Program

BA in Religious Studies
Minor in Religious Studies
Minor in Ethics

The Department of Religious Studies, as an integral part of the humanities, educates students in the scholarly interpretation of religion. Through its assessment of the religious experiences, stories, symbols, rituals, doctrines, values, and institutions of human beings in different times and places, the academic study of religions makes an indispensable contribution to historical and modern cultural literacy.

Religious Studies Major and Minor

Religious Studies is interdisciplinary by nature. Courses in the department approach the study of religion from the perspectives of history, textual studies of sacred writings, sociology, anthropology, philosophy, and other disciplines. In addition to providing an understanding of the development of the major religious traditions of the world, these approaches also equip students to explore the complex relationship of religion to other aspects of culture. Religious Studies probes the role of religion in ethics and law, psychology, gender constructs, literature, the visual arts, and a variety of contemporary social and political issues.

The cross-cultural and historical study of religions is also an integral part of education for citizenship in a pluralistic society. Respect for other religious groups (or those who espouse no religious belief) is difficult to sustain without significant knowledge of the histories, beliefs, and customs of diverse peoples and religious traditions of the world.

Both the Religious Studies major and minor programs are structured to allow the student to select courses that introduce in breadth, inform in depth, and complement personal interests and fundamental concerns about the meaning of life and death in human cultures.

The Center for Applied and Professional Ethics (CAPE)

CAPE provides the university and professional communities with resources for the study of morality and applied social and professional ethics. CAPE also provides public forums where important and controversial issues can be discussed and debated.

The Religion and Public Education Resource Center (RPERC)

The purpose of the Center is to foster greater understanding of the distinction between the practice of religion and the academic study of religion, and to encourage the teaching about religion in the public schools consistent with Constitutional principles. The Center is non-partisan. Consult the chair of Religious Studies for further information.

Minor in Ethics

Most professional organizations recognize the importance of training in ethics to professional practice in today’s diverse and complex world.

Honors in Religious Studies

Outstanding majors are invited to pursue honors in Religious Studies. Consult the religious studies adviser for details.

Internship Program

Religious Studies offers a variety of exciting opportunities for learning beyond the classroom. These internships offer a first-hand view of the role of religion in community life, and provide valuable career development experience. Consult the religious studies adviser for details.

Career Outlook

As a discipline within the humanities, Religious Studies prepares both majors and minors for all careers that require critical thinking, analytical skills, and the ability to reflect on questions of life’s meaning and value in a pluralistic context. The study of religion is excellent pre-professional preparation for such fields as law, teaching, counseling, social work, journalism, political science, public administration, anthropology, psychology, sociology, history, museum work, philosophy, and English, among others. While many majors go on to graduate work in religious studies or related fields, others find themselves prepared for work in public service, international affairs, and not-for-profit endeavors.
THE BACHELOR OF ARTS IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Total Course Requirements for the Bachelor's Degree: 120 units

See "Requirements for the Bachelor's Degree" in The University Catalog for complete details on general degree requirements. A minimum of 40 units, including those required for the major, must be upper division.

A suggested Major Academic Plan (MAP) has been prepared to help students meet all graduation requirements within four years. Please request a plan from your major adviser or view it and other current advising information on the CSU, Chico Web.

General Education Requirements: 48 units

See “General Education Requirements” in The University Catalog and The Class Schedule for the most current information on General Education Requirements and course offerings. The course requirements marked below with an asterisk (*) may also be applied toward General Education.

Cultural Diversity Course Requirements: 6 units

See “Cultural Diversity” in The University Catalog. Most courses taken to satisfy these requirements may also apply to General Education.

American Institutions Requirement: 6 units

See the “American Institutions Requirement” under “Bachelor's Degree Requirements.” This requirement is normally fulfilled by completing HIST 130 and POLS 155. Courses used to satisfy this requirement do not apply to General Education.

 literacy Requirement:

See “Mathematics and Writing Requirements” in The University Catalog. Writing proficiency in the major is a graduation requirement and may be demonstrated through satisfactory completion of a course in your major which has been designated as the Writing Proficiency (WP) course for the semester in which you take the course. Students who earn below a C- are required to repeat the course and earn a C- or better to receive WP credit. See The Class Schedule for the designated WP courses for each semester. You must pass ENGL 130 (or its equivalent) with a C- or better before you may register for a WP course.

