, often with reference to influential texts or oral traditions. They may explore religious perspectives on the nature of reality or the meaning of human existence, and they may focus on issues of gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, class, globalization, human rights, or law and politics.
The minor in religious studies requires the following course work.

At least two foundation courses numbered 6 s.h. 1000-1999
At least two advanced courses numbered 6 s.h. 2000-4999
One course at any level 3 s.h.

Students are encouraged to include RELS:1015 Religions in a Global Context: The Critical Role of Religion in International Affairs and RELS:4950 Senior Majors Seminar in the minor.

Graduate Programs of Study

- Master of Arts in religious studies
- Doctor of Philosophy in religious studies

Graduate study in the department addresses the idea of religion and the ways in which religious traditions originate, develop, and interact over time. Students learn to identify and use multiple methods for the study of religion, including historical, philosophical, ethical, literary, linguistic, psychological, ethnographic, and digital approaches.

Graduate study is flexible. Students create individualized programs of study in consultation with their advisors and core committee members, in light of faculty expertise within the department and around the University. Programs often are developed in relation to one of the following four areas of concentration:

- Religions in the Middle East, Ancient Near East, and Mediterranean
- Religions in Asia
- Religions in the Americas and Europe
- Religion, ethics, and society

Programs also are developed across these areas or thematically in relation to the department's central focus which is religion and public life, most notably religion's impact on the construction of individual and group identities and the dynamics of social change. Included in this focus is religion's relationship to gender, race, ethnicity, and other markers of identity, and the practice and study of religion in a digital age.

Graduate study in religion can prepare a student to become a professor of religious studies. It also can provide the ability to integrate a deep and theoretically-sophisticated understanding of religion and its influences into other professions, such as medicine, nursing, law, political leadership, policy making, journalism, or counseling.

For more information about graduate study and the faculty, see Graduate Program and People on the department's web site.

Master of Arts

The Master of Arts program in religious studies requires a minimum of 30 s.h. of graduate credit and is offered with or without thesis. The program is designed for students who wish to advance their understanding of a particular area of religious studies or explore a variety of traditions.
and topics. It also is intended to prepare students to educate the public about religion and its influences, within a variety of life and career contexts.

Students must complete 24 s.h. of the credit required for the degree at the University of Iowa and must maintain a cumulative g.p.a. of at least 3.20. Requirements for languages and other research tools vary according to the student’s study focus. M.A. students are supervised by a three-person committee consisting of an advisor and two additional faculty members.

All M.A. students complete the following five courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RELS:5100 Teaching and Public Engagement</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS:5200 Varieties of Religion in the Contemporary World</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS:5300 Genealogies of Religion</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS:5400 Methods and Theories in the Study of Religion</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One graduate seminar</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Students select remaining course work depending on their interest area and in consultation with their core committee.

In the M.A. thesis, students demonstrate and refine their research and writing skills. They may count a maximum of 6 s.h. of thesis credit toward the degree. Students must defend their M.A. thesis. Students who do not write a thesis must pass an M.A. examination that tests their competence in completed course work.

**Doctor of Philosophy**

The Doctor of Philosophy program in religious studies requires a minimum of 72 s.h. of graduate credit. Students may transfer up to 24 s.h. of credit from another accredited graduate school.

Course requirements for the Ph.D. vary according to concentration area. However, all students must complete the following eight required courses.

<table>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS:5400 Methods and Theories in the Study of Religion</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Four graduate seminars, including at least two in religious studies</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

During their fourth semester in residence, students must submit a departmental program of study, which must be approved by the religious studies faculty. To gain approval to continue in the Ph.D. program, students must complete three of the required Ph.D. courses listed above and two of the graduate seminars; show satisfactory progress toward the language and course requirements of their individual programs; demonstrate the ability to write scholarly papers at a level satisfactory for the Ph.D., as assessed by the advisor and core committee members (at least two papers must be submitted to the committee); and have a cumulative University of Iowa g.p.a. of at least 3.40 (language courses that do not count toward the Ph.D. are excluded).

Students must pass a comprehensive examination based on a bibliography that covers their main focus area within religious studies (the history, influential figures, perennial debates, and/or theoretical approaches); a secondary chosen area of focus, distinct from the dissertation topic; and an area of specialization or dissertation topic. The comprehensive exam includes an oral defense. Students also must write a dissertation prospectus and a dissertation based on original research, both of which are defended orally. They may count a maximum of 12 s.h. of dissertation credit toward the degree.

Students working toward a Ph.D. may receive an M.A. upon completing at least 30 s.h. of course work and successfully passing the comprehensive examination.

For more detailed information on graduate programs in religious studies, contact the Department of Religious Studies or visit Graduate Program on the department's web site.

**Admission**

Applicants must meet the admission requirements of the Graduate College; see the Manual of Rules and Regulations of the Graduate College.

Applicants to the M.A. program ordinarily must have a verbal reasoning score of at least 153 and a quantitative reasoning score of at least 147 on the revised Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test (verbal reasoning score of at least 500 and quantitative reasoning score of at least 580 on the old GRE General Test) and a g.p.a. of at least 3.00.

Applicants to the Ph.D. program ordinarily must have a verbal reasoning score of at least 158 and a quantitative reasoning score of at least 147 on the revised GRE General Test (verbal reasoning score of at least 580 and quantitative reasoning score of at least 580 on the old GRE General Test) and a g.p.a. of at least 3.40.

