

RELIGIONS AND CULTURES REQUIREMENTS

The Religions and Cultures concentration offers a comparative, cross-cultural and interdisciplinary way to study the sacred beliefs and practices of our own and other societies. Rather than study religion in isolation, we examine religion as inextricably intertwined with the domains of science, literature, politics, and identity. In religious studies, students explore specific topics like gender and religion, develop an understanding of different approaches to the study of religion (anthropological, historical, etc.), and learn about specific religious traditions (Hinduism, Judaism, etc.).

Foundation courses (6 credit hours):

The following are required (6):

Comp St 2370 Introduction to Comparative Religion
Comp St 4972 Theory and Method in the Study of Religion

Interdisciplinary/Comparative/Thematic Requirement (18-21 credit hours)

The following courses are required (6 credits):

Comp St 3990 Approaches to Comparative Studies
Comp St 4990 Senior Seminar

Four to five of the following courses are required, no more than one at the 2000-level (12-15 credits):

Comp St 2670 Religion and Science
Comp St 2677 Religion and Environmentalism
Comp St 3678 Religion and American Culture
Comp St 4871 Religion and American Politics
Comp St 4873 Contemporary Religious Movements in Global Context
Comp St 4874 New Age and New Religious Movements
Comp St 4875 Gender, Sexuality, and Religion
Comp St 4876 Comparative Sacred Architecture
Comp St 4877 Myth and Ritual
Comp St 4878 Rites, Ritual, and Ceremony
Comp St 5691 Topics in Comparative Studies (topic to be approved by the student's adviser; course is repeatable)
Comp St 5970 Foundational Approaches to the Study of Religion
Comp St 5971 Contemporary Approaches to the Study of Religion
Anthro 5625 Anthropology of Religion
Phil 5850 Philosophy of Religion

Distribution requirement (9-12 credit hours):

The distribution requirement comprises courses that focus on specific religious traditions (Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, indigenous or ancient traditions) to be chosen from Comparative Studies courses and from a list of courses offered by other departments and approved

for major credit. Coursework selected for this requirement must include at least one course in Comparative Studies chosen from the following:

Comp St 2110 The Jewish Mystical Tradition

Comp St 3671 The Religions of India

Comp St 3672 Native American Religions

Comp St 3673 The Buddhist Traditions

Comp St 3674 African Religions

Comp St 3675 Religions of Mesoamerica

Comp St 3677 South Asian American Religion & Culture

Comp St 4822 Native American Identity

Comp St 4872H Varieties of Christianity

Comp St 5871 The Japanese Religious Tradition

Comp St 5691 Topics in Comparative Studies (when topic is focused on a specific tradition, e.g., "Reformation Culture," "Zen Philosophy")

INTERDEPARTMENTAL COURSES IN RELIGIONS AND CULTURES

Comparative Studies

2670 Science and Religion
 2677 Religion and Environmentalism
 3671 The Religions of India
 3672 Native American Religions
 3673 The Buddhist Traditions
 3674 African Religions
 3675 Religions of Mesoamerica
 3676 The Jewish Mystical Tradition
 3677 South Asian American Religion & Culture
 3678 South Asian American Religion and Culture
 3678 Religion and American Culture
 4655 Studies in Ethnography
 4822 Native American Identity
 4872H Varieties of Christianity
 4873 Contemporary Religious Movements in Global Context
 4874 New Age and New Religious Movements
 4875 Gender, Sexuality, and Religion
 4876 Comparative Sacred Architecture
 4877 Myth and Ritual
 4878 Rites, Ritual, and Ceremony
 4970 Religious Studies Capstone
 4972 Theory and Method in the Study of Religion
 4990 Senior Seminar
 5691 Topics in Comparative Studies
 5871 The Japanese Religious Tradition
 5957.02 Folklore in Circulation
 5970 Foundational Approaches to the Study of Religion
 5971 Contemporary Approaches to the Study of Religion

African American and African Studies

3342H Music, Religion, and Ritual in Africa

Anthropology

5625 Anthropology of Religion

Arabic

*4626 Intro to the Arabic Qur'an
 5162 Origin and Development of Arabic-Islamic Concepts
 5701 The Qur'an in Translation
 5703 Common Heritage: Biblical Figures in the Qur'an

Classics

2203 Byzantine Civilization: Constantinople and the Empire of New Rome
 2220 Classical Mythology
 2401 Intro to the New Testament: History and Literature

