

# BACHELOR OF ARTS IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES

**Religious Studies**, also known as Comparative Religion, the Science of Religion, or the academic study of religion, is a part of the human sciences, and it engages in the analysis of cross-cultural religious phenomena. As such, the mission of Religious Studies is to foster critical awareness of the role religion in society, the ways in which people’s values and worldviews shape their involvement in the world, such as business, law, and government, and to provide tools for students to track and measure these developments socially and reflectively in themselves.

COURSE	TITLE	S.H.
<b>General Education Requirements</b>		
Core Competencies		12
ENGL 1550	Writing 1	
ENGL 1551	Writing 2	
CMST 1545	Communication Foundations	
MATH 2623 or PHIL 2619	Quantitative Reasoning Introduction to Logic	
Arts and Humanities		6
Recommended choices: REL 2608, REL 2610		
Natural Sciences (Select 2 - one must include lab of any approved GER lab science course)		7
Social Science		6
Social and Personal Awareness		6
Recommended choices: REL 2617, REL 2631		
General Education Elective / First-Year Experience		3
Select one course from AH, NS, SS, or SPA		
Foreign Language (through 2600 unless satisfied by placement exam)		
1550 Language		
2600 Language		
<b>Required Courses for Major (31 s.h. - 22 s.h. must be at the 3700-level or higher)</b>		
Religious Studies Core Courses		
REL 2602	Introduction to Religious Studies	3
REL 4825	Methods and Study of Religion	3
Group A: Select one course from:		
REL 2617	Introduction to Asian Religions	3
REL 3708	African-American Religion	3
REL 3710	African and Neo-African Religion	3
REL 3720	The World of Islam	3
REL 3726	Buddhist Beliefs Practices and Debate	3
REL 3744	Islamic Culture and Literature	3
REL 3748	Islam and the West	3
Group B: Select one course from:		
REL 2611	Judaism Christianity and Islam	3
REL 3732	Jesus and the Gospels	3
REL 3722	Popes Saints and Rebels	3
REL 3731	Hebrew Scriptures	3
REL 3733	Women And the Bible	3
ANTH 4815	Anthropology of Religion	3
JUDC 1500	Introduction to Jewish Studies	3
HIST 3789	Jewish History	3
Analytics - Select one course from two of the analytic groups:		6
Political Science:		
REL 2610	Global Ethics	

REL 2631	Religion and the Earth	
REL 3743	Reform, Revolt, or Revolution in Islam	
REL 3744	Islamic Culture and Literature	
REL 3751	Liberation Theologies and Revolutionary Change	
REL 3753	Religion and Violence	
HIST 3788	The Holocaust	
Anthropology:		
REL 3728	Hindu Traditions	
ANTH 4815	Anthropology of Religion	
Sociology:		
REL 3750	Religion and Race	
Philosophy:		
REL 2608	The Examined Life	
REL 2621	Religion and Moral Issues	
REL 3712	Philosophy of Religion	
REL 3754	Feminism, Ecology and Religion	
Psychology:		
REL 3756	Psychology of Religion	
Remaining Hours:		
REL 4850	Seminar in Religious Studies	3
REL 4869	Capstone Cooperative Seminar	1
REL 4871	Senior Capstone Project	3
Religious Studies Electives		6
<b>Minor</b>		18
<b>Electives</b> Must complete a minimum number of electives to meet the 120sh total graduation requirement		

Total Degree Hours = 120 s.h.

Course	Title	S.H.
<b>Year 1</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
REL 2602	Introduction to Religious Studies	3
CMST 1545	Communication Foundations	3
ENGL 1550	Writing 1	3
First Year Experience		3
Foreign Language 1550		4
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
REL 37XX Group A		3
Social Science 15XX/26XX		3
ENGL 1551	Writing 2	3
REL 37XX Group B		3
Foreign Language 2600		4
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Year 2</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
PHIL 2619	Introduction to Logic or MATH 2623 or Quantitative Reasoning	3
Natural Science 15XX/26XX		3
Minor 15XX/26XX course		3
Social and Personal Awareness 15XX/26XX		3
Elective 15XX/26XX		3
<b>Semester Hours</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
REL 37XX Analytics		3
REL 37XX Analytics		3
Minor 15XX/26XX course		3

Natural Science plus lab 15XX/26XX	4
Social and Personal Awareness 15XX/26XX	3
<b>Semester Hours</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Year 3</b>	
<b>Fall</b>	
Elective	3
REL Elective	3
Minor 15XX/26XX course	3
Elective 37XX	3
Elective 37XX	3
<b>Semester Hours</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Spring</b>	
REL Elective	3
Minor 37XX course	3
Elective	3
Elective 37XX	3
Elective 37XX	3
<b>Semester Hours</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Year 4</b>	
<b>Fall</b>	
REL 4825 Methods and Study of Religion	3
Minor 37XX course	3
Elective 37XX	3
REL 4850 Seminar in Religious Studies	3
Elective 15XX/26XX	3
<b>Semester Hours</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Spring</b>	
REL 4871 Senior Capstone Project	3
REL 4869 Capstone Cooperative Seminar	1
Minor 37XX course	3
Elective XXXX	3
Elective 37XX	3
<b>Semester Hours</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Total Semester Hours</b>	<b>121</b>

## Learning Objectives

- Students will understand the various approaches to the study of religion under the field that is called Religious Studies. This is accomplished through enrollment in the two core course, "Introduction to Religious Studies," and "Methods and the Study of Religion."
- Students will develop an appreciation of two discrete religious systems to allow for healthy comparisons. This is accomplished by fulfilling the requirement of taking one course from "Class A," which addresses Christian and Jewish traditions, and "Class B," which covers Islamic, Hindu, Buddhist, and African-American traditions.
- Students will accumulate two different methods to study religion. This is accomplished through the enrolment of one course from at least two different analytic groups: anthropology, philosophy, political science, psychology, and sociology.