Application materials must include an application form; a transcript of all undergraduate and graduate work (one copy must be sent to the University's Office of Admissions and a second copy must be sent to the Department of Religious Studies); an application or waiver of consideration form for graduate assistantships; three confidential letters of recommendation; and a writing sample that demonstrates the applicant's ability to engage in critical analysis. Applicants also must submit a brief personal essay that explains their objectives for graduate study and states which area of graduate study in religion will suit their objectives best. Students may indicate one of the four areas of concentration listed under "Graduate Programs of Study" above or an area that crosses the concentrations and is well supported by faculty expertise. For details, see Graduate Admission and Financial Aid on the department's web site.

All application materials must be received by January 15 to receive full consideration for fall admission.

**Financial Support**

All Ph.D. students in religious studies receive funding. Ordinarily, no departmental funding is available for M.A. students. The department offers financial support for graduate students in the form of teaching assistantships.

The Gilmore Scholarship, for doctoral students interested in the relationship among religion, the visual arts, and humanistic values, pays up to full tuition for one year. It is awarded every few years.
Language Study at the University

The University offers a variety of modern European languages (see French and Italian, German, and Spanish and Portuguese in the Catalog) as well as Greek and Latin (see Classics in the Catalog); Arabic and Swahili (see French and Italian in the Catalog); and Chinese, Czech, Hindi-Urbu, Japanese, Korean, Russian, and Sanskrit (see Asian and Slavic Languages and Literatures in the Catalog).

Courses

Lower-Level Undergraduate

**RELS:1000 First-Year Seminar**  
1 s.h.  
Small discussion class taught by a faculty member; topics chosen by instructor; may include outside activities (e.g., films, lectures, performances, readings, visits to research facilities). Requirements: first- or second-semester standing.

**RELS:1001 The Judeo-Christian Tradition**  
3 s.h.  
Introduction to Judaism and Christianity; focus on scriptural foundation and historical development of these related traditions; texts and other forms of religious expression, especially in art, music, literature, and philosophy; readings from the Hebrew Bible and New Testament; other materials from selected Jewish and Christian thinkers. GE: Historical Perspectives.

**RELS:1010 CLAS Master Class**  
1-3 s.h.  
Exploration of a single topic in a series of lectures by faculty presenting divergent perspectives; illuminates intellectual adventure inherent in liberal arts and sciences; encourages discovery of majors and other areas of study within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Same as CLAS:1001, THTR:1001, CS:1001, CSD:1001, PHIL:1001, ENGL:1001, BIOC:1001, ARTS:1001.

**RELS:1015 Religions in a Global Context: The Critical Role of Religion in International Affairs**  
3 s.h.  
Essentials of world's religions; focus on religion's role in national and international events, fundamentalism, millenarianism, protest movements, religion and youth culture, religion and popular culture, contact between religious communities past and present.

**RELS:1021 Judaism: The Sacred and the Secular**  
3 s.h.  
Ways in which the sacred face of Judaism (Hebrew Bible and rabbinic additions) have transformed and been transformed by historical frameworks in which Jews and Judaism have existed; special attention given to the Holocaust, modern nation-state of Israel, and experiences of Jews in modern secular nation-states. GE: Values, Society, and Diversity.

**RELS:1070 Introduction to the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament**  
3 s.h.  
History, religion, and thought of ancient Jews as recorded in their scripture. GE: Values, Society, and Diversity.

**RELS:1080 Introduction to the New Testament**  
3 s.h.  

**RELS:1113 Gateway to the Bible**  
3 s.h.  
Disagreement of Jews, Catholics, Protestants, and Eastern Orthodox Christians about the Bible, one of the most influential works in Western culture, on how it should be interpreted, what books should be included, and what versions of those books should be authoritative; introduction to issues involved in creating and interpreting the Bible; how academic study of religion seeks to provide answers.

**RELS:1130 Introduction to Islamic Civilization**  
3 s.h.  
Major areas of Islamic religious tradition: Qur'an, traditions of the Prophet, development and character of Islamic law, theology. GE: International and Global Issues; Values, Society, and Diversity. Same as HIST:1130.

**RELS:1225 Medieval Religion and Culture**  
3 s.h.  
Religion in Europe from classical antiquity to dawn of the Reformation; the religious element in traditions such as art, architecture, literature. GE: Historical Perspectives. Same as HIST:1425.

**RELS:1250 Modern Religion and Culture**  
3 s.h.  
European and American religious life from Renaissance to 21st century; focus on specific themes, such as secularism, regionalism, pluralism. GE: Historical Perspectives. Same as HIST:1450.

**RELS:1323 Life in the Biblical World**  
3 s.h.  
Examination of world depicted in Old and New Testaments of the Bible; archaeological evidence, ancient art, historical accounts, geography, and Bible text used to examine background of biblical text, shedding light on different aspects of daily life in antiquity from different points of view from Late Bronze Age through Roman period. Same as CLSA:1323.

**RELS:1350 Introduction to African American Religions**  
3 s.h.  
GE: Values, Society, and Diversity. Same as AFAM:1250.

**RELS:1404 Living Religions of the East**  
3 s.h.  
Religious beliefs, practices in India, China, Japan. GE: Values, Society, and Diversity. Same as ASIA:1040.

