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 religion 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.

The department has prepared a suggested Four Year Advising Plan to help students meet all graduation requirements within four years. Please request a plan from your major advisor 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 used 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 050 and POLS 053. 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 requirement 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 001 (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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R S 005 Asian Religions</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FS *NW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 006 Judaism, Christianity, Islam</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FS *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 146 Religion and American Society</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 200 Approaches to Study of Religion</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 205 Res Mth in Religious Studies</td>
<td>2.0</td>
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#### Writing Proficiency Course: 3 units

1 course selected from:

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R S 280A Seminar in Religious Studies</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 280B Seminar in Religious Studies</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 297 Tutorial in Religious Studies</td>
<td>1.0-3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 299H Senior Honors Research Paper</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>R S 299K Senior Honors Research Paper</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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#### World Traditions: 6 units

1 course selected from:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Western Traditions</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R S 100 The Bible</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FA *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 111 Islamic Religion</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FA *NW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 122 Hebrew Bible (Old Testament)</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
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</table>

#### Electives: 6 units

6 units selected from:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R S 160 Religions of the Pacific Rim</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FS *NW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 161 Japanese Religions</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 162 Chinese Religions</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 164 Buddhism</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>SP *NW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 165 Hinduism</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FA *NW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 123 New Testament</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 130 Judaism</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FS *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 131A History of Christian Thought</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 131B History of Christian Thought</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 132 Christianity</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FS *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 160 End of the World</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 165 Learning and Values</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 166 Teaching About Religions</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 169 Applied &amp; Prof Ethics Forum</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 170 Sociology of Religion</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 171 Mysticism: East and West</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 172 Saviors/Shamans/Sages</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 173 World Religions &amp; Global Issues</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 174 Ethics &amp; Environmental Sciences</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>R S 175 Anthropology of Religion</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 176 Feminist Theology</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 177 Latin American Religion/Society</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 178 R S 140 or WMST 140</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 179 R S 140 or WMST 140</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 180 Religions in America</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 181 Religion/Amer Ethnic Minorities</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 182 Worldviews of American Indians</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
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#### RELIGION, SOCIETY, AND CULTURE: 6 units

6 units selected from:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
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<tr>
<td>R S 123 New Testament</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 130 Judaism</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FS *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 131A History of Christian Thought</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 131B History of Christian Thought</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 132 Christianity</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FS *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 160 End of the World</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 165 Learning and Values</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 166 Teaching About Religions</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 169 Applied &amp; Prof Ethics Forum</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 170 Sociology of Religion</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 171 Mysticism: East and West</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 172 Saviors/Shamans/Sages</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 173 World Religions &amp; Global Issues</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 174 Ethics &amp; Environmental Sciences</td>
<td>3.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>R S 175 Anthropology of Religion</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
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<tr>
<td>R S 176 Feminist Theology</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 177 Latin American Religion/Society</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 178 R S 140 or WMST 140</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 179 R S 140 or WMST 140</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 180 Religions in America</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 181 Religion/Amer Ethnic Minorities</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>R S 182 Worldviews of American Indians</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
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#### Religions and Traditions: 6 units

6 units selected from:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R S 160 End of the World</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 165 Learning and Values</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 166 Teaching About Religions</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 169 Applied &amp; Prof Ethics Forum</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 170 Sociology of Religion</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 171 Mysticism: East and West</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 172 Saviors/Shamans/Sages</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 173 World Religions &amp; Global Issues</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 174 Ethics &amp; Environmental Sciences</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 175 Anthropology of Religion</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 176 Feminist Theology</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 177 Latin American Religion/Society</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 178 R S 140 or WMST 140</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 179 R S 140 or WMST 140</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### Notes:

- A maximum of 3 units of any modern foreign language study 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R S 128 Judaism in America</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 134 Latin American Religion/Society</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 180 Religions in America</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 185 Religion/Amer Ethnic Minorities</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 187 Asian Amer/Pac Island Religions</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 188 Worldviews of American Indians</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
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</table>

#### Electives: 6 units

6 units selected from:

- Choose 6 units from any Religious Studies (R S) courses listed above or from the following electives.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R S 001 Introduction Religious Studies</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>FS *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R S 098 Special Topics</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Inq</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
R S 198 Special Topics 3.0 Inq
R S 289 Internship in Religious Studies 3.0 FS
Prerequisites: Faculty permission.
R S 298 Special Topics 3.0 Inq

The following course may also be used as an elective in the R S major:
PHIL 117 Reason and Religion 3.0 FS *

**SUPervision Courses**

All supervision courses require faculty permission.

