

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

College of Liberal & Creative Arts

Dean: Dr. Ifeoma Kiddoe Nwankwo

Religious Studies Program

HUM 388

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Program Scope

The Minor in Religious Studies offers students the opportunity to study the full spectrum of humankind's religious heritage from an interdisciplinary perspective. Religion is an individual and social phenomenon, and the curriculum takes students through both realms. Students investigate basic value questions from the viewpoint of religion, of disciplines looking at religion, and of the individual in a pluralistic, unsettled world. More than half the minor's coursework is individually selected in consultation with an advisor, though course subject matter must encompass the different dimensions of the religious experience as listed on the "Courses" page. Students may choose to focus their coursework on a specific religious tradition such as Judaism, Islam, Christianity, or Buddhism; a particular issue common to different religions; or a particular culture or historical period.

As an interdisciplinary minor, Religious Studies can be taken in conjunction with any major.

Career Outlook

The Religious Studies minor provides an excellent background for those considering the ministry, social work, counseling, politics, law, or teaching at any level. Regardless of career path, the Religious Studies minor may benefit a student's view of the meaning and purpose of life.

Religious Studies Minor - 21 units

A minimum of 6 upper-division units are required to complete the minor.

All coursework used to satisfy the requirements of the minor must be completed with a minimum grade point average of 2.0.

Introduction to Religious Traditions (3 units)

Code	Title	Units
PHIL 502	World Religions	3
or comparable course completed at another institution		

The Nature of Religious Experience (3 units)

Select One:

Code	Title	Units
PHIL 500	Philosophy of Religion	3
PHIL 525/ RELS 300	The Nature of Religious Experience	3

The Dimensions of Religious Experience (12 units)

Select one course from each of the following categories. No more than two courses from a single discipline.

Code	Title	Units
The Expressive Dimensions of Religious Experience		
ARTH 202	Western Art History II	3
ARTH/HUM 205	Asian Art History	3
CWL 260	Myths of the World	3
DANC 430	Historical Survey of Dance in the Western World	3
DANC/ANTH 657	Ethnography of Dance	3
ENG 503	Studies in Medieval Literature	3
ENG 525	Studies in American Literature	3
ENG 580	Individual Authors	3
ENG 589	Milton	3
MUS 505	Music of the World's Peoples	3
TH A 401	Global Theatre History I	3
The Study of Particular Religious Traditions		
AFRS 326	Black Religion	3
AIS 310	American Indian Religion and Philosophy	3
AIS 450	American Indian Science	3
CLAS 230	Ancient Epic Tales	3
ENG 501	Age of Chaucer	3
ENG 630	Selected Studies	3
HIST 110	History of Western Civilization I	3
HIST 111	History of Western Civilization II	3
HIST 321	Hellenistic Greece	3
HIST 326	The Byzantine Empire	3
HIST 328	Pagans and Christians in a Changing Roman World	3
HIST 329	Early Christian Church 313-787	3
HIST 331/ HUM 404	The High Middle Ages	3
HIST 336		3
HIST/HUM 480	Thought and Culture in America to 1880	3
HUM 403/ HIST 330	Vikings, Caliphs, & Carolingians: Europe in the Early Middle Ages	3
HUM 404/ HIST 331	The High Middle Ages	3
JS 410/PHIL 514	Kabbalah, Jewish Mysticism, and Literature	3
JS 425/PHIL 552		3
JS/PHIL/HUM 501	Judaism, Christianity, and Islam	3
PHIL 302	Medieval Philosophy	3
PHIL 436	Islamic Political Philosophy	3
PHIL 509	The Buddhist Tradition	3
PHIL 511	Chinese Philosophy and Religion	3
PHIL 516	Islamic Philosophy	3
PHIL 530		3
WGS 565	Muslim Feminisms	3
The Study of Religious Phenomena: Disciplinary Perspectives		
HUM 345	Humanism and Mysticism	3
PHIL 500	Philosophy of Religion	3

The Senior Experience (3 units)

Code	Title	Units
RELS 696		3

RELS 265 Christmas and Hanukkah in the United States (Units: 3)

Examination of the social, political, and cultural history of Christmas and Hanukkah in the United States from the colonial period to the present day. Focus on the relationship between religion, politics, commerce, and popular culture, including gender roles and the changing role of religious, ethnic, and racial minorities in U.S. public culture.

(This course is offered as JS 265, AMST 265, HIST 265, and RELS 265. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

Course Attributes:

- U.S. History
- D2: Social Sciences: US Hist.
- Am. Ethnic & Racial Minorities

RELS 300 The Nature of Religious Experience (Units: 3)

Prerequisites: GE Areas A1*, A2*, A3*, and B4* all with grades of C- or better or permission of the instructor.

Nature of religious experience drawn from different religions and academic disciplines within the humanities and social sciences; investigation of the meaning of religious commitment in a secular world. (This course is offered as PHIL 525 and RELS 300. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

Course Attributes:

- E1 LLD Pre-Fall 2019
- UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
- Global Perspectives

RELS 482 Religion in America (Units: 3)

Prerequisites: Upper-division standing; GE Area E; or permission of the instructor.

The social history of religion in the United States from contact to the present. Changing relations between religious thought and institutions. The range and variety of forms of religious expression in an increasingly urbanized, industrialized, and globalized society. A particular focus on the relationship between religion, science, and modernity.

(This course is offered as HIST 482 and RELS 482. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

Course Attributes:

- U.S. History

RELS 503 Religions in Iran (Units: 3)

Prerequisites: GE Areas A1*, A2*, A3*, and B4* all with grades of C- or better or permission of the instructor.

Exploration of the major religious traditions of Iran from its inception to the present day over the span of three millennia including Judaism, Zoroastrianism, Mithraism, Mandaism, Christianity, Manichaeism, Mazdakism, Islam (Sunni and Shia), Sufism, Yarsanism, and Bahai faith. Insight into not only Iranian identity, but also the way in which religious traditions grow, change, and influence one another through the spectrum of Greater Iranian history.

(This course is offered as PRSN 503 [formerly PRSN 450], PHIL 503, and RELS 503. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

Course Attributes:

- UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
- Global Perspectives