**RELS:1410 Introduction to Indian Religions**  
3 s.h.  
Religions with origins in the South Asian geographic region (e.g., Vedas in mid-second millennium BCE, Jainism and Buddhism from sixth to fourth centuries BCE, Sikhism in 15th century, Indian Christianity, Islam); focus on Hinduism and Buddhism; rise of varied literary forms, ritual, rise of devotional religion, Tantra, how religious practices affect indigenous medical traditions, how these traditions developed in different South Asian regions; broad changes in South Asian religion in 20th and early 21st centuries, current politicization of religion.
RELS:1502 Asian Humanities: India 3 s.h.
Introduction to four thousand years of South Asian civilization, through popular stories. GE: Values, Society, and Diversity. Same as SOAS:1502.

RELS:1506 Introduction to Buddhism 3 s.h.
Basic tenets, religious paradigms, historical phases important in the development of Buddhism; from the Buddha’s life to evolution of Mahāyāna Buddhism; readings from India, Tibet, China, Japan, Korea, Southeast Asia. GE: Values, Society, and Diversity. Same as ASIA:1060.

RELS:1510 Gods, Buddhas, and Ghostly Officials: The Past and Present of Chinese Religions 3 s.h.
History of religious beliefs and practices in China; role in modern-day Chinese society; specific case studies that illuminate current situation of religion in China and impact on Chinese society; focus on the still widespread worship of gods and ancestors, the Confucian, Buddhist and Daoist traditions, recent upsurge of Christianity in China, and emergence of new religions (e.g., the Falun gong). Same as ASIA:1110.

RELS:1610 Japanese Religions 3 s.h.
Religions of Japan from ancient times to the present day; elite and popular Japanese interpretations of Chinese Buddhist and Daoist traditions; the parallel development of an indigenous kami tradition; contemporary new religious movements; focus on the codification of a variety of religious (and sometimes quasi-religious) paths, including the way of tea, the way of the brush, and the way of the samurai. Same as JPNS:1115.

RELS:1702 Religion in America Today 3 s.h.
How American men, women, and children practice their beliefs in today's society. GE: Values, Society, and Diversity.

RELS:1765 U.S. Latino Religions 3 s.h.
Beliefs and practices of U.S. Latinos and Latinas, ways that their beliefs and practices are unique and where they overlap with mainstream U.S. society; beliefs, symbols, and practices among U.S. Latinos and Latinas on national and local level; field visits to local churches and religious sites; class visitors share insights.

RELS:1810 Longing for Freedom 3 s.h.
Religious backgrounds and unique spiritualities of Maya Angelou (an African-American Christian), Black Elk (a Lakota Sioux medicine man), and the Dalai Lama (a Tibetan Buddhist monk); forms of oppression that humans can experience as obstacles to happiness, and forms of liberation that are possible (social, political, economic, mental, emotional, spiritual). GE: Values, Society, and Diversity.

RELS:1903 Quest for Human Destiny 3 s.h.
Quests for destiny in terms of perceived options/goals and ability to recognize, pursue, achieve them. GE: Values, Society, and Diversity.

RELS:1997 Harry Potter: The Mystery and Magic of Life 3 s.h.
Exploration of Harry Potter novels and films that offer millions of people an entrée into a world of wizards, witches, and muggles; this engrossing world created by J.K. Rowling invites readers and viewers to explore the power of human imagination, creates a space for asking questions of personal significance (What defines me as a person? What sort of person am I in the process of becoming? What are the most significant factors that are shaping my identity and destiny?); students read selections and view film segments while exploring these essential questions.

RELS:2064 Tricksters, Fools, and Creators: Mythical Agents of Change 3 s.h.
Trickster figures found all around the world in many forms, including coyote, b'r'r' rabbit, spider, raven, and gods; how they are often depicted as bungling fools or dupes, but also as creators, transformers, or culture heroes; how they get into trouble and solve human problems; how storytellers have long entertained and educated their listeners with tales of trickster exploits; trickster figures that have been recast in comic books and on movie screens (e.g., Loki); examination of historical and contemporary trickster figures to understand how they are experienced by different cultures and how they shape and inform human behavior.

RELS:2068 Jews in Popular Culture 3 s.h.
Exploration of a wide variety of ways in which Jewish people represent themselves through production of cultural media.

RELS:2080 Public Life in the U.S.: Religion and Media 3 s.h.
Examination of how the U.S. came into being through specific communication practices, how religion has helped and hindered that process; religious roots of the idea of the U.S., intertwined histories of print media and religion, role of religion and secularism in public discourse; U.S. pride as a nation in which diversity thrives in public discourse; communicative acts that created and sustained this country and also mark sites of discord, conflict, and confusion from the very beginnings of the U.S. to today; how religion has been a source of national identity and national division. Prerequisites: (COMM:1112 or COMM:1170) and (COMM:1117 or COMM:1130) and (COMM:1168 or COMM:1174) and COMM:1301 and COMM:1305. Requirements: g.p.a. of at least 2.30, and completion of four of five Foundations of Communication courses. Same as COMM:2080.

RELS:2087 Narnia and Beyond: The Writings of C.S. Lewis 3 s.h.
Exploration of C.S. Lewis's use of fantasy to describe the indescribable, his efforts to empathize with human suffering while hoping in possibility of miracles, and his jargon-free narration of Christian beliefs for a war-weary country; Lewis's works that continue to attract attention, ranging from children's literature to science fiction to autobiography and nonfiction; as a professor of medieval and renaissance Literature, Lewis's unique perspective on Christianity that led him to make use of imagery, metaphors, and narratives previously neglected by Christian thinkers.
REL:2090 Issues in American Catholicism 3 s.h.
Major issues that have faced Catholics in America; special attention to issues of gender, racial, and ethnic identities.

