ENSC 141/SWSC 141/MCBL 141, ETST 116/HISA 147, POSC 180, PSYC 178, PSYC 179, SOC 137, WMST 140/ANTH 147

Track 2: Social, Cultural, and Family Policy

Track 3: Economic Policy

Track 4: Urban/Environmental Policy
ECON 121F, ECON 143A/ENSC 143A, ECON 143B/ENSC 143B, ECON 146/URST 146, ENSC 101, ENSC 141, ENSC 143/CON 143C, LWSO 175J, PHIL 117, POSC 127, POSC 172/URST 172, SOC 184

Track 5: Policy Institutions and Processes
ECON 116, ECON 119, ANTH 104, HIST 111, HISA 120B, LWSO 100, LWSO 193, PHIL 165, POSC 101, POSC 146, POSC 150, POSC 166, POSC 167, POSC 168, POSC 170, POSC 173, POSC 186, PSYC 175, RLST 174, RLST 175, SOC 150, SOC 151, SOC 159

Track 6: International and Foreign Policy
ECON 187/LNST 187, POSC 120, POSC 125, POSC 126, POSC 127, POSC 129, POSC 154, POSC 155, POSC 158/LNST 148, POSC 159, POSC 160, POSC 169, RLST 173/POSC 109, SOC 135, SOC 181

3. Public Policy Seminar/Colloquia
During the junior and senior years, students must enroll in PBPL 191 (Seminar in Public Policy), which includes attendance at public lectures to the campus community by outside speakers — typically policy makers, administrators, and researchers — on timely and important policy issues facing the Inland Empire, the state, the nation, and the world.

Lower-Division Courses
PBPL 001. Introduction to Public Policy Analysis (4)
Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Introduces the basic concepts and processes underlying policy analysis, including application of these concepts to economic and budgetary policy, health care policy, welfare and social policy, education policy, and environmental and energy policy.

PBPL Q00. Special Studies (1-3) Individual study, 3-9 hours. Prerequisite(s): consent of program chair. Individual study, directed by a faculty member, to meet special curricular needs. Course is repeatable to a maximum of 8 units.

Upper-Division Courses
PBPL 190. Special Studies (1-5) Individual study, 3-15 hours. Prerequisite(s): consent of program chair. Individual study, directed by a faculty member, to meet special curricular needs. Course is repeatable to a maximum of 15 units.

PBPL 191. Seminar in Public Policy (2) Seminar, 2 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Seminars by faculty, invited policy scholars, and policy makers on timely policy issues facing the region, state, nation, and the world, such as economic and budgetary policy, health care policy, welfare and social policy, education policy, environmental and energy policy. Graded Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC). Course is repeatable to a maximum of 12 units.

PBPL 195H. Senior Honors Thesis (1-4) Thesis, 3-12 hours. Prerequisite(s): senior standing in Public Policy; admission to the University Honors Program or consent of instructor. Students complete research in public policy and write a senior honors thesis under the guidance of a faculty member. Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC) grading is not available. Course is repeatable to a maximum of 12 units.

PBPL 198-I. Individual Internship in Public Policy (1-12) Written work, 1-12 hours; internship, 2-24 hours. Prerequisite(s): junior standing in Public Policy; consent of instructor. Internship in a public or quasi-public agency or business concern in matters relating to public policy. Requires a summary paper. Graded Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC). Course is repeatable to a maximum of 12 units.

Religious Studies

Subject abbreviation: RLST
College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences

June O'Connor, Ph.D., Chair
Department Office, 3033 CHASS
Interdisciplinary North
(951) 827-3612; religiousstudies.ucr.edu

Professors
June E. O'Connor, Ph.D.
Pashaura Singh, Ph.D.
Jennifer Hughes, Ph.D.

Assistant Professors
Brian K. Smith, Ph.D.

Associate Professors
Michael Alexander, Ph.D.
Andrew Jacobs, Ph.D.
Vivian-Lee Nyitray, Ph.D.

Major
The Department of Religious Studies provides an opportunity for students to gain a broad, cross-cultural perspective by studying the diverse religious traditions of the world. Students examine the texts, symbols, myths, rituals, ideas, values, and ethical systems of many religious traditions, such as Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Chinese, African, and Native American religions.

Majoring in Religious Studies can be an excellent preparation for living in a multicultural society and for a variety of careers, such as teaching, counseling, business, law, writing, the arts, and professional religious leadership. Religious Studies at UCR develops in students a number of valuable and transferable skills such as disciplined attention to the facts (texts, ideas, history, behavior); critical reflection and analysis about claims of meaning and value and about assumptions and methods used in the study of religion; and descriptive and analytical writing about religious history, ideas, motivations, practices, and ethical concerns. A minor in Religious Studies is also available. Students are encouraged to consult with the department chair and other faculty about their questions and interests.

The Holstein Family and Community Chair in Religious Studies The Holstein Family and Community Chair in Religious Studies is an endowed faculty chair, the result of a generous contribution given by the Robert and Loretta Holstein family and by friends of the Holstein family and the university. Dr. Ivan Strenski, the chair, is a distinguished scholar and teacher whose work engages thought on the interactions of religions and cultures as these are manifested in cultural, social, ethical, and historical debates.

The Rupert Costo Chair in American Indian Affairs The Rupert Costo Chair in American Indian Affairs is an endowed faculty chair made possible by the generosity of Rupert Costo and Jeannette Henry Costo.

University Requirements
See Undergraduate Studies section.

College Requirements
See College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, Colleges and Programs section.
Major Requirements
The major requirements for the B.A. degree in Religious Studies are as follows:

1. Lower-division requirements (12 units)
   a) RLST 005
   b) RLST 012/ETST 012
   c) One additional 4-unit course in Religious Studies or equivalent

2. Upper-division requirements (40 units)
   a) At least two courses from each of the following areas:
      1. Eastern religions
      2. Western religions
      3. Themes in religions
   b) RLST 100 or RLST 102
   c) RLST 193 (Senior Seminar)
   d) Eight (8) additional units from Religious Studies courses (closely related courses from other programs or departments may be substituted upon approval)

The programs of all majors should be developed in consultation with their advisors.

Art History/Religious Studies Major
The Art History/Religious Studies Major combines the disciplinary interest in the history of the visual arts with its related religious content and background. Three concentrations are offered. Students must select one family of religions, either Asian or Western, and combine it with the study of the history of the visual arts in the corresponding area of artistic endeavor. Or, students wishing to combine Asian and Western materials to serve a comparative purpose are invited to design their own major in consultation with faculty representatives from both departments. Students are strongly encouraged to participate in the Education Abroad Program and in internships abroad. Students in this major will be well prepared for graduate studies in either art history or religious studies.