A maximum of 3 units of supervision courses may be counted toward the major, though it is not necessary to take any. Additional units must be requested by petition. (If R S 297C is taken to fulfill the writing proficiency requirement, a maximum of 6 units of supervision courses will be counted toward the major.)

R S 194 Reading in Religious Studies 1.0-3.0 FS
R S 297 Tutorial in Religious Studies 1.0-3.0 FS
Prerequisites: Faculty permission; ENGL 001 (or its equivalent) with a grade of C- or higher for 297C.

R S 299H Senior Honors Research Paper 3.0 FS
Prerequisites: ENGL 001 (or its equivalent) with a grade of C- or higher, R S 200 (may be taken concurrently), or faculty permission.

**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 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 (299H) as specified by your department. You must complete each class with a minimum grade of B.
2. You must have completed 9 units of upper-division course work or 21 overall units in your major before you can be admitted to Honors in the Major. Check the requirements carefully, as there may be specific courses that must be included in these units.
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 108 Ethics and Human Happiness 3.0 FS *
- R S 148 Ethical Issues in Religion 3.0 FS *

**1 course selected from:**

- PHIL 100A History of Ancient Philosophy 3.0 FS *
- R S 006 Judaism, Christianity, Islam 3.0 FS *

**2 courses selected from:**

- JOUR 260 Ethical Problems in Mass Media 3.0 FS
Prerequisites: ENGL 001 (or its equivalent) with a grade of C- or higher; COMM 001; JOUR 060.
For Option in News/Editorial: JOUR 121.
For Option in Public Relations: JOUR 141.

- PHIL 138 Social Ethics 3.0 FA *
- PHIL 140 Biomedical Ethics 3.0 FS *
- R S 151 Religion/Ethics/Medicine 3.0 FS

NOTE: You may count PHIL 140 or R S 151, but not both.

- PHIL 141 Business Ethics & Social Policy 3.0 Inq
- PHIL 205 Criminal Justice Ethics 3.0 FS

**6 units selected from:**

- GEO S 154 Science and Ethics 3.0 SP *
Prerequisites: Completion of the General Education Breadth Area B requirement; PHIL 108.

- PHIL 116 Science and Human Values 3.0 SP *
Prerequisites: BIOL 001 or BIOL 108.
This course is the same as BIOL 116 which may be substituted.

- PHIL 116H Science/Human Values: Honors 3.0 FA *
Prerequisites: Acceptance into the Honors Program; faculty permission.

NOTE: You may only count one of GEO S 154, PHIL 116, or PHIL 116H.

- PHIL 007 Personal Values 3.0 FS *
- PHIL 107 Ethics 3.0 SP
- PHIL 126 Justice and Human Rights 3.0 FS *
- PHIL 127 Moral Issues in Parenting 3.0 FS *
- PHIL 146 Environmental Ethics 3.0 FS *
- R S 149 Cross-Cultural Environmental Ethics 3.0 FS *

NOTE: You may count PHIL 146 or R S 149, but not both.

- PHIL 055 Learning and Values 3.0 FS
This course is the same as PHIL 155, R S 055 and R S 155 which may be substituted.

- PHIL 155 Learning and Values 3.0 FS
This course is the same as PHIL 055, R S 055 and R S 155 which may be substituted.

- R S 055 Learning and Values 3.0 FS
This course is the same as PHIL 055, PHIL 155 and R S 155 which may be substituted.

- R S 155 Learning and Values 3.0 FS
This course is the same as PHIL 055, PHIL 155 and R S 055 which may be substituted.

NOTE: You may count only one of PHIL 055, PHIL 155, R S 055, or R S 155.

- PHIL 159 Applied & Prof Ethics Forum 1.0 FA
This course is the same as R S 159 which may be substituted.

- R S 159 Applied & Prof Ethics Forum 1.0 FS
This course is the same as PHIL 159 which may be substituted.

- PHIL 207 Contemporary Moral Theory 3.0 FA
Prerequisites: PHIL 107 or PHIL 108; ENGL 001 (or its equivalent) with a grade of C- or higher.

- PHIL 220 Ethics & Environmental Sciences 3.0 Inq
This course is the same as R S 220 which may be substituted.

- PHIL 289 Philosophy Internship 1.0-3.0 FS
Prerequisites: Junior standing or above and either 9 units of philosophy or have declared philosophy as a major or minor; faculty permission.