REL:2121 The Bible and the Sacrifice of Animals 3 s.h.
Why the biblical God permits humans to eat other animals' flesh; fundamental dietary differences between humans and the beasts.

REL:2182 Ancient Mediterranean Religions 3 s.h.
Introduction to major religious traditions of ancient Mediterranean world; Mesopotamia, the Levant (Hebrew Bible), Egypt, Greece, and Rome; central aspects of mythology, ritual, and archaeology, individually and in comparative perspective; ancient Judaism and Christianity considered in their various cultural contexts; basic concepts for understanding cultural exchange; fundamental theories in the study of religion. GE: Values, Society, and Diversity. Same as CLSA:2482.

REL:2225 Messianic and Apocalyptic Prophecy in the Bible 3 s.h.
Literary, historical, and theological analysis of biblical prophecies and their impact. Same as CLSA:2425.

REL:2260 Hard Cases in Healthcare: Issues of Life and Death 3 s.h.
Exploration of ethical issues that arise in real-life clinical settings; designed for students considering a career in healthcare and others intrigued by the way advanced technologies are changing what it means to be human, to live well, and to die with dignity; most cases studied involve people for whom questions of life and death are framed by religious beliefs or carry spiritual weight; caring for others in a context of science with sensitivity to matters of the human spirit.

REL:2272 Religion and Film 3 s.h.
Religious ideas that are often explored and debated in movies; movies that retell a particular story (Noah or Kundun) or rework ancient themes (Little Buddha or The Matrix); movies that go beyond mere entertainment to try to persuade audiences to change their view of the world and how movie watchers do not realize that this process is taking place; analysis of movies that use ancient or religious material to try to shape people's minds and imaginations today. Recommendations: some background in religious studies helpful.

REL:2289 Jerusalem: The Holy City 3 s.h.
Religious, political, and cultural history of Jerusalem over three millennia as a symbolic focus of three faiths—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam; integration of several digital learning technologies, including digital reconstructions and Google Earth tours of Jerusalem. Same as CLSA:2489.

REL:2320 Jesus and the Gospels 3 s.h.
How Jesus was depicted in the writings of the early church; reasons for the different portrayals. Same as CLSA:2420.

REL:2351 Religious Thinkers of the West 3 s.h.
Augustine, Bonaventure, Fichte, Kierkegaard, Heidegger. GE: Values, Society, and Diversity.

REL:2353 Love: Journey of an Idea Through Time 3 s.h.
Idea of love from influential texts of the past to various aspects of contemporary culture and experience (e.g., romantic love, mystical experience, digitally-mediated friendships, family relationships); idea of universal human rights; cybersex.

REL:2356 Christianity and the Enduring Human Experience 3 s.h.
Topics in Christian history and thought; emphasis on the relationship between communities of belief and Christian traditions.

REL:2361 Middle East and Mediterranean: Alexander to Suleiman 3 s.h.
GE: Historical Perspectives. Same as HIST:2461, CLSA:2461.

REL:2486 Religious Coexistence and Conflict in the Middle East 3 s.h.
Examination of coexistence and conflict in the region that includes Iraq, Israel/Palestine, Lebanon, Syria and Yemen; relationship between religion and politics in the Middle East; how the region's diverse ethnic and religious communities coexisted in the past and what now seems like a remarkably tolerant environment; investigation of questions (Did Muslims, Christians, and Jews really live together in peace? If so, how and why has that changed?); history of communal relations in the Middle East; use of this background to analyze how religion and ethnicity function in contemporary politics.

REL:2674 You Are What You Eat: Food, Belief, and Identity 3 s.h.
Introduction to study of food and identity in a global context.

REL:2700 Sacred World of Native Americans 3 s.h.
GE: Values, Society, and Diversity. Same as AINS:2700.

REL:2720 Religious and Ethnic Conflict in the Middle East 3 s.h.
Relationship between religion and politics in the Middle East; examination of areas of conflict, including Lebanon, Iraq, and Israel/Palestine.

REL:2730 African American Islam 3 s.h.
Same as AFAM:2730.

REL:2771 Sexual Ethics 3 s.h.
Introduction to religion and ethics; diverse secular, Jewish, and Christian perspectives on human sexuality and sexual activity; religious views underlying divergent attitudes toward same-gender sexuality and abortion. Same as GWSS:2771.

REL:2775 The Bible and the Holocaust 3 s.h.
Religious and philosophic implications of the Holocaust viewed through survivors' writings.
**RELS:2778 American Indian Women: Myth, Ritual, and Sacred Power**  
3 s.h.  
Participation of women and girls in native religious traditions; obstacles to knowing and understanding native women's religious roles and experiences. Same as AINS:2078, GWSS:2778.

**RELS:2791 Religion and Social Life**  
3 s.h.  
Religion as a dimension of experience that can find diverse forms of expression, especially in social life and production of culture, not simply a social institution that is defined by a set of beliefs and practices.

**RELS:2834 Philosophy of Religion**  
3 s.h.  
Historical to contemporary treatments of central issues; nature of faith, existence and nature of God, science and religion, ethics and religion, miracles, religious experience, interpretation of religious texts. Requirements: sophomore or higher standing. Same as PHIL:2534.

**RELS:2852 Women in Islam and the Middle East**  
3 s.h.  
Women in the Islamic community and in non-Muslim Middle Eastern cultures; early rise of Islam to modern times; references to women in the Qur'an and Sunnah, stories from Islamic history; women and gender issues. GE: International and Global Issues; Values, Society, and Diversity. Same as GWSS:2052.