Major Requirements
The major requirements for the B.A. degree in Art History/Religious Studies are as follows:

Asian Concentration (52 units)
1. Lower-division requirements (12 units)
   a) Art History (4 units): AHS 015
   b) Asian Studies (4 units): AST 030/CHN 030
   c) Religious Studies (4 units): RLST 005

2. Upper-division requirements (40 units)
   a) Art History (16 units): AHS 140, AHS 141, AHS 143, CPLT 141
   b) Religious Studies (24 units) choose from: RLST 101, RLST 103, RLST 105, RLST 106, RLST 142/AST 142/CHN 142, RLST 144/CPLT 144
   c) One additional 4-unit course from Religious Studies
   d) Eight (8) additional units from Religious Studies courses (closely related courses from other programs or departments may be substituted upon approval)

3. Optional 190 level work in either Art History or Religious Studies

Student-designed Comparative Concentration (52 units)
1. Lower-division requirements (12 units)
   a) Art History, choose at least 4 units: AHS 015, AHS 017A, AHS 017B, AHS 017C, AST 030/CHN 030
   b) Religious Studies, choose at least 4 units: RLST 005, RLST 007, RLST 010

2. Upper-division requirements (40 units)
   a) Art History, choose at least 12 units: AHS 140, AHS 141, AHS 143, AHS 155, AHS 156, AHS 157, AHS 159, AHS 161, AHS 162, AHS 164, AHS 171, AHS 172, CPLT 141
   b) Religious Studies, choose at least 12 units: RLST 100, RLST 101, RLST 103, RLST 105, RLST 106, RLST 111, RLST 121, RLST 128 (E-Z), RLST 130, RLST 131, RLST 135/HISE 130, RLST 136, RLST 142/AST 142/CHN 142, RLST 144/CPLT 144

3. Optional 190 level work in either Art History or Religious Studies

Western Concentration (52 units)
1. Lower-division requirements (16 units)
   a) Art History (12 units): AHS 017A, AHS 017B, AHS 017C
   b) Religious Studies (4 units) choose from: RLST 007, RLST 010

2. Upper-division requirements (36 units)
   a) Art History (16 units) choose from: AHS 155, AHS 156, AHS 157, AHS 159, AHS 161, AHS 162, AHS 164, AHS 171, AHS 172
   b) Religious Studies (20 units) choose from: RLST 100, RLST 111, RLST 121, RLST 128 (E-Z), RLST 130, RLST 131, RLST 135/HISE 130, RLST 136

3. Optional 190 level work in either Art History or Religious Studies

Minor
Requirements for a minor in Religious Studies are as follows:

1. Lower-division requirements (12 units)
   a) RLST 005
   b) RLST 012/ETST 012
   c) One additional 4-unit course in Religious Studies

2. Upper-division requirements (16 units)
   a) Twelve (12) units consisting of one course from each of the following three areas:
      1. Eastern religions
      2. Western religions
      3. Themes in religions
   b) Four (4) upper-division units from those courses approved for the Religious Studies major

See Minors under the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences in the Colleges and Programs section of this catalog for additional information on minors.

Education Abroad Program
The EAP is an excellent opportunity to travel and learn more about another country and its culture while taking courses to earn units toward graduation. Students should plan study abroad well in advance to ensure that the courses taken fit with their overall program at UCR. Consult the departmental student affairs officer for assistance. For further details visit UCR’s International Education Center at internationalcenter.ucr.edu or call (951) 827-4113.

See Education Abroad Program under International Education Center in the Student Services section of this catalog. A list of participating countries is found under Education Abroad Program in the Programs and Courses section. Search for programs by specific areas at eap.ucop.edu/programwizard.

Graduate Program
The Department of Religious Studies offers the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Religious Studies.

The graduate program in Religious Studies is for students interested in the critical academic study of religions. The Ph.D. program prepares students to enter into academia as researchers and university instructors in a specific field of expertise.

Admission All applicants must submit GRE General Test scores and transcripts from all previous institutions, along with three letters of academic reference and a Statement of Goals and Qualifications. Applicants whose first language is not English must also take the TOEFL exam.

Master’s Degree
The Department of Religious Studies offers the M.A. in Religious Studies.

The M.A. program allows students to explore the academic study of religions broadly and is for students who wish to expand their study of religions in an academic environment but may not yet wish to pursue a career in academia.

Admission Although an undergraduate major in religious studies is not required for admission into the graduate program, applicants should demonstrate significant interest in and background in the academic study of religions and the appropriate scholarly approaches to religious studies. Applicants to the master’s program must demonstrate scholarly acuity, as well as interest in the critical questions of the discipline of religious studies. Given the broader scope of the master’s program, applicants to this degree program do not need to specify a particular field of study they wish to pursue in the program.

Course work Candidates must complete a mini-
mum of 36 units for the degree; 18 of the 36 units must be 200-level courses. Twelve units comprise the three core courses required of all graduate students (RLST 200A, RLST 200B, RLST 200C), preferably completed in the first year of study. The remaining units should be from among the religious studies graduate offerings; additional course work in relevant areas (e.g., history, anthropology, philosophy, comparative literature) are encouraged as time and workload permit. Some entering students may also be encouraged to take graduate-level survey courses in Asian or Western or Native American religious traditions.

**Comprehensive Examinations** In the final quarter of their program, master’s students complete a series of comprehensive written examinations that are designed by the department and administered by a master’s examination committee. These examinations test the student’s knowledge of specific fields of study as well as the areas of critical inquiry that serve as the methodological focus of the program.

**Foreign Language Requirement** Students must demonstrate reading proficiency in either French or German, the languages in which much modern secondary scholarship in the discipline has been written. Students may petition to substitute either another modern language of secondary scholarship or a language or primary research if it is deemed more immediately relevant to their studies. This requirement can be fulfilled through a departmental examination, by passing a designated language course (FREN 009A, FREN 009B, GER 002R), or by alternative certification (such as a diploma from a foreign language institute).

**Normative Time to Degree** 6 quarters.

**Doctoral Degree**

The Department of Religious Studies offers the Ph.D. in Religious Studies.

The Ph.D. program prepares students to enter into academia as researchers and university instructors in a specific field of expertise.