3401 Ancient Greek Religion
 3402 Ancient Gods, Changing Identities
 3403 The Hero in Classical Mythology
 3405 Christians in the Graeco-Roman World
 3407 Paul and His Influence in Early Christianity
 3408 Ancient Roman Religion
 4031 Sacred Texts of the Ancient World
 5401 Methodologies for the Study of Ancient Religions
 5402 Jesus and the Gospels

English 2280 The English Bible

Hebrew

2205 Art and Ancient Judaism
 2209 The World of the Rabbis
 2210 The Jewish Mystical Tradition
 2216 The Medieval Jewish Experience
 2241 Culture of Contemporary Israel
 2700 Biblical & Post-Biblical Hebrew Lit in Translation
 2701 Medieval Hebrew Literature in Translation
 2702 Modern Hebrew Lit in Translation
 2703 Prophecy in the Bible and Post-Biblical Literature
 2704 Women in Biblical and Post-Biblical Hebrew Lit
 2705 The Holocaust in Literature and Film
 2708 Biblical and Post-Biblical Wisdom Literature
 *4605 Readings in the Mishnah
 *5601 Intro to Hebrew Literary and Cultural Texts
 *5602 The Bible as Literature: Selected Readings
 *5603 Readings in Rabbinic Literature
 5801 Biblio & Ref Tools: Hebraica, Judaica, & Semitics
 5802 Problem of Evil: Biblical & Post-Biblical Lit
 5806 Studies in Biblical Law

History

2045 History of American Religion to the Civil War
 2070 Intro to Native American History
 2110 Intro to Native American Peoples from Mesoamerica
 2111 Intro to Native American People of the Andes
 2201 Ancient Greece and Rome
 2211 The Ancient Near East
 2220 Intro to the History of Christianity
 2230 Decoding the Middle Ages
 2231 The Crusades
 2350 Islam, Politics, and Society in History

2351 Early Islamic Society, 610-1258
 2352 Ottoman Empire, 1300-1800
 2353 Middle East in the 20th Century
 2375 Islamic Central Asia
 2390 Ancient India
 2391 Islamic India
 2392 Colonial India
 2450 Ancient and Medieval Jewish History, 300 BCE-1100CE
 2451 Medieval and Early Modern Jewish History, 700-1700 CE
 2452 Modern Jewish History, 1700-Present
 2453 History of Zionism and Modern Israel
 2454 History of Antisemitism
 2455 Jews in American Film
 2475 History of the Holocaust
 3045 American Religious History
 3070 Native American History from European Contact to Removal, 1560-1820
 3071 Native American History from Removal to the Present
 3100 Colonial Latin America
 3110 The Jewish Experience in Latin America
 3220 The Rise of the Roman Republic
 3221 Rome from the Gracchi to Nero
 3223 The Later Roman Empire
 3225 Early Byzantine Empire
 3226 Later Byzantine Empire
 3227 Gnostics and Other Early Christian Heresies
 3229 History of Early Christianity
 3230 History of Medieval Christianity
 3235 Medieval Europe I: 300-1100
 3236 Medieval Europe II: 1100-1500
 3239 Medieval England
 3245 The Age of Reformation 3247 Magic and Witchcraft in Early Modern Europe (1450-1750) 3275 Religion and Its Critics in Modern Europe
 3304 History of Islam in Africa
 3306 History of African Christianity
 3350 The Middle East in 19th Century
 3351 Intellectual and Social Movements in the Muslim World
 3353 Jewish Communities under Islamic Rule
 3354 Islamic Spain and North Africa
 3360 History of Iran
 3401 Foundations of Chinese Civilization
 3425 History of Japan before 1800
 3450 History of Ancient Israel (BCE)
 3455 Jewish Life from the Renaissance to the Early Enlightenment
 3460 European Jewish History 1789-1989
 3465 American Jewish History