**RELS:2877 Sport and Religion in America**  
3 s.h.  
Sport as a religion; religiosity in sports; examination of religion and sport as connected in important ways in American society. Same as SPST:2077.

**RELS:2883 Science and Christianity: Conflicts and Conversations**  
3 s.h.  
Science, technology, and religion as some of the most powerful forces in the world and their dramatic interactions; various conflicts and conversations between science and Christianity in modern Western culture beginning with Galileo; evolution, intelligent design, Big Bang, “God Particle,” Human Genome Project, and spiritual implications of neuroscience. Recommendations: nontechnical knowledge of physics, biology, and psychology.

**RELS:2912 The Bible in Film: Hollywood and Moses**  
3 s.h.  
How Hollywood has interpreted the Biblical stories of Adam and Eve, Moses, and David the King.

**RELS:2930 Digital Media and Religion**  
3 s.h.  
Influences of digital media on religion and spirituality today. Requirements: for COMM:2079 — communication studies major, g.p.a. of at least 2.30, and completion of four Foundation of Communication courses chosen from COMM:1301, COMM:1305, COMM:1112 or COMM:1170, COMM:1117 or COMM:1130, and COMM:1168 or COMM:1174. Same as COMM:2079.

**RELS:2947 Quest II: Sex, Love, and Death**  
3 s.h.  
Readings from the Hebrew Bible, Sophocles' *Antigone*, Melville’s *Billy Budd*, Hemingway’s *The Sun Also Rises*, Salinger's *A Perfect Day for Banana Fish*, the film *From Here to Eternity*.

**RELS:2962 Islam in the Public Sphere: Arts, Literature, Culture, and Politics**  
3 s.h.  
Religion as exerting undeniable influence in public sphere in communities around the world; examination of ways in which religion manifests itself in public sphere; religion in the arts, politics, science, literature, sports, communication, business, education, and many other domains of public sphere.

**RELS:2969 Quest III: Heroes, Lovers, and Knaves**  
3 s.h.  
Tension between Paganism and the Bible regarding heroism and eroticism; the Song of Songs, stories of Rachel, Samson, Saul, Bathsheba; Plato's *Symposium*, Hemingway's *The Snows of Kilimanjaro*, Salinger's *For Esme with Love and Squalor*, *The Highlander*, *The Matrix*, *Bridget Jones' Diary*; unmasking knaves to truly appreciate heroes and lovers.

**RELS:2980 Religion and Contemporary Popular Culture**  
3 s.h.  
Representation and appropriation of world religions in contemporary popular culture (film, television, music, new media); new religious movements arising within popular culture; religion in the digital age; commodification and globalization; focusing on cultural production in North America and Asia.

**RELS:2986 Religion and Women**  
3 s.h.  
Sexism and its disavowal in biblical narrative, law, wisdom texts, Gospels, epistles; contemporary impact. GE: Values, Society, and Diversity.

### Upper-Level Undergraduate and Graduate

**RELS:3003 Classical and Hellenistic Periods I**  
3 s.h.  
Readings in Greek literature of the Classical and Hellenistic periods. Prerequisites: CLSG:2002. Same as CLSG:3003.

**RELS:3020 Religion and Politics**  
3 s.h.  
Major trends in Islamic religious thought since the colonial period, focusing on encounters between Islamic and the modern world; Ibn Khaldun; renewal movements; varieties of religious reform and accommodation; nationalism, socialism, and so forth. Recommendations: prior course work in content topic.

**RELS:3103 Biblical Archaeology**  
1.3 s.h.  
Contributions of Syro-Palestinian archaeological research to understanding historical, cultural backgrounds of biblical period.

**RELS:3105 The World of the Old Testament**  
3 s.h.  
Historical, intellectual background; focus on patterns of thought, religion in Near East, relation to Israelite religion.

**RELS:3129 Native American Prophets and Prophecy**  
3 s.h.  

Religious movements, effects of prophecies on followers of religious movements, and resulting tensions with Americans; powerful visions described as messages from a spirit being experienced by several 19th-century Native Americans after waking from coma-like states—wonderful prophecies of the restoration of Native American world to what it once was before American colonization, prophecies leading to religious movements that called for return to traditional practices, rejection of many elements of white American culture, and warnings of an impending destruction of the world.

**RELS:3190 Traditions of Religious Reform** 3 s.h.  
Same as HIST:3190.

**RELS:3243 Pagans and Christians: The Church from Jesus to Muhammad** 3 s.h.  
Introduction to history of early Christianity, from time of Jesus to rise of Islam; focus on major movements, intellectuals, institutions in this period; growth of Christianity in different geographical areas including the Middle East, Greece, Western Europe, Africa; Christian relations with Jews, pagans, Muslims; conversion; orthodoxy, heresy, making of biblical canon; martyrdom; women and gender roles; asceticism, monasticism, sexuality; church and state; theological controversy and schisms; cult of saints; the Holy Land and pilgrimage. Same as CLSA:3443.

**RELS:3245 Mythology of Otherworldly Journeys** 3 s.h.  
Examination of mythology of otherworldly journeys from earliest religions to Hellenistic period; historical context; comparison for common themes in their evolution over time; directed readings of mythological texts dealing with otherworldly journeys; ways in which past cultures confronted larger mysteries of life and death. Same as CLSA:3445.