**Admission** Although an undergraduate major in religious studies is not required for admission into the graduate program, applicants should demonstrate significant interest in and background in the academic study of religions and the appropriate scholarly approaches to religious studies. In addition, applicants are held to a high standard of undergraduate preparation for their graduate work: both basic and advanced courses in religious studies (in methods and in their chosen field of study), beginning work in foreign languages (particularly if this will be an integral component of their particular course of study), and a demonstrated ability to work across methods, traditions, and disciplines. A master’s degree is not required for admission to the doctoral program.

**Course work** Candidates must complete the series of core courses (RLST 200A, RLST 200B, RLST 200C), preferably in their first year of course work. In addition, students must complete at least 24 units in a major area of geographic study (either Asian Religions or Religions in the West). At least 12 additional units should be taken in a minor area of geographic study (some other aspect of Asian Religions or Religions in the West).

**Written and Oral Qualifying Examinations** Students must complete a round of qualifying written examinations, followed by an oral defense of those examinations, in the quarter following their completion of course work. (Students may defer their examinations for one quarter in consultation with the graduate advisor and faculty). Students complete the three written examinations over a two- to three-week period in the following areas:

- Major field studies
- Comparative studies
- Critical studies

The Major Field Studies examination evaluates the student’s mastery of the chosen field of study (some specific tradition within Asian religions or within Religions in the West), with particular attention to subdivisions of these fields of study on which the student has decided to focus (e.g., Buddhist monasticism or Christian ethics).

The Comparative Studies examination draws on the minor field of study the student has focused on in course work; the student must demonstrate the ability to elucidate aspects of the academic study of religions through the juxtaposition of traditions (e.g., Judaism and Islam).

The Critical Studies examination will have two components: a method section, focusing on some methodological approach to the study of religion (e.g., ethnography or literary studies) and a theory section, focusing on some conceptual approach to religion (e.g., Weber or Durkheim).

The three examinations give students the opportunity to demonstrate an overall mastery of subjects and approaches and prepare them for the more focused, rigorous research work they will pursue in their dissertations.

After completing the written examinations, students undergo an oral examination by committee. The content of the oral examinations is based on the written examination questions and answers.

Both the written and oral examinations are composed, administered, and evaluated by a qualifying committee, nominated by the graduate advisor in consultation with the student and is appointed by the graduate dean.

Upon the successful completion of the written and oral qualifying examinations, the student is recommended to the graduate dean for advancement to candidacy.

**Foreign Language Requirement** Students must demonstrate reading proficiency in either French or German, the languages in which much modern secondary scholarship in the discipline has been written. Students may petition to substitute either another modern language of secondary scholarship or a language of primary research if it is deemed more immediately relevant to their studies. This requirement can be fulfilled through a departmental examination, by passing a designated language course (FREN 009A, FREN 009B, GER 002R), or by alternative certification (such as a diploma from a foreign language institute).

In addition, students must demonstrate proficiency in any language or languages deemed critical for examination of primary texts in their declared field of study (e.g., Japanese, Latin, Arabic, Tagalog, Indonesian). It is strongly suggested that doctoral students begin studying relevant languages for research before beginning their course work at UCR. Adequate language training is becoming increasingly vital in the scholarly and professional training of academics in the fields of religious studies. Many research languages are offered at UCR; if necessary, the faculty will work with students to help place them in needed language courses at other institutions.

**Dissertation and Final Oral Examination** Students prepare a dissertation presented as prescribed by the Graduate Division under the direction of the candidate’s dissertation committee. After completion of the dissertation, the candidate is examined by the dissertation committee. This examination normally takes the form of a public presentation by the candidate followed by questions from the committee.

**Normative Time to Degree** 18 quarters.

**Lower-Division Courses**

RLST 002. Introduction to Comparative Scripture (4) Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Examines sacred texts of several religious traditions in comparative perspective. Contextualizes readings in primary texts from traditions including Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, classical Confucianism, and a number of modern new religious movements.

RLST 005. Introduction to Asian Religions (4) Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): none. A survey of the major Asian religions such as Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, and Shinto, with particular emphasis on thought structures, practices, and ethics. Readings in the basic texts of the traditions. Credit is awarded for only one of RLST 005 or RLST 005H.

RLST 005H. Honors Introduction to Asian Religions (4) Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): admission to the University Honors Program or consent of instructor. Honors course corresponding to RLST 005. A survey of the major Asian religions such as Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, and Shinto, with particular emphasis on thought structures, practices, and ethics. Readings in basic texts of the traditions. Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC) grading is not available. Credit is awarded for only one of RLST 005 or RLST 005H.
RLST 007. Introduction to Western Religions (5)  
Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour; extra reading, 3 hours. An introductory survey of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Emphasis is placed on distinguishing characteristics, major themes, historical contexts, and theological interactions.

RLST 008. Christian Heresies (4)  
Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. An introduction to religious controversies from the early Church through the Reformation. Explores the historical context as well as the political, social and cultural impact of diverse religious and philosophical movements within the Christian tradition.

RLST 009. Introduction to Latin American Religions (4)  
Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. An introduction to religious practices, beliefs, and movements in Latin America from conquest to present. Topics include indigenous religions and legacy, the impact of mission, evangelization, conversion, Virgin of Guadalupe devotion, Afro-Latin traditions in Cuba and Brazil, the growth of Pentecostal churches, and transnational religion.

RLST 010. Introduction to the Bible (5)  
Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): none. A preparation for informed study of the Bible. Examines contemporary interpretive stances, history, methods, and major themes through the study of significant portions of the Bible.

RLST 011. Modern Christianities and World Cultures (4)  
Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Examines the many expressions of Christianity in diverse cultural locations: New England, the South (among African Americans), California in the American period, New Spain (Mexico and the Caribbean), South Africa, and Korea.

RLST 012. Religious Myths and Rituals (4)  
Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): none. An introduction to the meanings, origins, and functions of religion; the roles of myths, rituals, and symbols; and images of transcendence. Religious beliefs and expressions are examined from diverse cultural perspectives. Source materials are drawn from indigenous Native (North and South) American, African American, and/or Asian American religions. Cross-listed with ETST 012. Credit is awarded for only one of ETST 012/RLST 012 or ETST 012H/RLST 012H.

RLST 012H. Honors Religious Myths and Rituals (4)  
Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): admission to the University Honors Program or consent of instructor. An introduction to the meanings, origins, and functions of religion; the roles of myths, rituals, and symbols; images of transcendence; and understanding religious beliefs and expressions from diverse cultural perspectives. Source materials are drawn from indigenous Native (North and South) American, African American, and/or Asian American religions. Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC) grading is not available. Cross-listed with HIST 034.