- R S 152 Jesus/Buddha/ Marx 3.0 FS
- R S 154 Power/Justice in World Religions 3.0 Inq *
- R S 182 World Religions & Global Issues 3.0 FS *
- R S 220 Ethics & Environmental Sciences 3.0 Inq
This course is the same as PHIL 220 which may be substituted.

- R S 289 Internship in Religious Studies 3.0 FS
Prerequisites: faculty permission.

If R S 289 is selected, it must be taken for 3 units.
Religious Studies

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:
- R S 005 Asian Religions 3.0 Fa *NW
- R S 006 Judaism, Christianity, Islam 3.0 Fa *

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 DeBieixdon, 2000, Lecturer B, PhD, Graduate Theo. Union.
Andrew M. Flescher, 2000, Assist Professor, PhD, Brown Univ.
Bruce Grelle, 1989, Professor, PhD, U Chicago.
Donald J. Heinz, 1975, Professor Emeritus, PhD, Graduate Theo. Union.
James W. Karman, 1977, Professor, PhD, Syracuse U.
Shigeo H. Kanda, 1970, Professor Emeritus, PhD, Claremont.
Patricia M. Lennon, 2000, Lecturer B, MA, Indiana U.
Loren D. Lybarger, 2002, Assist Professor, PhD, U Chicago.
Katherine G. McCarthy, 1994, Adviser, Assoc Professor, PhD, Graduate Theo. Union.
Sarah M. Pike, Assoc Professor, PhD, Indiana U.
Daniel Veidlinger, 2002, Assist Professor, PhD, U Chicago.
Jed Wyrick, 1999, Assist Professor, PhD, Harvard U.
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.

R S 005 Asian Religions 3.0 Fa/Spr
An introduction to the religions of the East: Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, Confucianism, and Taoism. This is an approved General Education course. This is an approved Non-Western Course.

R S 006 Judaism, Christianity, Islam 3.0 Fa/Spr
An analysis of the religions of the West: Judaism, Islam, and Christianity. This is an approved General Education course.

R S 010 Introduction to Religious Studies 3.0 Fa/Spr
An introduction to religious studies, taught primarily through readings and discussion. Defining religion as the human quest for meaning and transcendence, the course explores ways to study, interpret, and understand religion. This is an approved General Education course.

R S 020 The Bible 3.0 Fall
A survey of the Hebrew Bible (Old Testament), the New Testament, and the Apocryphal writings. This is an approved General Education course.

R S 055 Learning and Values 3.0 Fa/Spr
Basic introduction to the nature and acquisition of values, to the idea of human persons as moral agents, to principles of moral reasoning, and to applications to educational settings. This course is the same as PHIL 055, PHIL 155 and R S 155 which may be substituted.

R S 098 Special Topics 3.0 Inquire

R S 100 Myth and Ritual 3.0 Inquire
Examines the ways in which myths and rituals are lived and experienced in the context of several of the world’s religious traditions. Focus is on creation myths, myths of the divine, human interactions, religious festivals, pilgrimages, and uses of artistic images in ritual practices.

R S 111 Islamic Religion 3.0 Fall
Beliefs, practices, and important texts of Islam; its relationship to the state and society; the role of Muhammad; the role of mystics. This is an approved General Education course. This is an approved Non-Western Course.

This course is the same as HIST 162 and WGST 162 which may be substituted.

R S 122 Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) 3.0 Inquire
An introduction to the Hebrew Bible in English translation, emphasizing history, literature, and early Jewish interpretation. Course involves reading and analyzing extensive portions of the classic text. This course is the same as MJIS 122 which may be substituted.

R S 123 New Testament 3.0 Inquire
Current issues and developments in the interpretation of the theologies and traditions of the Gospels, the Pauline, and deuto-Pauline epistles, the Johannine letters, the Acts of the Apostles, and the Book of Revelation. Special attention will be given to the religio-historical background and methods of assessing the New Testament.

R S 128 Judaism in America 3.0 Inquire
An exploration of the forces influencing, and the important events in, the emergence of Judaism in America. Attention will be given to issues of community identity and the interaction of Judaism with the larger culture in the context of society and politics in America. This course is the same as MJIS 128 which may be substituted.

R S 130 Judaism 3.0 Fa/Spr
History of Judaism from biblical to modern times. A study of the literature, faith, and events that shaped Jewish life. This is an approved General Education course. This is an approved Ethnic Course.

R S 131A History of Christian Thought 3.0 Inquire
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. This course is the same as MJIS 131A which may be substituted.