**RELS:3247 Banned from the Bible: Pseudepigrapha and Apocrypha** 3 s.h.  
Introduction to biblical Pseudepigrapha and Apocrypha; writings dating from third century B.C.E. to third century C.E. fictionally attributed to characters in the Hebrew Bible and New Testament, or written as though they originated in the First or Second Temple periods, not included in Jewish or major Christian canons of scripture; English translations of documents from this period; key themes and interpretive techniques common throughout biblical texts that provide tremendous insight into the worlds that produced the Hebrew Bible and New Testament. Same as CLSA:3247.

**RELS:3320 In Search of the Good Life** 3 s.h.  
Works from Greco-Roman, Jewish, and Christian cultures to analyze various beliefs on how humans can live the good life and examine how these solutions are intimately connected to the specific conceptions of the divine world. Same as CLSA:3420.

**RELS:3340 Recovering Eden: The Afterlife in Early Judaism and Christianity** 3 s.h.  
Development of afterlife ideology in Jewish and Christian traditions; ideas that influenced this development, particularly as related to problem of suffering. Same as CLSA:3440.

**RELS:3375 Birth of the Holy Land: Art and Architecture in the Ancient Middle East** 3 s.h.  
Major developments in architecture, sculpture, ceramics, and mosaics in Israel, Palestine, Syria, and Arabia from death of Alexander the Great to rise of Islam (4 B.C.E. to 8 C.E.); Greek and Roman influences versus local traditions; Roman Empire; growth of churches, synagogues, and mosques; identity and religion. Same as ARTH:3375.

**RELS:3385 Early Modern Catholicism** 3 s.h.  
Same as HIST:3485.

**RELS:3431 Gender and Sexuality in Asia** 3 s.h.  
Conceptions of sex, gender, and sexuality in the religions of China, Korea, and Japan; asceticism and celibacy; sexual alchemy; the difference between male and female bodies and souls; intersexed persons; female saints and immortals; transgressive sexuality; gender and sexuality in colonial Asia; East Asian religions and postcolonial feminism. Same as GWSS:3131.

**RELS:3448 The Allure of Krishna: Sacred Sexuality in Indian Culture** 3 s.h.  
For thousands of years, Krishna, the dark-skinned flute-player, has been central to the religious experience of many Hindus; his diverse roles as mischievous divine child, sensual teenage cowherd, and adult statesman, warrior, and philosopher celebrated in poetry and prose, painting and sculpture, music, dance, drama, film, and television; exploration of multiple facets of Krishna’s character through literary and visual sources, performances; focus on Indian interpretations of erotic content prominent in his story and to the figure of Radha, Krishna’s mistress and beloved. Same as SOAS:3448.

**RELS:3520 Dying for the Promised Land: Martyrdom and Warfare in the Western World** 3 s.h.  
How martyrdom evokes images of innocents who are killed for their faith and terrorists who commit suicide bombings; how these groups may appear distinct, but share a heritage that relates absolute obedience to God and (often human) sacrifice to conquest and possession of a Promised Land; development of martyrdom ideology and its uses in religious and political conflict in Western history; examination of the Crusades, Reformation, and modern religious and political conflicts beginning with works from the Bible, Greco-Roman culture, and early Jewish and Christian literature. Same as CLSA:3520.

**RELS:3524 The Devil in Judaism and Christianity** 3 s.h.  
While known by many names, the Devil as a central figure in Western religious tradition; surprisingly, how he is not found in earliest texts in the Old Testament; the Devil as embodiment of evil that has his genesis in early Jewish and Christian sectarian conflicts; how he is used as a terrifying dragon or seductive stranger to demonize those perceived as threats to a group’s existence; how the Devil is used to explain righteous suffering and create cultural boundaries throughout Western culture, from ancient texts and medieval witch trials to modern cinema and politics. Recommendations: some background in Judeo-Christian tradition. Same as CLSA:3524.
RELS:3560 Topics in Asian Religions 3 s.h.
Same as ASIA:3560.

RELS:3572 Comparative Ritual 3 s.h.
Practice and theory; rituals from religions, including Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity, Indian religions; theories of interpretation. Same as ASIA:3890.

RELS:3575 East Meets West: The Western Reception of Eastern Religion 3 s.h.
Introduction of religious ideas and forms from India, China, and Japan into Europe and America to late 20th century, from Greeks to New Age. Same as ASIA:3775.

RELS:3580 Religion and Healing 3 s.h.

RELS:3582 Enlightenment: Cross-Cultural Experiments in Religious Realization 3 s.h.
Enlightenment as one of the most important ideas that feeds contemporary religious and spiritual imagination; exploration of this concept in contemporary religious and spiritual discourse. Same as SOAS:3920.

RELS:3645 Buddhist Philosophy 3 s.h.
Theories and arguments concerning the Buddhist path to enlightenment. Same as PHIL:3845.

RELS:3655 Zen Buddhism 3 s.h.
Prerequisites: RELS:1404 or RELS:1506 or RELS:1510. Same as ASIA:3655.

RELS:3660 Japanese Religion and Thought 3 s.h.
Same as JPNS:3660.

RELS:3666 The History of a Religious and Spiritual Practice: Yoga in Asia and Beyond 3 s.h.
Historical, textual, and anthropological readings; visual material, yoga demonstrations, discussions of yoga practices; theory underlies readings, including ritual theory and practice theory; psychology and inquiries into the nature of religious adaptation and syncretism.

RELS:3700 Nonprofit Organizational Effectiveness I 3 s.h.
Operational and financial aspects of nonprofit management; mission and governance of organization; strategic planning for effective management, including finance, budget, income generation, fund-raising. Same as ENTR:3595, MUSM:3500, SSW:3500, NURS:3595, MGMT:3500.