Course Requirements for the Major: 38 units

The following courses, or their approved transfer equivalents, are required of all candidates for this degree.

DEGREE CORE PROGRAM: 14 units

5 courses required:
REL 100 Judaism, Christianity, Islam 3.0 FS *
REL 110 Asian Religions 3.0 FS *NW
REL 322 Religion and American Society 3.0 FS
This course is also offered as AMST 322.
REL 480 Appr to Study of Religion 3.0 SP
Prerequisites: REL 100 or REL 110 or faculty permission.
REL 481 Res Meth in Religious Studies 2.0 FA

WRITING PROFICIENCY COURSE: 3 units

1 course selected from:
REL 482 Seminar in Religious Studies 3.0 FS WP
Prerequisites: ENGL 130 (or its equivalent) with a grade of C- or higher; concurrent enrollment or prior completion of REL 480 and REL 481.
REL 497 Tutorial in Religious Studies 1.0-3.0 FS
Prerequisites: ENGL 130 (or its equivalent) with a grade of C- or higher, faculty permission.

Students must take REL 497 for 3.0 units to meet the Writing Proficiency requirement.
REL 499H Senior Honors Research Paper 3.0 FS WP
Prerequisites: ENGL 130 (or its equivalent) with a grade of C- or higher, RELS 480 (may be taken concurrently).

WORLD TRADITIONS: 6 units

1 course selected from:
Western Traditions:
REL 107 The Bible 3.0 FA *
REL 202 Islamic Religion 3.0 FA *NW
REL 204 Judaism This course is also offered as MJIS 204.
REL 207 Christianity 3.0 FS *
REL 303 Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) 3.0 FS
This course is also offered as MJIS 303.
REL 307 New Testament 3.0 Inq
REL 407 History of Christian Thought 3.0 Inq
REL 408 History of Christian Thought 3.0 Inq

1 course selected from:
Asian Traditions:
REL 210 Chinese Religions 3.0 Inq
REL 211 Japanese Religions 3.0 Inq
REL 212 Hinduism 3.0 FA *NW
REL 213 Buddhism 3.0 SP *NW
REL 300 Ethics of Environmental Sci 3.0 Inq
REL 307 New Testament 3.0 FS *
REL 310 Learning and Values 3.0 FS
This course is also offered as PHIL 330.
REL 331 Applied & Prof Ethics Research 1.0 FA
This course is also offered as MJIS 331.
REL 332 World Religions & Global Issues 3.0 FS *Eth
REL 334 Ethics & Environmental Sci 3.0 Inq
REL 340 History of Christian Thought 3.0 Inq
REL 341 Religion/Ethics/Medicine 3.0 FS
REL 343 Peace/Justice in World Religions 3.0 Inq *
REL 345 Religion/Freedom/Evil 3.0 Inq
REL 346 Ethical Issues in Religion 3.0 FS *
REL 347 Cross-Cultural Environ Ethics 3.0 FS *
REL 348 Jesus/Buddha/Marx 3.0 FS
REL 355 Religious Performance 3.0 Inq
REL 356 Religion and Personality 3.0 Inq
REL 357 End of the World 3.0 Inq *
REL 358 Teaching About Religions 3.0 FS
REL 365 Religion and Film 3.0 Inq
REL 366 Mysticism: East and West 3.0 SP
REL 375 Women and Religion 3.0 FS *
This course is also offered as WMST 375.
REL 381 Sociology of Religion 3.0 Inq
This course is also offered as SOCI 327.
REL 392 Contemporary Religious Thought 3.0 Inq
REL 455 Anthropology of Religion 3.0 Inq
Prerequisites: ANTH 303 or RELS 480 or instructor's permission.
This course is also offered as ANTH 432.
REL 475 Feminist Theology 3.0 Inq
Prerequisites: RELS 375 or WMST 375.
This course is also offered as WMST 475.
REL 491 Contemporary Religious Thought 3.0 Inq

NOTE: A maximum of 3 units of any modern foreign language requirement at the third-semester college level or beyond, or any 3 units of college-level ancient or classical language study, will be credited toward the 6-unit requirement for this category.