RLST 014. Religion and Science (5)  
Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour; extra reading, 3 hours. Covers major themes in the relation of science and religion. Primary focus is on issues between science and Western religions, with attention to Islam, Buddhism, and Hinduism. Major attention is given to creationism and Darwinian evolution. Explores religious meaning in a scientific cosmos through the study of contemporary science fiction and film.

RLST 015. Death (4)  
Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): none. Investigates the psychological aspects of facing death and dealing with dying persons; cross-cultural religious and philosophical interpretations of death (as new life, resurrection, rebirth, etc.); and medical, ethical, and legal issues such as physician-assisted suicide and euthanasia. Credit is awarded for only one of RLST 015 or RLST 015H.

RLST 015H. Honors Death (4)  
Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): admission to the University Honors Program or consent of instructor. Honors course corresponding to RLST 015. An examination of three sets of issues pertaining to death and dying: psychological and experiential aspects of facing medical crisis, illness, death, and grief; cross-cultural perspectives on the ways in which death is conceived in selected religions of the world with respect to life and claims about afterlife; public policy issues that involve ethical, legal, and medical concerns regarding euthanasia, physician-assisted suicide, and hospice alternatives. Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC) grading is not available. Credit is awarded for only one of RLST 015 or RLST 015H.

RLST 024. Introduction to Native American Culture and Religion (4)  
Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Interdisciplinary study of contemporary and historic Native American efforts to resist colonialism, with a strong emphasis on land matters, identity issues, and religious forms. Promotes critical reflection on historic and contemporary culture and politics. Cross-listed with HIST 034.

RLST 030. Religion and the City (5)  
Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour; written work, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): none. Explores the influence of urban landscapes that have been constituted by religious architecture, ritual, schools, activism, monuments, and social ethics. Draws specific examples from Boston, Istanbul, Los Angeles, Benares, Venice, Bangkok, and Beijing.

RLST 039. Introduction to African American Religions (5)  
Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): none. An introduction to religious practices, beliefs, and movements of African Americans from the eighteenth century to the present. Topics include black religions in North America under slavery, black churches, Black Muslims, Jewish and Spiritualist congregations, and the civil rights movement. Considers the relation of African American religion to literature and music.

RLST 044. Gods, Ghosts, and Grandparents (4)  
Lecture, 3 hours; discussion, 1 hour. Considers the different ways the Chinese regarded—and still regard—gods, ghosts, and ancestors. Nearly all the readings are primary sources spanning almost four thousand years of Chinese history and include texts on oracle bones, philosophical arguments for and against the existence of spirits, tomb contracts for the dead, a sutra promoting the goddess Guanyin as Guier of Sons, ghost stories, and eyewitness accounts of funeral rituals. Cross-listed with HIST 044.

RLST 100. The Problem of Religion (4)  
Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): one Religious Studies course or upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Survey of critics and defenders of religion who debate meanings and functions of religions in light of modern challenges. Topics include religious pluralism due to cross-cultural encounters in Africa, Asia, and the Americas; wars among religions; theories of evolution; discovery of the unconscious; rise of behavioral and social sciences.

RLST 101. Religions of India (4)  
Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): one lower-division course in Religious Studies or consent of instructor. An examination of the major religious traditions in India with special emphasis on Hinduism and Buddhism.

RLST 102. Contemporary Themes in Religion and Theory (4)  
Lecture, 3 hours; outside research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. A survey of contemporary cultural issues which pose challenges to the nature of religion and the way it is studied in the public university. Issues discussed include race, gender, power, colonialism, and religious commitment.

RLST 103. Confucian Traditions (4)  
Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): AST 030/CHN 030 or RLST 005 or RLST 005H or upper-division standing or consent of instructor. A study of Confucian thought and practice. Special attention is given to the classical cultivation of virtue and ritual practice, the historical spread of the tradition beyond China, and contemporary issues such as gender and human rights.

RLST 104. Sikhism (4)  
Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Explores the social and religious evolution of Sikhism over the past five centuries, tracing its formation in North India to traditions beyond the Indian subcontinent; examines the teachings of Guru Nanak and major doctrinal developments under subsequent Gurus.

RLST 105. Religions of Japan (4)  
Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): one lower-division course in Religious Studies or consent of instructor. An examination of the major religious traditions in Japan with special emphasis on Shinto and Japanese Buddhism.

RLST 106. Buddhism (4)  
Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Aspects of the history and development of Buddhism in its major forms (Theravada, Mahayana, and Vajrayana). Studies of principal sutras, biographies, ethical treatises, birth narratives, and poetry.

RLST 107. Taoist Traditions (4)  
Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): AST 030/CHN 030 or upper-division standing or consent of instructor. A survey of the ancient mystical and philosophical aspects of Taoism as well as the living religious tradition, their relationships to each other, and their expression in Chinese culture and civilization. Topics include the Tao Te Ching, the Chuang-tzu, the Taoist Canon, meditation, immortality, alchemy, and ritual. Cross-listed with AST 107 and CHN 107.

RLST 108. Modern Hinduism (4)  
Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. A survey of developments in the Hindu religious tradition during the nine-
teenth and twentieth centuries, inside and outside of India. Topics covered include the impact of colonialism and nationalism on Hinduism, the rise of neo-Hindu movements, modern Hindu “fundamentalism,” and Hinduism in the modern Western world.

RLST 109. New Religious Movements (4) Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Analyzes the contexts in which new religions emerge, their relations with dominant religious traditions or normative cultures, and the religious content of such movements. Examines the “cult” versus “religion” debate; apocalyptic, eschatological, and millennial views of the world; the nature of charismatic leadership, regional patterns, and transnational trends.

RLST 111. Islam (4) Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. An overview of Islam from the time of Muhammad (d. 632 A.D.) to the present. Attention is given to its distinctive beliefs and practices, its influence upon societies in which it became dominant, and its interaction with other traditions.

RLST 113. Topics in Modern Islam (4) Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines key issues facing Islam in the modern world such as Islam’s engagement with and reaction to nationalism, feminism, the status of sacred texts in the face of critical historical and philological studies, science, and technology.

RLST 114. Tabu and Sacred in Time and Space (4) Lecture, 3 hours; field, 8 hours per quarter; written work, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. A cross-cultural inquiry into ideas of tabu and the sacred in traditional and contemporary religions, such as ancient Hawaiian religion, Puriitanism, Krishna devotionalism, and Roman Catholicism. Readings are from Durkheim, Eliade, and Otto. Applies theory to field observation and discusses the sacred in everyday life in music, cinema, literature of transgression, and politics.