3470 Messiahs and Messianism in Jewish History
3640 Medieval Women: Power, Piety, and Production

History of Art

2001 Western Art I: The Ancient and Medieval Worlds
2003 Asian Art
2101 Intro to African Art and Archeology
3005 Christian Art
3101 Philosophy of African Art
3211 Art and Civilization in the Near East
3521 Renaissance Art in Italy
4401 Architecture of the Middle Ages
4411 Early Christian and Byzantine Art
4421 Medieval Art
4510 Northern Renaissance Art
4521 Early Renaissance Art in Italy
4701 An Introduction to Buddhist Art and Iconography
4810 The Arts of China
4820 Arts of Japan
5111 African Art and Archeology I
5112 African Art and Archeology II
5221 Early Islamic Art
5222 Later Islamic Art
5420 Romanesque and Gothic Art
5421 Romanesque and Gothic Sculpture
5422 Medieval and Renaissance Manuscript Illumination
5430 The Age of Giotto
5521 Renaissance Painting in Central Italy
5522 Renaissance Painting in Venice
5525 The Sacred Image in the Italian Renaissance
5701 Buddhist Art: Theory and History
5702 Hindu Iconography
5711 Art of India I
5712 Art of India II
5720 Art of Central Asia
5723 Art of Nepal and Tibet
5724 The Buddhist Art of Gandhara and Kashmir
5727 The Art of Newar Buddhism
5812 Chinese Art: Buddhist
5821 Japanese Art: Proto-Historic and Buddhist

Japanese

5271 The Japanese Religious Tradition

Jewish Studies

2201 Introduction to Jewish Culture, Thought, and Practice

2209 The World of the Rabbis
2210 The Jewish Mystical Tradition
2241 Yiddish Culture
2242 Culture of Contemporary Israel
2450 Ancient and Medieval Jewish History, 300 BCE-1100 CE
2451 Medieval and Early Modern Jewish History 1700-Present
2452 Modern Jewish History 1700-Present
2453 History of Zionism and Modern Israel
2516 The Medieval Jewish Experience
2700 Biblical and Post-Biblical Hebrew Literature in Translation
2701 Medieval Hebrew Literature in Translation
2703 Modern Hebrew Literature in Translation
2704 Women in the Bible and Beyond
2708 Biblical and Post-Biblical Wisdom Literature
3110 The Jewish Experience in Latin America
3111 Intro to Jewish Philosophy
3351 Judaism and Ethics
3371 Yiddish Literature in Translation
3450 History of Ancient Israel (to 300 BCE)
3455 Jewish Life from the Renaissance to the Early Enlightenment
3460 European Jewish History
3465 American Jewish History
3470 Messiahs and Messianism in Jewish History
4211 Art and Architecture of the Ancient Near East
4601 Modern Hebrew Short Story
4605 Readings in the Mishnah
5571 Canon and Communities in the Near East
5602 The Bible as Literature: Selected Readings
5603 Readings in Rabbinic Literature
5613 The American Jewish Experience: Life and Culture
5802 The Problem of Evil in Biblical and Post-Biblical Literature
5806 Studies in Biblical Law

Medieval and Renaissance Studies

2211 Medieval Kyoto: Portraits and Landscapes
2212 Culture of a City-State in the Renaissance
2215 Gothic Paris: 1100-1300
2217 Early Modern London
2510 Court of Charlemagne

2513 Medieval Moscow
2514 Golden Age of Islamic Civilization
2516 The Medieval Jewish Experience
2520 Christians, Muslims, and Jews in the Mediterranean World
2526 Byzantine Civilization: Constantinople and the Empire of New Rome
2666 Magic & Witchcraft in the Middle Ages & Renaissance

Near Eastern Languages and Cultures

3201 Islam in the U.S.
3230 Introduction to Shi'ite Beliefs and History
3501 Introduction to Islam
3502 Islamic Civilization through the Ages
3508 Sufism
3700 Mythology of Ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia
3702 Literatures and Cultures of the Islamic World
4597 Islamic Revival and Social Justice: Utopian Ideals and Lived Realities
4601 Israeli and Palestinian Literature
5571 Canons and Communities in the Near East
5578 Islamic Law and Society

Persian

2301 Persian Mythology and Folklore

Philosophy

2120 Asian Philosophies
2660 Metaphysics, Religion, and Magic in the Scientific Revolution
3111 Introduction to Jewish Philosophy
3220 History of Medieval Philosophy
3351 Judaism and Ethics
5220 Studies in Medieval Philosophy
5850 Philosophy of Religion
5870 Topics in Jewish Philosophy

Political Science

4262 The New Religious Politics

Rural Sociology

5520 Amish Society

Scandinavian

3350 Nordic Mythology and Medieval Culture

Sociology

3467 Sociology of Religion