RELIGION IN THE AMERICAS: 3 units

1 course selected from:
REL 300 Judaism in America 3.0 Inq
This course is also offered as MJIS 304.
REL 323 Religion in America 3.0 FA
REL 324 Religion/Amer Eth Minorities 3.0 FS *Eth
This course is also offered as MCGS 324.
REL 325 Worldviews of American Indians 3.0 Inq Eth
This course is also offered as MJIS 325.

ELECTIVES: 6 units

6 units selected from:
Choose 6 units from any Religious Studies (RELS) courses listed above or from the following electives.
REL 180 Introduction to Religious Studies 3.0 FS *
REL 198 Special Topics 1.0-3.0 Inq
REL 398 Special Topics 1.0-3.0 Inq
REL 489 Internship in Religious Studies 1.0-3.0 FS
Prerequisites: Faculty permission.
REL 498 Special Topics 1.0-3.0 Inq
The following course may also be used as an elective in the RELS major:
PHIL 204 Reason and Religion 3.0 FS *
SUPervision Courses

All supervision courses require faculty permission.

A maximum of 3 units of the supervision courses may be counted toward the major, though it is not necessary to take any. Additional units must be requested by petition. (If RELS 497 is taken to fulfill the writing proficiency requirement, a maximum of 6 units of supervision courses will be counted toward the major.)

RELS 391 Reading in Religious Studies 1.0-3.0 FS
Prerequisites: Faculty permission.
RELS 497 Tutorial in Religious Studies 1.0-3.0 FS
Prerequisites: ENGL 130 (or its equivalent) with a grade of C- or higher, faculty permission.
RELS 499H Senior Honors Research Paper 3.0 FS WP
Prerequisites: ENGL 130 (or its equivalent) with a grade of C- or higher, RELS 480 (may be taken concurrently).

Electives Requirement:

To complete the total units required for the bachelor's degree, select additional elective courses from the total university offerings. You should consult with an adviser regarding the selection of courses which will provide breadth to your university experience and possibly apply to a supportive second major or minor.

Grading Requirement:

All courses taken to fulfill major course requirements must be taken for a letter grade except those courses specified by the department as Credit/No Credit grading only.

Advising Requirement:

Advising is mandatory for all majors in this degree program. Consult your undergraduate adviser for specific information.

Honors in the Major

Honors in the Major is a program of independent work in your major. It involves 6 units of honors course work completed over two semesters. Your Honors work will be recognized at your graduation, on your permanent transcripts, and on your diploma. It is often accompanied by letters of commendation from your mentor in the department or the department chair. Most importantly, however, the Honors in the Major program allows you to work closely with a faculty mentor in your area of interest on an original performance or research project. This year-long collaboration allows you to work in your field at a professional level and culminates in a public presentation of your work. Students sometimes take their projects beyond the university for submission in professional journals, presentation at conferences, or competition in shows; such experience is valuable for graduate school and later professional life.

Some common features of Honors in the Major program are:

1. You must take 6 units of Honors in the Major course work. At least 3 of these 6 units are independent study (499H) as specified by your department.
2. You must complete each class with a minimum grade of B. You must complete each course with at least 3.5 or within the top 5 percent of majors in your department.
3. Your cumulative GPA should be at least 3.5 or within the top 5 percent of majors in your department.
4. Your GPA in your major should be at least 3.5 or within the top 5 percent of majors in your department.
5. Most students apply for or are invited to participate in Honors in the Major during the second semester of their junior year. Then they complete the 6 units of course work over the two semesters of their senior year.
6. Your honors work culminates with a public presentation of your Honors project.

While Honors in the Major is part of the Honors Program, each department administers its own program. Please contact your major department or major adviser for further information.

THE MINOR IN ETHICS

Course Requirements for the Minor: 21 units

The following courses, or their approved transfer equivalents, are required of all candidates for this minor.