RLST 116. Religion and Violence (4) Lecture, 3 hours; outside research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Explores the capacity of religion to mobilize and legitimate violence. Materials covered include theoretical texts by Rene Girard, Walter Burkert, Jonathan Z. Smith, and others, and case studies dealing with religion and violence in India, Northern Ireland, Egypt, Lebanon, Israel, Palestine, Sri Lanka, and the United States.

RLST 117. Mythology (4) Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. A comparative study of mythic traditions from several world cultures and religions viewed from a variety of theoretical perspectives. Includes material drawn from epics, religious texts, divine hymns, creation myths, heroic legends, and concepts of the afterlife as reflected in literary and nonliterary sources. Cross-listed with CLA 112 and CPLT 112.

RLST 118. The Problem of Evil: Understanding Evil and Its Manifestations (4) Lecture, 3 hours; outside research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Explores the ways that Western culture and religion have defined evil. Primarily investigates religious discourses, but also considers philosophical, social scientific, and popular ideas of evil. Examines evil from the perspectives of the victim, the perpetrator, and the voyeur, and in a variety of media such as fiction, nonfiction, and film.

RLST 119. Gift and Sacrifice (4) Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. An analysis and survey of major theories of sacrifice in relation to the idea of sacrifice as a species of gift. Draws materials from major religious traditions with both ancient and modern applications.

RLST 121. The Hebrew Bible/Old Testament (4) Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. A survey of the collection of books usually called the Old Testament by Christians and the Bible by Jews (the acronym T’N’CH is often used by Jews as well). The books are examined in their historical, cultural, and religious attention to the methods of modern literary criticism.

RLST 124 (E-Z). Studies in Judaism from 70 C.E. to Modern Period (4) For hours and prerequisites, see segment descriptions. Exploration of developments in Judaism during this period, such as the collection of the Mishna, the development of the Talmud, Jewish Gnosticism, the medieval philosophers, Hassidism, the Reform, Orthodox and Conservative movements.

RLST 124E. Jewish Theology and Mysticism, Seventh to Seventeenth Centuries (4) Lecture, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): none. An introduction to the major themes of Jewish thought and the impact of its mysticism and the phenomenon of underground religion upon the development of Judaism and western civilization.

RLST 124F. Modern Jewish Thought: Classical Sources and Modern Influences (4) Lecture, 3 hours; consultation/reading, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): none. Major modern thinkers including Buber, Rosenzweig, Kaplan, and Heschel among others will be studied in light of their inspiration from the Talmudic, philosophic, and mystical literatures of the Jewish past and in response to the impact of Christian and secular thought of the present.

RLST 124H. Modern Jewish Thought: Classical Sources and Modern Influences (4) Lecture, 3 hours; consultation/reading, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): none. An examination of the interaction of normative and marginal Judaism in the post-biblical period as disclosed through an examination of Jewish prayer books, the great works of the Jewish mystical tradition, and magical texts.

RLST 124I. Varieties of Ancient Judaism (4) Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. A study of the forms of postbiblical Judaism, giving an analysis of the religious-cultural, socioeconomic and political conditions in Palestine and in the Diaspora from 330 BCE to 500 CE.

RLST 124J. The Essentials of Judaism (4) Lecture, 3 hours; outside reading, 3 hours, or consultation, 1 hour. An exploration of major teaching of Judaism. A brief historical background is related to central affirmations. Emphasis is placed on the historical shape of faith and contemporary dynamics of faith.

RLST 124K. Zionism and Holocaust (4) Lecture, 3 hours; consultation, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): one lower-division course in Religious Studies or consent of instructor. A survey of the religious, historical and ideological background regarding the origins of the Zionist idea and Holocaust.

RLST 128 (E-Z). Topics in the Bible (4) For hours and prerequisites, see segment descriptions. Academic examination of issues relating to the Bible.

RLST 128E. Contemporary Views of Jesus (4) Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. An examination of contemporary ways in which Jesus has been understood by academically oriented scholarship. Particular attention is given to the question of sources and of the methods used to identify those parts of the preserved tradition that are attributed to Jesus himself.

RLST 128F. Biblical Fictions (4) Lecture, 3 hours; outside research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): RLST 010; upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines artistic rewritings of biblical narratives from antiquity to the present (ancient Jewish and Christian novels, medieval plays and stories, modern films and novels) to explore the intersections of religion, culture, and society.

RLST 130. The Bible: New Testament (4) Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. An examination of the literature and history of the early Christian movement. Attention is given to New Testament materials and apocryphal writings.

RLST 131. Jesus (4) Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. A comparative study of the historical Jesus, using the methods of modern scholarship, and including a review of those who have dealt with the topic from Reimarus (eighteenth century) to the present.

RLST 132. Black Exodus: The Great Migration and Religious Imagination (4) Lecture, 3 hours; outside research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. An examination of the Great Migration (approximately 1910-1950) and the spiritual, occupational, and cultural diversification that ensued. Explores the impact of dislocation and urbanization on black religious and artistic production. Topics include the religious marketplace; Exodus theme, Stranger and Home; impact of commercial culture on identity; and class and culture intersections among migrants.

RLST 133. Christian Origins (4) Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. A study of the social, religious, and cultural development of Christianity in its first six centuries. Particular attention paid to issues of heresy/orthodoxy, materiality, and the rise of ecclesiastical institutions.

RLST 134. Christian Martyrs, Monastics, and Mystics (4) Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Explores avenues to holiness in the Christian tradition. Course materials include sources written by and about religious men and women, both as records documenting their lives and as devotional and instructional texts for others.

RLST 135. History of Christianity (4) Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. History of Christianity from its origins to the twentieth century, with historical emphases determined by faculty expertise. Cross-listed with HSE 130.

RLST 136. Augustine and Aquinas (4) Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examination of selected writings by and about Augustine of Hippo (354-450) and Thomas Aquinas (1226-1274), whose works have had a major impact on Western religions, literature, and history. Themes addressed include the search for wisdom, the nature of happiness, what constitutes a good life, the nature of freedom and the source of evil, the existence of God, the relationships between faith and reason, the power and limits of language.
RLST 137A. Religious Cultures in Early America (4)
Lecture, 3 hours; term paper, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor; HIST 017A is recommended. An introduction to religious beliefs and practices during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries in the colonies that became the United States. Cross-listed with HISA 122A.

RLST 137B. Religious Cultures in Modern America (4)
Lecture, 3 hours; term paper, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor; HIST 017B is recommended. An introduction to a variety of religious traditions, movements, and cultures from 1800 to the present in the United States. Cross-listed with HISA 122B.

