

The School of Liberal Arts

Religious Studies

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Program Administrator

Demetrius K. Williams, Classical Studies (Director)

Faculty Advisory Committee

Chris M.M. Brady, Jewish Studies

John D. Glenn, Jr., Philosophy

Gertrude Yeager, History

MAJOR

Religious studies is a major designed to provide students with the methodology used to study religion as a fundamental human experience and to introduce students to the history of western and non-western religious traditions. The major in religious studies consists of ten courses including the five required core courses. The core courses include an introduction to the methodologies used in the study of religion, a basic course in the foundations of each of the three major religious traditions of the western world; (Greco-Roman religion, Judaism, and Christianity) and a course in non-Western religion. The remaining five courses should be selected from the list of electives and must include one course at or above the 400 level.

MINOR

A minor in religious studies consists of a minimum of five core courses.

Core Courses

(five required)

Introductory Course

RLST 110/CLAS 110 Introduction to Religious Studies

Western Religions

CLAS 320/HISA 318 Greek Religion

CLAS 322 Introduction to the New Testament

JWST 210/CLAS 210 Hebrew Bible - Old Testament

Non-Western Religions

(one of the following)

ANTH 335/635 Culture and Religion

ARHS 370 Pre-Columbian Art

ARHS 651 Seminar on Aztec Arts

HISM 320 History of Islam

PHIL 350 Buddhism

Elective Courses

Note: Any course listed above in Non-Western may be taken as an elective.

ARHS 320 Early Christian and Byzantine Art

ARHS 321 Medieval Art

ARHS 353 Survey of Russian Art

CLAS 104 Mythology

CLAS 220 The Development of Early Christianity

CLAS 324 The Historical Jesus

CLAS 325 Paul the Apostle

CLAS 329 Gnosticism and Early Christianity

CLAS 418/618 Seminar in Ancient Religion

(Note: Topics taught in rotation include History of Roman Religion, Mystery Cults of Greece and Rome, Magic and the Supernatural in the Ancient World, Problems in the Iconography of Greek and Roman Religion, Death and the Afterlife in the Ancient World. Course may be repeated for credit with a different topic.)

CLAS 430 The Literature of Early Christianity

GREK 415 The Undisputed Letters of Paul

COLQ H302 God(s) and Science
COLQ H303 Science and Religion
ENLS 448 Milton
HISA 103 Medieval Europe
HISA 303 Early Medieval and Byzantine Civilization from
Constantine to the Crusades
HISA 311 Rome and the Jews (167 B.C. - A.D. 135)
HISA 601 Later Roman Empire
HISA 604 High Middle Ages
HISA H609/CLAS H609 Seminar in Select Topics in Byzantine
History
HISE 610 Renaissance and Reformation, 1450-1660
HISU H345 Salem Witchcraft
HISU 344 African-American Religious History
HISU 354/JWST 324 Early American Jewish History
JWST 101 Introduction to Jewish Civilization
JWST 220 Modern Jewish History
JWST 314 Hebrew Bible
JWST 315 Second Temple Judaisms
JWST 321 American Judaism
JWST 350 The Golden Age of Spanish Jewry I: Moslem Spain
JWST 352 The Golden Age of Spanish Jewry II: Christian Spain
JWST 353 Jewish Life and Thought in the High Middle Ages
JWST 354 Jewish Life and Thought from the Renaissance to the
Age of Reason
JWST 411 Rabbinic Judaism
JWST 415 Women, Judaism, and Jewish Culture
JWST 435 Rashi, Halevi, Maimonides: Rabbinical Luminaries of
the Middle Ages
MUSC 309 Music Before 1600

MUSC 333/JWST 333 Jewish Music
PHIL 301 Philosophy of Religion
PHIL 302 Bible and Philosophy
PHIL 324 Medieval Philosophy
PHIL 336 Sacred Symbols
RLST 291, 292 Special Topics in Religious Studies
RLST 395, 396 Special Topics in Religious Studies
RLST 495, 496 Special Topics in Religious Studies
RLST H499, H500 Honors Thesis

RLST 110 Introduction to Religious Studies (3)

Staff. This course gives an overview of the development of the western approach to the study of religion. It will be comparative and cover many aspects of world civilization, provide a window on the cultural dimensions of global politics, and supply a way of perceiving approaches to the study of religion under the rubrics of anthropology of religion, sociology of religion, history and phenomenology of religion, and philosophy of religion. Important theorists and schools of thought will also be examined. Same as CLAS 110.

RLST 291, 292 Special Topics in Religious Studies (3, 3)

Staff. This course will cover special topics in Religious Studies offered by one of the cooperating departments in the RLST program. The course may be repeated for credit with a different topic.

RLST 389 Service Learning (1)

Staff. Students complete a service activity in the community in conjunction with the content of the corequisite course.

RLST 395, 396 Special Topics in Religious Studies (3, 3)

Staff. This course will cover special topics in Religious Studies offered by one of the cooperating departments in the RLST program. The course may be repeated for credit with a different topic.

RLST 491, 492 Independent Study (3, 3)

Staff. Prerequisite: approval of program director. Open to students provided that the appropriate faculty director is available.

RLST 495, 496 Special Topics in Religious Studies (3, 3)

Staff. This course will cover special topics in Religious Studies offered by one of the cooperating departments in the RLST program. The course may be repeated for credit with a different topic.

RLST H499-H500 Honors Thesis (3, 4)

Staff. Admission by approval of the program director and the honors committee.