RELS:3701 Nonprofit Organizational Effectiveness II 3 s.h.
Qualities for leadership of nonprofit organizations, including relationships with staff and volunteers; relationship of nonprofit and outside world; marketing, public relations, advocacy strategies for nonprofits. Same as MGMT:3600, NURS:3600, SSW:3600.

RELS:3704 Egyptian Art 3 s.h.
Sculpture, painting, architecture, and luxury arts from Pyramid Age to Death of Cleopatra. Same as ARTH:3320.

RELS:3714 Anthropology of Religion 3 s.h.
Approaches; religious roles; shamanism, witchcraft, curing; mythology; place of religion in social and cultural change. Same as ANTH:3114.

RELS:3716 Greek Religion and Society 3 s.h.
From Bronze Age to the Hellenistic period, in context of Mediterranean culture; evidence such as choral hymn, inscribed prayers, magical curses inscribed on lead, architecture, sculpted offerings to the gods. GE: Values, Society, and Diversity. Same as CLSA:3416.

RELS:3745 Twentieth-Century African American Religion: Civil Rights to Hip-Hop 3 s.h.
Twentieth-century African American religious history; major political and cultural movements, such as civil rights, black power, black feminism/womanism, hip-hop. Same as AFAM:3245.

RELS:3808 Malcolm X, King, and Human Rights 3 s.h.
Religion and politics of Malcolm X and Martin Luther King, Jr. in the context of U.S. civil rights and international human rights in West Africa and the Muslim world; emphasis on civil rights connections to Gandhi, the Nobel Peace prize, and other international experiences that have impacted Pan Africanists, such as Stokely Carmichael, who worked on human rights. Recommendations: international studies major or undergraduate standing. Same as AFAM:3500.

RELS:3834 Arab Spring in Context: Media, Religion, and Geopolitics 3 s.h.
Protest movements that started in Tunisia in 2011 and swept across North Africa and the Middle East transforming Arab and Islamic societies in radically different ways; function of social media, satellite television, communication technology; influence of religious leaders and groups on some protest outcomes; impact of wealth and geopolitics on social fabric of Islamic societies within and outside Arab countries. Requirements: for COMM:3834 — g.p.a. of at least 2.50, completion of Foundations of Communication requirement, and 6 s.h. of intermediate-level course work. Same as IS:3834, WLLC:3834, JMC:3146, COMM:3834.

RELS:3845 Islam in Africa 4 s.h.
African Islamic history beginning with earliest Muslim migrants from Arabia to Ethiopia in early 7th century C.E. to dawn of 21st century; focus on historical development of Islam on African continent, specific regions, and particular themes; part of Islamic Studies Virtual Curriculum and Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) CourseShare Program. Same as HIST:3745, IS:3745.

RELS:3855 Human Rights and Islam 3 s.h.
Human rights in religious and secular discourse, seventh century to present; Islamic law, human rights law, religion, politics. GE: International and Global Issues. Same as IS:3855.

RELS:3976 American Indian Environmentalism 3 s.h.
Same as AINS:3276.

RELS:4001 Biblical Hebrew I 4 s.h.
RELS:4002 Biblical Hebrew II 4 s.h.

RELS:4124 Digital Archaeological Modeling 1-3 s.h.
Introduction to foundational theory, methodology, programming skills, and conceptual understanding necessary to model remains and reconstructions of archaeological sites in various three-dimensional digital modeling environments. Recommendations: background in archaeology. Same as CLSA:4131.

RELS:4133 Special Topics: Islamic and Middle Eastern Societies 3 s.h.
Recent events in Islamic world and Middle East; varied topics.

RELS:4155 Religious Conflict: Early-Modern Period 3 s.h.
Reformation of 16th century—Lutheran, Calvinist, Radical, English; readings from major representatives of each. Same as HIST:4455.

RELS:4181 Special Topics in Western Religion 3 s.h.
Examination of a specific topic of interest related to Western religious traditions. Recommendations: some background in Judaism, Christianity, or classics.

RELS:4352 The Dead Sea Scrolls 3 s.h.
Introduction to the Dead Sea Scrolls; reading of the scrolls in English translation; examination of Qumran site archaeology; survey of broader sociopolitical context of Second Temple Judaism (586 B.C.E. to 135 C.E.) out of which the scrolls emerged. Same as CLSA:4452.

RELS:4404 The Literature of Daoism 3 s.h.
Texts of philosophical, religious Daoism; Daoism in traditional Chinese political theory, literature, the arts, alchemy and medicine, sexual custom, combat. Taught in English. Same as CHIN:4204.

RELS:4660 Buddhist Poetry 3 s.h.
Poetry across the Buddhist world as a favorite form of expression for talking about things that cannot be captured in words; content and style of some major works of Buddhist poetry; theories about relationships between words and meaning that inform poems; scandalous lives of poets; opportunity to explore Buddhist poetry analytically and creatively; no prior knowledge of Asian languages required. Same as ASIA:4620.

RELS:4730 Religion and Environmental Ethics 3 s.h.
How humans conceptualize the biophysical environment through religious beliefs and practices; how images of the environment influence people's activities, how they are used by grassroots environmental movements. Requirements: junior or senior standing. Same as ANTH:4130.

RELS:4741 Varieties of American Religion 3 s.h.
Examination of varied 20th- and 21st-century American religious individuals and groups; understand and analyze unique communities. Same as HIST:4241.