2 courses required:
- PHIL 321 Ethics and Human Happiness 3.0 FS *
- PHIL 346 Ethical Issues in Religion 3.0 FS *

1 course selected from:
- PHIL 201 History of Ancient Philosophy 3.0 FS *
- RELS 100 Judaism, Christianity, Islam 3.0 FS *

2 courses selected from:
- JOUR 460 Ethical Problems in Mass Media 3.0 FS WP
- RELS 489 Philosophy Internship 1.0-3.0 FS
- PHIL 326 Social Ethics 3.0 FA *
- PHIL 327 Biomedical Ethics 3.0 FS *
- PHIL 328 Business Ethics & Soc Policy 3.0 Inq
- PHIL 332 Criminal Justice Ethics 3.0 FS
- RELS 341 Religion/Ethics/Medicine 3.0 FS

NOTE: You may count PHIL 327 or RELS 341, but not both.

6 units selected from:
- GEOS 354 Science and Ethics 3.0 SP *
- PHIL 310 Personal Values 3.0 FS *
- PHIL 329 Ethics 3.0 SP
- PHIL 322 Science and Human Values 3.0 SP *
- PHIL 323 Moral Issues in Parenting 3.0 FS *
- PHIL 329 Environmental Ethics 3.0 FS *
- PHIL 330 Learning and Values 3.0 FS
- PHIL 331 Applied & Prof Ethics Forum 1.0 FA
- PHIL 333 Modern Ethical Theory 3.0 FA WP
- RELS 330 Learning and Values 3.0 FS
- RELS 334 Ethics & Environmental Sci 3.0 Inq
- RELS 341 Justice and Human Rights 3.0 FS *
- RELS 347 Cross-Cultural Environ Ethics 3.0 FS *
- PHIL 489 Philosophy Internship 1.0-3.0 FS
- PHIL 489 Philosophy Internship 1.0-3.0 FS
- RELS 330 Learning and Values 3.0 FS
- RELS 334 Ethics & Environmental Sci 3.0 Inq
- RELS 341 Justice and Human Rights 3.0 FS *
- RELS 489 Internship in Religious Stud 1.0-3.0 FS
- RELS 489 Internship in Religious Stud 1.0-3.0 FS

NOTE: In fulfilling this requirement, you may count only one of the following sets of courses:
- PHIL 329 or RELS 347;
- PHIL 330 or RELS 330;
- GEOS 354, PHIL 322, or PHIL 322H.
If RELS 489 is selected, it must be taken for 3 units.
THE MINOR IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES
Course Requirements for the Minor: 21 units

The following courses, or their approved transfer equivalents, are required of all candidates for this minor.

6 units required:

- RELS 100 Judaism, Christianity, Islam 3.0 FS *
- RELS 110 Asian Religions 3.0 FS *NW

15 units selected from:

Any of the elective courses listed under the Religious Studies course offerings, 6 units of which must be upper division, with a limit of 3 units from the courses listed outside of the department.

Written Notice

Departmental approval is required before you begin course work for this minor. Approval can be obtained by providing written notice of your intention to declare this minor to the department office.

The Faculty

Michelle DeBeizacedon, 2000, Lecturer B, PhD, Graduate Theo. Union.
Andrew M. Fleischer, 2000, Assistant Professor, PhD, Brown Univ.
Bruce Greble, 1989, Professor, PhD, U Chicago.
Donald J. Heinz, 1975, Professor Emeritus, PhD, Graduate Theo. Union.
Shigeo H. Kanda, 1970, Professor Emeritus, PhD, Claremont.
Patricia L. Lerner, 2000, Lecturer B, MA, Indiana U.
Loren D. Lybarger, 2002, Assistant Professor, PhD, U Chicago.
Katherine G. McCarthy, 1994, Assoc Professor, PhD, Graduate Theo. Union.
Sarah M. Pike, Assoc Professor, PhD, Indiana U.
Daniel Veidlinger, 2002, Assistant Professor, PhD, U Chicago.
Joel Zimbelman, 1987, Chair, Professor, PhD, U Virginia.

Religious Studies Course Offerings

Please see the section on "Course Description Symbols and Terms" in The University Catalog for an explanation of course description terminology and symbols, the course numbering system, and course credit units. All courses are lecture and discussion and employ letter grading unless otherwise stated. Some prerequisites may be waived with faculty permission. Many syllabi are available on the Chico Web.

