



Religious Studies

Course Offerings – Fall 2014

RELI 1000.01	Introduction to Religion - CH/G (A&S non-Western)	Fall
TR 1:20-2:35	Religion is central in shaping human societies. While cultural differences stem from religion, many similarities find their expression in religion. Learn about several world religions and the way each understands the world and influences its adherents.	
RELI 1000.40-44	Introduction to Religion - CH/G (A&S non-Western)	Outreach Instructors
RELI 2040.01	Middle East Religions – C1/G1, CH	Ward
TR 11:00-12:15	Since 9-11, the conflicts of our world have taken on a religious character, pitting members of Judaism, Islam and Christianity against each other. This is just the latest chapter in a history of alternatively working together and struggling against each other. Discover how these religions began and matured, and how they have been shaped by the modern world.	
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RELI 2110.40	Old Testament Introduction- CH	Staff
Outreach	Introduces students to the books of the Old Testament and people whose way of life they describe. Pays particular attention to religion of the Israelites, their history and culture. Focuses on different historical circumstances in which the books were written.	
RELI 2150.01	New Testament	Flesher
TR 9:35-10:50	Introduces academic study of the New Testament. Focuses on questions of history, religious and cultural context, occasion and purpose for writing the different books and theological development of early Christianity.	
RELI 2225.01	History of Christianity	Utterback
MW 3:10-4:25	In its 2000 year history, Christianity has grown from a persecuted sect of Judaism whose leader was executed as a criminal by the Roman authorities to the largest religion in the world. Study its rise from obscurity to dominance, its attempts to maintain that dominance through many centuries, and its various struggles, both internal and external. Learn where the Church "got it right" and where it sometimes went terribly wrong.	
RELI 2315.01	History of Non-West Religions: Hinduism - C1/G1, CH	DeNapoli
TR 2:45-4:00	This course examines what Hinduism is about in the contexts of its doctrines and teachings; texts; practices; communities of practitioners; material and visual cultures; historical, institutional, and socio-political developments; and its migrations to the West. While this course addresses questions of what Hindus believe and how Hinduism is practiced, it concentrates on questions of how Hindu concepts and practices shape and constitute Hindu worlds of meaning.	
RELI 2450.40	Traditional African Religion- C1/G1, CH	Keller
Online	Just as Africa is a continent of many peoples, it is also a continent of many religions. These religions divide as well as unite the peoples. Focus on the traditional religions that originate in Africa while studying the importation and exploitation of outside religions-especially Christianity and Islam.	
RELI 3110.01	Bible and Archaeology	Flesher
TR 1:20-2:35	An archaeological survey illuminating the historical, theological, and cultural landscape of ancient Near East and the Mediterranean world. This course will examine how archaeology contributes to the understanding of the texts of the Old Testament/ Hebrew Bible and the New Testament.	
RELI 3200.01	Religion and American Culture	Newell
TR 9:35-10:50	Explore the role of religion in the history of American culture. Consider how developments in American religious history reflect larger trends, and how those developments have helped shape American society and culture.	
RELI 3220.01	Modern Middle East	Kamp
MWF 9:00-9:50	Surveys the Middle East from 1700 to the present. Emphasizes the demise of the Ottoman Empire, the rise of domination by European colonial powers, transformations in political, social, religious and cultural life, the rise of nationalist movements, the influence of oil, the growth of Islamist political groups and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.	
RELI 3225.01	Apocalypse	Utterback
T 2:45-5:15	The apocalyptic end time has become the subject of much speculation, especially since the beginning of the new millennium. In this course we will examine several ancient texts in order to uncover the foundation for apocalyptic thought as well as analyzing such millennial speculation as a religious phenomenon in both ancient and modern religions, including its social, cultural and personal impact.	
RELI 4000.01	Theory of Religion - WC	DeNapoli
W 9:00-12:00	Is religion an "illusion" or a "neurosis," as Freud wrote? Is it anthropology's "cultural system," or society's representation of itself, or...? Examine what some of the world's most influential thinkers have said about what religion is and how it should be studied. Warning: this capstone course is not for the intellectually faint of heart.	
RELI 4500.01	Tp: Women in Judaism	Ward
TR 1:20-2:35	Women and issues facing women have played a key role in Judaism, from ancient Israelite religion to the present day, and central in any study of social history and contemporary directions in religion. Study women in the Bible, in late antiquity, the middle ages, Jewish law and ethics, and modern times. This course helps chart the way and examine the context of social change, as women enter roles in religion and teaching unthinkable only a few generations ago.	
RELI 4500.02	Tp: Milton	Nye
MWF 10:00-10:50	No writer has a better claim than John Milton to be master of the English epic, and this course will trace the evolution of his complex poetic genius. We will study the various influences, literary, biblical, political, ecclesiastical, classical, aesthetic, and academic that contribute to that genius, surveying the literature before and after Milton that derives much of its significance from his achievement. But we will concentrate mostly on a careful close reading of his English poetry and prose. His thought and language can be thoroughly exhilarating for a modern reader.	