RELS:4748 Religious Rhetoric: God and U.S. Politics 3 s.h.
Use of religious language by American presidents, presidential hopefuls, and their religious supporters; begins with early presidents, then majority of focus is on last 65 years. Recommendations: previous course in religious studies.

RELS:4768 Islamic Sects 3 s.h.
Nexus between key texts (i.e., the Qur'an, Hadith, Tafsir, usul, kalam, and other literatures) and the rise and development of Islamic sects and groupings, including Kharajites, Shiites, Ibadis, Salafis, and Sufis.

RELS:4870 Islamic Cultural Presence in Spain 3 s.h.
Islamic history and culture in the Iberian Peninsula from Middle Ages to present. Taught in Spanish. Requirements: one literature or culture course taught in Spanish numbered SPAN:3200 or above. Same as SPAN:4870.

RELS:4893 Classical Arabic: Vocabulary, Syntax, and Grammar 1-3 s.h.

RELS:4920 Native American Women and Religious Change 3 s.h.
Native women's diverse experiences and their roles in native societies, examined through contact experiences between native and nonnative peoples; changes in women's roles in context of interactions between native people, missionaries, European colonists, and Americans; approaches to re-imaging women's early contact roles presented in cultural narratives, archaeology, history, ethnography, and missionary records. Same as AINS:4560, GWSS:4560.

RELS:4939 Controversial Religions in U.S. History 3 s.h.
Movements in North American history marked by violence (i.e., Peoples Temple, Lakota Ghost Dance, Branch Davidians, Shawnee Movement); the role of violence in expressing and shaping some religious movements.

RELS:4950 Senior Majors Seminar 3 s.h.
Issues central to academic study of religion.


RELS:4970 Honors Tutorial 2-3 s.h.

RELS:4975 Honors Essay 2-4 s.h.

Graduate

RELS:5067 Readings in Islamic Studies arr.
Current scholarship in the field of Islamic studies; major works in areas such as modern Islamic thought, Islamic legal and philosophical traditions, religion and politics.

RELS:5100 Teaching and Public Engagement 2-3 s.h.
Critical importance of educating people about religion within increasingly globalized and digitized contexts; preparation to excel as classroom teachers and facilitators of cross-religious dialogue in public sphere.

RELS:5200 Varieties of Religion in the Contemporary World 3 s.h.
Limited content of multiple religious traditions from different parts of contemporary world; conversing knowledgeably about global religious diversity; preparation to design and teach a world religions course.

RELS:5300 Genealogies of Religion 3 s.h.
Genealogies of the idea of religion, academic study of religion, and comparative study of religions; intellectual and ideological foundations of discipline; preparation to work skillfully across traditions.

RELS:5400 Methods and Theories in the Study of Religion 3 s.h.
Principal methods, theories in academic study of religion.

RELS:6040 Tiberius to Trajan arr.
Authors and topics from the first and second centuries C.E. Same as CLST:6013.

RELS:6050 The Art of Reading Sacred Literature in Judaism and Islam arr.
Ways in which Jews and Muslims in the Middle Ages interpreted sacred writ; works by al-Farabi, Averroes, Halevi, and Maimonides; tension between reason (the great attraction of these thinkers to Plato and Aristotle and their interpreters) and revelation (their faith commitment to revelation, i.e., sacred writ). Requirements: reading knowledge of Biblical Hebrew or Arabic.

RELS:6070 Nonprofit Organizational Effectiveness I 3 s.h.

RELS:6075 Nonprofit Organizational Effectiveness II 3 s.h.

RELS:6150 Seminar: Religion in America 3 s.h.
Religious experience in America; topics.

RELS:6200 Seminar: Religious Ethics 3 s.h.

RELS:6350 Gender and Religion 3 s.h.
What contemporary religious and spiritual groups and their members believe about sex, sexuality, and gender; how they define and redefine what it means to be a "man" and a "woman"; exploration of contemporary "conservative" and "progressive" cosmologies and theologies; underlying beliefs that construct these perspectives and the impact on individual and group practices; broader implications of individual and group beliefs and practices on national and global policies. Same as GWSS:6350.

RELS:6475 Seminar: Reformation Culture and Theology arr.
Culture and theology of 16th-century Europe. Same as HIST:6475.

RELS:6520 Seminar: South Asian Religion 3 s.h.
Topics in South Asian religions. Same as ASIA:6520.

RELS:6580 Seminar: Religion and Society 3 s.h.

RELS:6723 Seminar on Islamic Law and Government 3 s.h.
Islamic legal and political legacy from formative period until modern time; critical analysis of logic and context of development; development of jurisprudential, legal, and political literature; overview of theories and practices of governance in Islam beginning with Caliphate system and ending with modern nation-state models. Same as LAW:9723.

RELS:7100 Readings in American Religions arr.

RELS:7200 Readings in Religious Ethics arr.

RELS:7260 French Paleography 1,3 s.h.
Independent study of original French writings.

RELS:7400 Readings in Theology and Religious Thought arr.

RELS:7450 Readings in History of Christianity arr.

RELS:7500 Readings in Asian Religions arr.

RELS:7600 Readings in Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies 1-3 s.h.
Advanced works and/or texts in primary languages (Arabic, Persian, etc.) in the broad field of Islamic and Middle Eastern studies. Requirements: proficiency in Modern Standard Arabic.

RELS:7650 Readings in Ancient Near Eastern Religions arr.
Ancient Near Eastern religious texts; focus on their place in ancient Near Eastern history and religious thought.

RELS:7900 Individual Study: Graduates arr.

RELS:7950 Thesis arr.