- RELS 100 Judaism, Christianity, Islam 3.0 Fa/Spr
- RELS 107 The Bible 3.0 Fall
- RELS 110 Asian Religions 3.0 Fa/Spr
- RELS 180 Introduction to Religious Studies 3.0 Fa/Spr
- RELS 198 Special Topics 1.0-3.0 Inquire
- RELS 202 Islamic Religion 3.0 Fall
- RELS 204 Judaism 3.0 Fa/Spr
- RELS 207 Christianity 3.0 Fa/Spr
- RELS 210 Chinese Religions 3.0 Inquire
- RELS 211 Japanese Religions 3.0 Inquire
- RELS 212 Hinduism 3.0 Fall
- RELS 213 Buddhism 3.0 Spring
- RELS 245 Hinduism 3.0 Fa/Spr
- RELS 260 Dying, Death, and Afterlife: The Last Passage 3.0 Fa/Spr
- RELS 264 Dying, Death, and Afterlife: The Last Passage 3.0 Fa/Spr
- RELS 265 Religious Dimensions of Literature 3.0 Inquire
- RELS 270 Myth and Ritual 3.0 Inquire
- RELS 303 Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) 3.0 Fa/Spr
- RELS 304 Judaism in America 3.0 Inquire
- RELS 322 Religion and American Society 3.0 Fa/Spr
- RELS 323 Religions in America 3.0 Fall

Religious Studies

In our society, what accounts for the imperative that we should be altruistic? The historical, cultural, and social experiences and values of Native American, Hispanic American, African American, Pacific Islander, and Asian American ethnic minority groups will be examined. This is an approved General Education course. This is an approved Ethnic course. Formerly R S 185. This course is also offered as MCGS 324.

RELS 325 Worldviews of American Indians 3.0 Inquire
A description and analysis of selected American Indian religions and philosophies of American Indian peoples of North America. The course will emphasize the Indians' spiritual relationship with nature as depicted in ceremonies, music, literature, andoral traditions. This is an approved Ethnic course. Formerly R S 188. This course is also offered as AIST 325.

RELS 330 Learning and Values 3.0 Fa/Spr
Basic introduction to the nature and acquisition of values, to the idea of humans as moral agents, to principles of moral reasoning, and to applications to educational settings. Formerly R S 155. This course is also offered as PHIL 330.

RELS 331 Center for Applied and Professional Ethics 1.0 Fall (CAPE) Forum
An introduction to current ethical issues facing individuals, institutions, and society. Students attend regularly scheduled CAPE forums, symposia, and seminars and do appropriate reading and writing in conjunction with sessions. Formerly R S 159. This course is also offered as PHIL 331.

RELS 332 World Religions and Global Issues 3.0 Fa/Spr
An introduction to major religions of the contemporary world (Islam, Christianity, Buddhism, and Chinese religions) with particular emphasis on their relationship to pressing global issues, including economics and poverty, environmental issues, war and peace, and human rights. Explores a number of religious traditions that are closely identified with specific ethnic groups in this country. This is an approved General Education course.

RELS 333 Ethics and Environmental Sciences 3.0 Inquire
Discussion of the ethical issues that arise in the environmental sciences. Emphasis placed on examination of kinds of ethical dilemmas facing environmental scientists and policy makers, on development of tools for analyzing and resolving such dilemmas, and on views that have influenced attitudes about the environment and environmental ethics. Attention given to religious, philosophical, historical, and cultural origins of moral values and various approaches to moral deliberation and moral reasoning. Formerly R S 220. This course is also offered as PHIL 334.

RELS 341 Religion, Ethics, and Medicine 3.0 Fa/Spr
Exploration of the way that religious perspectives and values inform the practice of medicine and delivery of health care. Topics include interpretations of suffering, moral values, assisted suicide and euthanasia, genetic technologies and human experimentation, justice and health care and HIV disease. Formerly R S 151.

RELS 342H What Motivates Altruism? Honors 6.0 Fall
Prerequisites: Open only to students working on the Upper-Division Theme in Honors; must be in good standing in the Honors Program. Is there such a thing as "altruistic" behavior, or is it the case that when we help other people it is self-interest that is lurking behind our motivations? In this course, what accounts for the imperative that we should be altruistic? This course explores answers to fundamental questions about the phenomenon of helping others by looking at several disciplinary approaches to explaining seemingly selfless conduct. This course is distinctive in asking students to address these questions theoretically and empirically. Students test the theories they study in class through fieldwork. 3.0 hours seminar, 6.0 hours activity. This is an approved General Education course. Formerly R S 136H. This course is also offered as PSYC 313H.