R S 131B History of Christian Thought 3.0 Inquire
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. This course is the same as MJIS 131B which may be substituted.

R S 133 Christianity 3.0 Fa/Spr
An introduction to the basic features of the Christian worldview through an analysis of its historical, ritual, doctrinal, ethical, and social-institutional dimensions. Special attention will be given to the diverse expressions of Christianity in different times and places and to its impact on human history, society, and culture. This is an approved General Education course.

R S 134 Latin American Religion/Society 3.0 Inquire
This course offers an overview and analysis of the complex interrelationship of religion and politics in Latin America. Topics include the role of missionaries in the period of conquest, the legacy of the colonial church; the role of indigenous religion; the emergence of liberation theology, and the explosion of evangelicalism.

R S 137 Religion and Film 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 selfhood, religious conviction, despair, redemption, and race and ethnicity.

R S 139 Religion, Freedom, and Evil 3.0 Inquire
How are people to overcome the despair and suffering that characterizes 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 the self as a condition of religious commitment.

R S 140 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. This course is the same as WMST 140 which may be substituted.

R S 143 Religious Performance 3.0 Inquire
Explores the way that religious belief and sentiment are expressed in performance and accompanying visual material. Topics include masked dance, 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.

R S 144 Religious Dimensions of Literature 3.0 Inquire
An exploration of the religious dimensions of literature and the significance of such a study for an understanding of the sacred in modern culture.
R S 145  Religion and Personality  3.0 Inquire  
The religious significance of self-understanding suggested by the writings of Freud, Jung, archetypal psychologists, and contemporary theologians.

R S 146  Religion and American Society  3.0 Fa/Spr  
An introduction to the impact of religion on American society and analysis of how religion has shaped and is being shaped by American ideals, values, and institutions. Topics include American civil religion; evangelicalism, fundamentalism, and the "new religious right"; religious pluralism; religion and racism, religious freedom issues; and political uses of religion in American history. This course is the same as AMST 146 which may be substituted.

R S 147  Dying, Death, and Afterlife: The Last Passage  3.0 Fa/Spr  
A study of the religious, ethical, spiritual, psychological, and socio-cultural dimensions of dying, death, and afterlife. Reading and discussion of issues surrounding dying (dying as one's last career, patient-centered approaches; spirit/body relationships); death (definitions, religious meanings, ritual practices); and afterlife (religious conceptions, relation to the human quest for meaning). This is an approved General Education course.

R S 148  Ethical Issues in Religion  3.0 Fa/Spr  
This course examines several theoretical and personal 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.

R S 149  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.

R S 150A  Contemporary Religious Thought  3.0 Inquire  
See description below. You may take this course more than once for a maximum of 6.0 units.

R S 150B  Contemporary Religious Thought  3.0 Inquire  
R S 150A-R S 150B: Selected topics in contemporary religious thought. Content varies. You may take this course more than once for a maximum of 6.0 units.

R S 151  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.

R S 152  Jesus, Buddha, and Marx: A Study in Comparative Ethics  3.0 Fa/Spr  
This course explores how Christians, Buddhists, and Marxists have sought to answer questions about the nature and goals of human life and about the means of achieving those goals. 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.

R S 153  End of the World  3.0 Inquire  
This course introduces the 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.

R S 154  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 of the efficacy and fairness of capitalism, socialism, and "mixed" economies. This is an approved General Education course.

R S 155  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. This course is the same as PHIL 055, PHIL 155 and R S 055 which may be substituted.

R S 158  Teaching About Religions in American Public Schools  3.0 Fa/Spr  
An introduction to the major world religions and an analysis of legal, intellectual, and educational issues that arise in connection with the study of religion in American public schools. Formerly R S 210.

R S 159  Center for Applied and Professional Ethics (CAPE) Forum  1.0 Fa/Spr  
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. This course is the same as PHIL 159 which may be substituted.

R S 160  Religions of the Pacific Rim  3.0 Fa/Spr  
A study of the religions and cultures of China, Japan, Southeast Asia, and Oceania, with attention to religious founders, historical tradition, and contemporary religious movements. This is an approved General Education course. This is an approved Non-Western Course.

R S 161  Japanese Religions  3.0 Inquire  
A discussion of the role of religions in Japanese culture and society, with special attention to Buddhism, Confucianism, Shintoism, folk religion, and contemporary religious movements in Japan.

R S 162  Chinese Religions  3.0 Inquire  
An exploration of the religious dimension of Chinese culture, with special attention to such figures as Lao Tzu, Confucius, and Mencius.