RLST 138. Colonialism and Religions in Mexico (4)
Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Covers the survival, revival, and invention of religious traditions in ancient and contemporary Mesoamerica. Examines indigenous and immigrant religions through themes such as myths and rituals of pre-Columbian peoples; sexuality and eroticism in religion, Indian theology and theogony; Counter Reformation Catholicism; and growing religious syncretisms. Cross-listed with LNST 138.

RLST 139. African American Religions (4)
Lecture, 3 hours; outside research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines a variety of African American religions, including religions developed in the Caribbean and Brazil; African religion in North America under slavery; African American churches and sects; the civil rights movement; and the relationship of religion to African American music and literature.

RLST 140. Martin, Malcolm, and Masculinity (4)
Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines the religious thought of the two most notable black religious figures of the twentieth century. Addresses the ways notions of gender lay deeply embedded within their faith, public persona, and conceptions of black freedom. Topics include black theology of liberation, masculinist rhetoric, and black feminist and womanist responses.

RLST 142. Chuang-tzu (4)
Lecture, 1 hour; discussion, 2 hours; outside research, 1 hour; extra reading, 1 hour; term paper, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): RLST 005 or RLST 005H or AST 107/CHN 107/RLST 107 or consent of instructor. An examination of chaos, epistemological and linguistic relativism, fate, skill, and the character of the sage in perhaps the most significant of Chinese Taoist texts, the Chuang-tzu. Discussion of the structure and style of this literary masterpiece. Students with knowledge of classical Chinese may arrange additional work through special studies. Cross-listed with AST 142 and CHN 142.

RLST 144. Buddhist Literature (4)
Lecture, 2 hours; discussion, 1 hour; term paper, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): RLST 005 or RLST 005H or RLST 101 or RLST 105 or RLST 106 or consent of instructor. Readings in canonical Buddhist narratives and examination of the themes of emptiness and impermanence in Buddhist-inspired literature. Examples are drawn from classical and modern Asian prose and poetry as well as from the work of contemporary American authors. Cross-listed with CPLT 144.

RLST 145. Buddhism in Southeast Asia (4)
Lecture, 3 hours; outside research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): RLST 106 or consent of instructor. Explores various texts, magical practices, forms of meditation, rituals, and beliefs of ancient and modern Buddhism, focusing on the ways in which they are transformed by nuns, monks, and the laity in Burma, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and California. Cross-listed with SEAS 145.

RLST 149. Southeast Asian Religions (4)
Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): one Religious Studies course or upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines the religious, intellectual, and cultural history of Southeast Asian religions, including Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, and the Philippines, through contextualized readings featuring historical, anthropological, literary, and other disciplinary perspectives on this diverse region.

RLST 150. Islam in Southeast Asia (4)
Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Introduces the religious, intellectual, and cultural history of Islamic Southeast Asia, including Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei, as well as minority communities in Singapore, Thailand, Cambodia, and the southern Philippines. Examines a series of contextualized readings in translated primary sources. Approaches texts through historical, anthropological, literary, and other disciplinary perspectives.

RLST 151. Reading the Qur’an (4)
Lecture, 3 hours; term paper, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. A study of the Qur’an, Islam’s primary scripture. Examines the contexts in which the Qur’an was written, and its critical analyses of the Qur’an and its role in the cultural and religious development of Islamic traditions. Cross-listed with WMST 160.

RLST 157A. Religious Cultures in Early America (4)
Lecture, 3 hours; term paper, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines the role of women in leadership roles, women’s spiritual experience, female founders of religious groups, and recent developments in feminist religious thought. Cross-listed with WMST 160.

RLST 162. Women’s Issues in Modern Muslim Thought (4)
Lecture, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): one Religious Studies course or upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Introduces complex religious and social issues related to the role of women in modern Islamic societies ranging from North America to Southeast Asia through an examination of Islamic writings produced during the past century. Cross-listed with WMST 162.

RLST 163. The Women of Early Christianity (4)
Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Explores the roles and literary constructs of early Christian women as evidenced in the New Testament, patristic, and Apocryphal writings. Also considers the significance of those textual traditions for later Western ideas about women’s social roles, including traditional and feminist theories. Cross-listed with WMST 163.

RLST 164. Native American Religions (4)
Lecture, 3 hours; outside research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines scholarly approaches to the study of Native American religions and important dimensions of the religious traditions of diverse Native American communities (Muskh cogas, Koyukon, Lakotas, Apaches, and others). Themes addressed include responses to historical change, ecological worldviews, moral systems, and the arts.

RLST 166. Evangelical Religion, Media, and Culture in America (4)
Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Introduces the history of the use of media technologies among evangelicals. Addresses the intersections between religious productions of meaning, proselytization, and politics. Explores the ways the critical interface of religion and media both shapes and is shaped by the ways participants understand themselves as racial, gendered, and classed subjects.

RLST 167. Religion and Film (4)
Lecture, 3 hours; scheduled screening, 2 hours; outside screening, 1 hour. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Examines the intersections of film, religious meaning, and contemporary society.

RLST 168. Religion and Art: Image, Icon, Idol (4)
Lecture, 3 hours; outside research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Introduces the use of sacred images in spiritual practice in diverse religious traditions and explores the visual representation of the divine in different cultural contexts. Places special emphasis on Christian and Hindu traditions but also seeks to understand why some religions reject the use of images altogether.

RLST 170. Current Issues in Religious Ethics (4)
Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): one lower-division course in Religious Studies or consent of instructor. Consideration of the ethical dimension in contemporary religious and social issues (for example, war, sexuality, sexism, racism, hunger, ecology, medical ethics). Historical and contemporary religious thought will provide resources for critical reflection on these areas of decision-making.

RLST 173. Political Religions and Religious Politics (4)
Lecture, 3 hours; term paper, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. Investigates major themes and issues in the intersection of religion and politics, such as the sacralization of politics, religious nationalisms, sakkingship, revolutionary asceticism, “thrones and altars,” civil religion, millennialism, political myth and ritual, integralism, and the conformity of the polity to religious values. Cross-listed with POSC 109.

RLST 174. The Power of Nonviolence (4)
Lecture, 3 hours; outside research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. A cross-cultural exploration of the traditions of nonviolent change as fundamental worldviews and lifestyles, as strategic alternatives to war and socioeconomic oppression, and as practical forms of interpersonal and social conflict resolution.

RLST 175. Religion and Human Rights (4)
Lecture, 3 hours; independent research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. An examination of selected human rights struggles with particular attention given to the role of religion. Case examples are taken from North and Latin America, South Africa, South Asia, or China, among others.