RELS 343 Power/Justice in World Religions 3.0 Inquire
Examines the alternative ways in which religious traditions have conceptualized and evaluated the production, distribution, and consumption of wealth and income. Attention will be given to teachings regarding appropriate ways of acquiring and distributing wealth, to conceptions of private property, to principles of distributive justice, and to diverse ethical perspectives within religious traditions on the efficacy and fairness of capitalism, socialism, and "mixed" economies. This is an approved General Education course. Formerly R S 154.

RELS 345 Religion, Freedom, and Evil 3.0 Inquire
How are people to overcome the despair and suffering that characterize human existence? This course examines the responses of several Western (Christianity and Judaism) and Asian (Buddhism, Taoism) religious traditions to the following sorts of issues: the nature of transcendence and self-transformation; free will and the justification of religious experience and belief; and the overcoming of despair and/or the self as a condition of religious commitment. Formerly R S 139.

RELS 346 Ethical Issues in Religion 3.0 Fa/Spr
This course examines several theoretical and practical issues in personal and public morality from religious perspectives. Topics may include sources of morality, moral principles, sex, abortion, war and peace, environmental ethics, and economics. This is an approved General Education course. Formerly R S 148.

RELS 347H Cross-Cultural Environmental Ethics 3.0 Fa/Spr
A cross-cultural and historical investigation of the ways that religious and secular worldviews and ethics influence attitudes, behaviors, and policies toward the environment. Attention is given to Biblical, Native American, Confucian, Taoist, and feminist perspectives on nature. Topics include an analysis of the modern consumer lifestyle and its impact on the environment, the value of wilderness, mainstream and radical environmentalism, and contemporary policy issues. This is an approved General Education course. Formerly R S 149.

RELS 348 Jesus, Buddha, and Marx: A Study in Comparative Ethics 3.0 Fa/Spr
A course explores how Christians, Buddhists, and Marxists have sought to answer questions about the nature and goals of human life and about the methods of individual and social transformation. Attention will be given to the diversity of ethical perspectives in the traditions on such topics as the human good, the ideal society, political and economic life, war and peace, the family, the meaning of freedom, and the nature of salvation. Formerly R S 152.

RELS 355 Religious Performance 3.0 Inquire
Explores the ways that religious belief and sentiment are expressed in performance and accompanying visual material. Topics include masked dances, drama, divination, iconography and painting, passion plays and liturgies, prayer, prophecy, preaching, religion and modern theater, and religious dimensions of poetry and music, including gospel, reggae, and rap. Formerly R S 143.

RELS 356 Religion and Personality 3.0 Inquire
The religious significance of self-understanding suggested by the writings of Freud, Jung, archetypal psychologists, and contemporary theologians. Formerly R S 145.

RELS 357 End of the World 3.0 Inquire
This course introduces students to the ways in which historic and contemporary religious communities interpret catastrophes and how religious worlds explain and provide humans with tools to cope with catastrophes and with making meaning out of suffering and death. Focus is on visions of the end of the world (apocalypticism, environmental destruction), interpreting the meaning of disasters (natural, human-induced), and personal and global annihilation (epidemics, nuclear destruction). This is an approved General Education course. Formerly R S 153.

RELS 358 Teaching About Religions in American Public Schools 3.0 Fa/Spr
An introduction to the major religions and an analysis of legal, intellectual, and educational issues that arise in connection with the study of religions in American public schools. Formerly R S 158.

RELS 365 Religion and the Environment 3.0 Inquire
An examination of the representation of religious concerns and meaning in modern film. Utilizing resources developed in religious traditions and in the field of religious studies, the course examines themes central to the human condition such as creation, destruction, despair, redemption, and race and ethnicity. Formerly R S 137.

RELS 366 Mysticism: East and West 3.0 Spring
A comparative study of mysticism from both historical and thematic perspectives. Major figures and traditions (including Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam) will be reviewed as well as current theoretical debates in the study of mysticism. Formerly R S 171.

RELS 375 Women and Religion 3.0 Fa/Spr
Analysis of the images, roles, and experiences of women in world religions in historical and contemporary contexts. This is an approved General Education course. Formerly R S 140. This course is also offered as WMST 375.

