

Religious Studies

Course Offerings – Fall 2012

RELI 1000.01	Introduction to Religion - CH/G (A&S non-Western)	Fall
TR 1:20-2:35 And Outreach	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 2110.40	Introduction to the Old Testament	Elliot
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	Myrick
W 2:10-4:50	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
TR 8:10-9:25	How did Christianity rise from obscurity to dominance and then maintain that dominance over many centuries? Learn where the Church “got it right” and where it sometimes went terribly wrong. And why is the 21 st century church growing rapidly in Africa, South America and Asia, even as European churches stand largely vacant. <i>Cross listed with HIST 2225.</i>	
RELI 2315.01	History of Non-Western Religion: Hinduism	DeNapoli
TR 9:35-10:50	With over 800 million adherents in India, Hinduism is one of the oldest living religions. This course explores Hinduism by examining the concepts, practices, people, and institutions that have contributed to its emergence and development as a global religion. We will consider the plurality of Hindu expressions and the patterns that unify the religion. We will also consider the institutions of morality and ethics, social organization, asceticism and liberation, and gender and sexuality that have characterized the Hindu religion since the beginning of its history. <i>Cross-listed w/Hist2315</i>	
RELI 3110.01	Bible & Archaeology	Flesher/Elliott
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 & 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 3340.01	Mysticism, Yoga & Enlightenment	DeNapoli
TR 1:20-2:35	This course explores Hindu and Buddhist ideas of mysticism. Through use of texts, iconography, art and poetry this course looks at the two Indian mystical systems of yoga and tantra, and the frameworks for religious experience they provide. This course also investigates the lives of women in Hindu and Buddhist yoga and tantra in text and in practice, and the extents to which these mystical systems have enabled women to empower themselves in Indian society.	
RELI 4000.01	Theory of Religion	Newell
W 2:10-4:50	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 4090.01	Film & Religion	Flesher/Torry
T 6:00-10:00	Film is one of the most powerful media and use of religion helped make it so. Study how filmmakers use religious themes to depict ideals and promote social positions. Learn how religion provides the structure for films—making their plots clear and compelling. <i>Cross-listed w/Engl4090</i>	
RELI 4500.01	Early Christianity	Utterback
T 3:10-5:40	Beginning at Pentecost, the tiny Jewish sect of followers of The Way spread throughout the Roman Empire and beyond, coming to be called Christians at Antioch in the first century. As Christianity spread, it developed its identity and core beliefs, which it taught through its creeds. From persecuted minority in its early centuries, Christianity became first legalized, then the official religion of the Roman Empire. When the Empire collapsed around 500, it left Christianity as the one surviving institution from which Medieval Europe would develop.	

If you would like more information or want to pursue a Major or a Minor in Religious Studies, contact the Religious Studies department at 766-3204. Check out the Religious Studies homepage at: <http://www.uwyo.edu/RelSt>