R S 164  Buddhism  3.0 Spring  
A discussion of the roots and transformation of the Buddhist teachings in India, China, Japan, and Tibet. Special emphasis will be given to major trends and problems in contemporary Buddhism. This is an approved General Education course. This is an approved Non-Western Course.

R S 165  Hinduism  3.0 Fall  
A survey of Hinduism from its origins to the modern day, including philosophy, literature, popular temple worship, the role of feminine power, and modern fundamentalist and communal movement. This is an approved General Education course. This is an approved Non-Western Course.

R S 170  Sociology of Religion  3.0 Inquire  
Analysis of religion in human society; focus on relation between religion and social forces in morality and ethics. This course is the same as SO CI 170 which may be substituted.

R S 171  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.

R S 174  Saviors, Shamans, and Sages  3.0 Fall  
A study of methods used to induce altered states of consciousness and achieve contact with the divine in the world religions. Topics include meditation, prayer, dance, visualization, and ingestion of hallucinogens.

R S 180  Religions in America  3.0 Fall  
An introduction to the variety of religious expressions in the history of the United States, and an examination of the interplay and mutual influence among European traditions, indigenous religions, and the contributions of ethnic minorities.

R S 182  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. This is an approved General Education course.

R S 185  Religion and America's Ethnic Minorities  3.0 Fa/Spr  
An exploration of the religions which inform America's ethnic minorities. 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. This course is the same as MCS 185 which may be substituted.

R S 187  Asian American/Pacific Island Religions  3.0 Inquire  
An exploration of religions and historical, cultural, and religious expressions associated with the identities of the Asian American and Pacific Island communities. The impact of traditional Asian and Pacific Island religious beliefs and practices and variant forms of Christianity upon the modern culture of the ethnic communities of these subcultures will be assessed. This is an approved Ethnic Course. This course is the same as AAST 187 which may be substituted.
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R S 188   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, and oral traditions. This is an approved Ethnic Course. This course is the same as AIST 188 which may be substituted.

R S 194   Reading in Religious Studies 1.0-3.0 Fa/Spr
This course is a special topic offered as 194A-C for 1.0 to 3.0 units respectively. You must register directly with a supervising faculty member.

R S 198   Special Topics 3.0 Inquire

R S 200   Approaches to the Study of Religion 3.0 Spring
Prerequisites: R S 005 or R S 006 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 190.

R S 205   Research Methods in Religious Studies 2.0 Fall
An introduction to required standards of information and research literacy in the field of religious studies. The course focuses on the establishment of research questions and accessing, evaluating, and using information in the production of papers and presentations. Special attention to legal, social, and ethical issues in research.

R S 220   Ethics and Environmental Sciences 3.0 Inquire
Prerequisites: ANTH 103 or R S 200 or instructor's permission.
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. This course is the same as PHIL 220 which may be substituted.

R S 232   Anthropology of Religion 3.0 Inquire
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. This course is the same as ANTH 232 which may be substituted.

R S 240   Feminist Theology 3.0 Inquire
Prerequisites: R S 140 or WMST 140.
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. This course is the same as WMST 240 which may be substituted.

R S 280A   Seminar in Religious Studies 3.0 Fa/Spr
Prerequisites: ENGL 001 (or its equivalent) with a grade of C- or higher; concurrent enrollment or prior completion of R S 200 and R S 205.
See description below. 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.

R S 280B   Seminar in Religious Studies 3.0 Fa/Spr
Prerequisites: ENGL 001 (or its equivalent) with a grade of C- or higher; concurrent enrollment or prior completion of R S 200 and R S 205.
R S 280A-R S 280B: 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.

R S 289   Internship in Religious Studies 3.0 Fa/Spr
Prerequisites: Faculty permission. Enrollment will be determined by permission of the Department of Religious Studies. Credit/no credit grading only.

R S 297   Tutorial in Religious Studies 1.0-3.0 Fa/Spr
Prerequisites: Faculty permission; ENGL 001 (or its equivalent) with a grade of C- or higher for 297C.
This course is an independent study offered as 297A-C for 1.0 to 3.0 units respectively. You must register directly with a supervising faculty member. Individually directed projects in religious studies.

R S 298   Special Topics 3.0 Inquire

R S 299H   Senior Honors Research Paper 3.0 Fa/Spr
Prerequisites: ENGL 001 (or its equivalent) with a grade of C- or higher; R S 200 (may be taken concurrently), or faculty permission.
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.