

RELIGIOUS STUDIES (BA IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES)

The Religious Studies major provides in-depth study of religious traditions, spiritualities, and experiences within a variety of historical, cultural, and social contexts. Courses expose students to diverse worldviews and interdisciplinary methods. Consultation with a department advisor is expected.

Required Credit Hours: 31

Major Writing Requirement

Students can fulfill the Major Writing Requirement by completing RELG 391 Theory and Method in the Study of Religion with a C- grade or better.

Core Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
RELG 201	Religions of the World: The Human Religious Experience	3
RELG 391	Theory and Method in the Study of Religion (which students may take in their Junior year or Senior year)	4

Two Courses from Traditions: 6

Religious literacy is essential for understanding how diverse traditions shape human thought, ethics, politics, and cultural practices. By engaging with at least two major traditions, students gain comparative insight into how different communities construct meaning, authority, and ritual life. These case studies foster critical thinking about global diversity and provide interdisciplinary depth central to the major.

RELG 210 Introduction to the History of Christianity

RELG 212 Introduction to Islam

RELG 213 Introduction to Hinduism

RELG 214 Buddhism

One Course from Foundations: 3

RELG 203 History and Religion of Ancient Israel

RELG 204 Christian Origins

RELG 215 History of Religion in East Asia

RELG 221 Religion and Ethics

RELG 222 Religion in the US

RELG 308 Topics in Religion (African Religions of the Americas)

One Course from Historical Perspectives: 3

RELG 303 Traditions and Memory in Ancient Israel and Greece

RELG 308 Topics in Religion (Historical Muhammad)

RELG 315 Judaism before the Rabbis

RELG 350 Eastern Christianity

RELG 364 Yoga and Tantra

RELG 367 Tibetan Religion

RELG 380 Buddhist Philosophy

Other courses may fulfill this requirement. Consult with your major advisor

One Course from Contemporary World: 3

In these courses, students pursue a case study of modern religion(s) and think about the role of religion in our world today. These courses share a goal of illuminating the ongoing importance of religion in modern cultural, political, and social spheres.

RELG 308 Topics in Religion (Post-Holocaust Jewish and Christian Thought)

RELG 311 Modern European Jewish History

RELG 326 Judaism in America

RELG 335 Modern Jewish and Christian Thought

RELG 340 Spiritual But Not Religious

RELG 344 Religion and Sports in the U.S.

RELG 347 New Religious Movements in America

RELG 361 Modern Hinduism

RELG 382 Buddhism and Science

Electives 9

One elective at any level. This can include any of the above courses, RELG 100, RELG 150, transfer RELG credit, or any course that carries the RELG attribute.

Remaining electives at the 300/400 level. These can be any RELG courses at the 300 level listed above or any course at the 300 or 400 level that carries the RELG attribute.

Total Hours 31