RLST 176. Peace and War (4)
Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. A study of peace and war from diverse religious and ethical perspectives. Addresses nuclear and conventional war and revolutionary wars of liberation as ethical issues requiring social policy and personal decision. Topics include “just war,” “holy war,” nonviolence, and pacifism.

RLST 178. Religious Biography (4)
Lecture, 3 hours; individual study, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): upper-division standing or consent of instructor. A study of the construction and continuing appropriation of biographical images (textual and visual narratives) in selected religious traditions. Special attention is given to the
Graduate Courses

RLST 200A. Religion, Politics, and Public Discourse (4) Seminar, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): graduate standing or consent of instructor; consent of graduate advisor is required for students repeating the course. Critical examination of the intersections of religious identities and public politics. Topics vary by instructor but might include human rights, “church-state” debates, Islamism, civil religion, and postcolonial religions. Course is repeatable to a maximum of 8 units if taken with different instructors.

RLST 200B. Representations, Interpretations, and Critical Histories (4) Seminar, 3 hours; outside research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): graduate standing or consent of instructor; consent of graduate advisor is required for students repeating the course. A critical examination of how religious identity and religious studies have shaped and been shaped by modes of representation, interpretation, and historiography. Specific topics of analysis vary according to instructor but might include biographies, art and architecture, mass media, and scriptural interpretation. Course is repeatable to a maximum of 8 units if taken with different instructors.

RLST 200C. Religions in Contact (4) Seminar, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): graduate standing or consent of instructor; consent of graduate advisor is required for students repeating the course. A critical examination of how religions confront each other historically, politically, and metaphorically. Specific topics vary according to instructor but might include syncretism, mission and colonization, religious wars, ecumenism, and “world religion” movements. Course is repeatable to a maximum of 8 units if taken with different instructors.

RLST 210. Understanding Theories of Religion (4) Seminar, 3 hours; outside research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): graduate standing or consent of instructor. Covers the technique and theory of interpreting theoretical texts of the study of religion within historical contexts. Special attention is paid to Charles Taylor’s theory of interpretation in the human sciences and Quentin Skinner’s theory of understanding theoretical ideas. Models are drawn from the literature of the theory of myth, religion, and sacrifice. May be taken Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC) with consent of instructor and graduate advisor.

RLST 212. The Durkheimian Tradition in the Study of Religion (4) Seminar, 3 hours; outside research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): graduate standing or consent of instructor. Covers major figures and themes in the Durkheimian approach to the study of religion. Pays special attention to qualitative methods of analysis. Focuses on the Durkheimian development of religious themes: gift, magic, religion, sacred time and space, and sacrifice. May be taken Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC) with consent of instructor and graduate advisor.

RLST 220. Advanced Topics in Method and Theory in the Study of Religion (4) Seminar, 3 hours; outside research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): graduate standing or consent of instructor. An inquiry into the major conceptual issues of the methods and theories employed within the study of religion. Topic varies from quarter to quarter. May be taken Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC) with consent of instructor and graduate advisor.

RLST 222. Human Rights as a Moral Discourse (4) Seminar, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): graduate standing or consent of instructor. Inquiry into the moral and ethical dimensions of philosophical, religious, legal, and historical traditions of “rights-talk.” Attention paid to conceptual, historical, cross-cultural, and case-study source materials. May be taken Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC) with consent of instructor and graduate advisor.

RLST 224. Comparative Religious Ethics (4) Seminar, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): graduate standing or consent of instructor. Inquiry into a variety of debates about ethics: religious and philosophical, theoretical and applied. Topics may include policy debates about bioethics, moral inquiries into virtue, ethics and minority discourse, violence and nonviolence as means of social change, or fundamental moral problems generated by suffering. May be taken Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC) with consent of instructor and graduate advisor.

RLST 228. Lived Religions and Local Faiths: Cultural Approaches to the Study of Religion (4) Seminar, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): graduate standing or consent of instructor. Covers ethnographic, anthropological, and other cultural approaches to the study of religion. Traces emergence of the cultural study of religion from colonial encounters to current-day ethnographies of religion. Evaluates risks and promises of ethnography for the study of religion. Includes ethnographic project. May be taken Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC) with consent of instructor and graduate advisor.

RLST 230. Theory and Writing on Native American Religious Traditions (4) Seminar, 3 hours; outside research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): graduate standing or consent of instructor. Theoretical study of Native American religious history, including its research, interpretation, and writing, in relation to colonialism and tribal sovereignty. May be taken Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC) with consent of instructor and graduate advisor.

RLST 235. Christian Hagiography (4) Seminar, 3 hours; outside research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): graduate standing or consent of instructor. Study of the writing of Christian saints’ lives from a cultural perspective. Explores the role of holy men and women in premodern Christianity, with special focus on sanctity, materiality, social formations, and the relation between text and reality. May be taken Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC) with consent of instructor and graduate advisor.

RLST 237. Asceticism (4) Seminar, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): graduate standing or consent of instructor. Provides an analysis of the theories and practices associated with bodily renunciation, focused especially on the first Christian centuries. Explores issues such as fasting, sexual abstinence, and social withdrawal from a variety of critical perspectives, with special attention paid to gender, status, and the body in religion. May be taken Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC) with consent of instructor and graduate advisor.

RLST 239. Ethics and Politics in African American Religious Life (4) Seminar, 3 hours; extra reading, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): graduate standing or consent of instructor. Examines the competing ethical and political orientations of representative religious tradi-
tions in the African American community. Uses tools of social/critical theory to dissect various religious for-
motions and movements in terms of social formations,
ruled ideas, and economic forces of the dominant
culture. May be taken Satisfactory (S) or No Credit
(UC) with consent of instructor and graduate advisor.

RLST 241. From Text to Scripture: Canon, Performance, Reception (4) Seminar, 3 hours; outside research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): graduate standing or consent of instructor. Focusing on the Sikh sacred text as a primary example, investigates the intellectual and emotional factors underlying the composition, copying, canonization, and transmission of sacred texts, with attention to issues of production and reception in historical communities. May be taken Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC) with consent of instructor and graduate advisor.

RLST 245. Via Mystica (4) Seminar, 3 hours; outside research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): graduate standing or consent of instructor. Examines religious virtuosi in Islam, Christianity, Hinduism and Buddhism, including Pus Mi Bun, sufis, swamis, saints, and martyrs. Uncovers the close connection between these reli-
gions in terms of ritual technology, soteriological goals, meditative practices, and eschatological articulations. May be taken Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC) with consent of instructor and graduate advisor.