RELS 381 Sociology of Religion 3.0 Inquire
Analysis of religion in human society; focus on relation between religion and social forces in morality and ethics. Formerly R S 170. This course is also offered as SOCI 327.

RELS 391 Reading in Religious Studies 1.0-3.0 Fa/Spr
Prerequisites: Faculty permission. This course is a special topic offered for 1.0-3.0 units. You must register directly with a supervising faculty member. You may take this course more than once for a maximum of 3.0 units. Formerly R S 134.

RELS 392 Contemporary Religious Thought 3.0 Inquire
See description under RELS 491. You may take this course more than once for a maximum of 6.0 units. Formerly R S 130A.
## Religious Studies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RELS 398</td>
<td>Special Topics</td>
<td>1.0-3.0</td>
<td>Inquire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS 407</td>
<td>History of Christian Thought</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inquire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS 408</td>
<td>History of Christian Thought</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inquire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS 455</td>
<td>Anthropology of Religion</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inquire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS 475</td>
<td>Feminist Theology</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inquire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS 480</td>
<td>Approaches to the Study of Religion</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS 481</td>
<td>Research Methods in Religious Studies</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>Fall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS 482</td>
<td>Seminar in Religious Studies</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Fa/Spr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS 489</td>
<td>Internship in Religious Studies</td>
<td>1.0-3.0</td>
<td>Fa/Spr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS 491</td>
<td>Contemporary Religious Thought</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inquire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS 492</td>
<td>Special Topics</td>
<td>1.0-3.0</td>
<td>Inquire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS 493</td>
<td>Senior Honors Research Paper</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Fa/Spr</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### RELS 407 History of Christian Thought
Survey of Christian thought from the post-New Testament period to the end of the middle ages. This lecture/research-writing course introduces the history and development of Christian thought and the Christian Church, emphasizing the circumstances under which major Christian traditions have emerged and evolved. Formerly R S 131A.

### RELS 408 History of Christian Thought
Survey of Christian thought from the sixteenth-century Reformation to the present. This lecture/research-writing course introduces the history and development of Christian thought and the Christian church, emphasizing the circumstances under which major Christian traditions have emerged and evolved. Formerly R S 131B.

### RELS 455 Anthropology of Religion
Prerequisites: ANTH 303 or RELS 480 or instructor's permission. This course examines the contemporary theoretical underpinnings of the anthropology of religion, considering especially performative, gendered, psychological, semiotic, and political aspects of religion in cross-cultural perspective. Formerly R S 232. This course is also offered as ANTH 432.

### RELS 475 Feminist Theology
Prerequisites: RELS 375 or WMST 375. A study of the development of feminist theology in Christian, Jewish, and other religious traditions over the past 30 years. Examines feminist theological analysis of religious symbols, texts, rituals, beliefs, and practices in the U.S. and international contexts. Formerly R S 240. This course is also offered as WMST 475.

### RELS 480 Approaches to the Study of Religion
Prerequisites: RELS 100 or RELS 110 or faculty permission. An in-depth study of the history, theories, and methods of religious studies as a scholarly and academic discipline. Includes study of significant contributors to the discipline and their classic works. Formerly R S 200.

### RELS 492 Seminar in Religious Studies
Prerequisites: ENGL 130 (or its equivalent) with a grade of C- or higher; concurrent enrollment or prior completion of RELS 480 and RELS 481. Readings and research on selected topics in religious studies. Content varies. You may take this course more than once for a maximum of 6.0 units. This is a writing proficiency, WP, course; a grade of C- or better certifies writing proficiency for majors. Formerly R S 280A.

### RELS 499H Senior Honors Research Paper
Prerequisites: ENGL 130 (or its equivalent) with a grade of C- or higher, RELS 480 (may be taken concurrently). To provide students accepted for “Honors in the Major” an opportunity to prepare and write a research paper on topics germane to their interests developed during the first three years of work in religious studies. Research and writing will be done under supervision of a staff adviser for a total of 6 units in two semesters. You may take this course more than once for a maximum of 6.0 units. This is a writing proficiency, WP, course; a grade of C- or better certifies writing proficiency for majors. Formerly R S 299H.