RLST 246. Religious Reading Cultures (4) Seminar, 3 hours; outside research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): graduate standing or consent of instructor. Examines textual communities and interpretative virtuosi in dif-
f erent religious cultures. Explores the means by which religious scripture is composed, transmitted, translat-
ed, illuminated, performed, and preserved in Christianity, Judaism, Buddhism, Hinduism, and Islam. Introduces students to the methodologies and approaches of textual anthropology, intertextuality, hermeneutics, liturgical studies, performance theory, and philology. May be taken Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC) with consent of instructor and graduate advisor.

RLST 249. Pub lic Religious Discourses in Modern Islam (4) Seminar, 3 hours; research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): graduate standing or consent of instructor. Introduces the complexities of contempo-
rary Islam as lived by Muslims in local and global con-
texts by examining the content and dynamics of mod-
ern discussions of religious and social issues in Muslim “public spheres.” Involves primary and sec-
ondary sources of information. May be taken Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC) with consent of instructor and graduate advisor.

RLST 252. Southeast Asian Islam (4) Seminar, 3 hours; outside research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): graduate standing or consent of instructor. Introduction to contextualized readings in translated primary source texts in the fourteenth through the twenty-first centuries from Muslim Southeast Asia. Explores the richness of Islamicate culture in the region through discussions of broader issues of Islam, Muslim societies, and the academic study of religion. May be taken Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC) with consent of instructor and graduate advisor.

RLST 251. Problems in the Study of Buddhism (4) Seminar, 3 hours; outside research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): graduate standing or consent of instructor. Examines controversies in the field of Buddhist studies. Topics include the rise of asceticism in India, the composition of the earliest Buddhist texts, the process of transmission of texts and transla-
tion problems, the rise of sectarian debate, and women’s role in Buddhist ecclesia. May be taken Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC) with consent of instructor and graduate advisor.

RLST 263. Historiography of Sikh Hermeneutics (4) Seminar, 3 hours; outside research, 3 hours. Prerequisite(s): graduate standing or consent of instructor. Examines the historiography of Sikh hermeneutics, focusing on the historical contexts of various schools of interpretations of the Adi Granth in premodern, modern, and postmodern periods. May be taken Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC) with consent of instructor and graduate advisor.

RLST 290. Directed Studies (1-5) Outside research, 3-15 hours. Prerequisite(s): consent of instructor and graduate advisor. Advanced work in a topic or topics appropriate to the student’s special interests and needs. Graded Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC). Course is repeat-
able.

RLST 291. Individual Study in Coordinated Areas (1-
12) Individual study, 3-36 hours. Prerequisite(s): con-
sent of instructor; doctoral standing. Program of study
designed to advise and assist candidates who are preparing for qualifying examinations. Graded Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC). Course is repeat-
able.

RLST 292. Concurrent Studies in Religious Studies (1-
4) Outside research, 3-12 hours. Prerequisite(s): con-
sent of instructor; concurrent enrollment in a RLST-
100 level course. Taken concurrently with a 100-level
RLST course, but on an individual basis. Devoted to
completion of a graduate paper based on research relat-
ed to the 100-level course. Faculty guidance and
evaluation is provided throughout the quarter. RLST
190, RLST 193, RLST 195, RLST 197, and RLST
198-L may not be used for this course arrangement. Graded Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC). Course is repeat-
able.

RLST 297. Directed Research (1-5) Outside research, 3-18 hours. Prerequisite(s): consent of instructor; graduate standing. Individualized research under the sponsorship of specific faculty members. Graded Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC). Course is repeat-
able.

RLST 299. Research for the Dissertation (1-12) Outside research, 3-36 hours. Prerequisite(s): satisfactory completion of the Ph.D. qualifying examination. Research, under the direction of a faculty member, for preparation of the thesis or dissertation. Graded Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC). Course is repeat-
able.

Professional Course

RLST 302. Teaching Practicum (1-4) Practicum, 3-12 hours. Prerequisite(s): appointment as a Teaching Assistant; graduate standing. Supervised teaching in lower- and upper-division Religious Studies courses. Graded Satisfactory (S) or No Credit (NC). Course is repeat-
able.

Related Courses

ANTH 124. Ritual and Religion. (4) Description under Anthropology.

AHS 155. Cultures in Conflict: Art at the Fall of the Roman Empire. (4) Description under Art History.

AHS 156. Memory of Empire: the Art of Early Medieval Europe. (4) Description under Art History.

CLA 165. Greco-Roman Cults and Credence. (4) Description under Classics.

ENGL 100E. Scriptures, Myths, Interpretation. (4) Description under English.

HISE 132. The Reformation. (4) Description under History.

PHIL 159. Philosophy of Religion. (4) Description under Philosophy.

SOC 158. The Sociology of Religion. (4) Description under Sociology.

Sociology

Subject abbreviation: SOC

College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences

Adalberto Aguirre, Jr., Ph.D., Chair
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Christopher Chase-Dunn, Ph.D.
Robert A. Hanneman, Ph.D.
Augustine J. Kposowa, Ph.D.
Alexandra Maryanski, Ph.D.
Alfredo M. Miranda, Ph.D.
(Sociology/Ethnic Studies)
Robert Nash Parker, Ph.D.
Raymond L. Russell, III, Ph.D.
Jan E. Stets, Ph.D.
David A. Swanson, Ph.D.
Austin T. Turk, Ph.D.
Jonathan H. Turner, Ph.D.
Kirk R. Williams, Ph.D.

Professors Emeriti

Edna M. Bonacich, Ph.D. (Ethnic Studies/Sociology)
Edgar W. Butler, Ph.D.
Jane R. Mercer, Ph.D.
Linda Brewer Stearns, Ph.D.

Associate Professors

Karen D. Pyke, Ph.D.
Ellen Reese, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor

Scott N. Brooks, Ph.D.
Vanessa Estrada, Ph.D.
Kalja Guenther, Ph.D.
Matthew Mahutga, Ph.D.
Tanya Nieri, Ph.D.

Majors

Sociology is the scientific study of human behav-
ior, interaction and organization. It provides a his-
torical and comparative perspective on human

societies and offers a framework for understanding

society and the complex social world.

Students majoring in sociology can choose
between a B.A. or B.S. degree. The depart-
ment also offers majors in Sociology/Adminis-
trative Studies, and Sociology/Law and

Society; as well as a minor in sociology.

All students must meet quarterly prior to course
enrollment with the student affairs officer or the
undergraduate advisor to develop a program of

studies.

University Requirements

See Undergraduate Studies section.

College Requirements

See College of Humanities, Arts, and Social

Sciences, Colleges and Programs section.