

Religious Studies

Fall 2018 Course Offerings

RELI 1000.01	Introduction to Religion – CHG <> H, A&S Core, A&S Non-Western	Fall
TR 1:20pm-2:35pm	Religion is central in shaping culture. 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	Introduction to Religion – CHG <> H, A&S Core, A&S Non-Western	Neely
Online	Religion is central in shaping culture. 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 1000.41	Introduction to Religion – CHG <> H, A&S Core, A&S Non-Western	Staff
Online	Religion is central in shaping culture. 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 2040.40	Mid-East Religions – CHG <>	Ward
Online	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.	
RELI 2070.40	Gender and Religion	Grether
Online	This course will examine discourses surrounding gender in Buddhism and Christianity over time. The primary goal is to understand how gendered discourse has helped produce and maintain limited leadership roles for women in both Buddhist and Christian contexts. The approach will be comparative and utilize a wide range of narrative, doctrinal, sociological, and anthropological sources. To the extent possible, the material will be organized chronologically in order to best consider historical context. (XL: WMST2070)	
RELI 2110.01	Old Testament Intro – CH <> H	Flesher
TR 9:35am-10:50am	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 2200.01	Contemporary American Religion - CHD <> C2	Heise
MWF 11:00 - 11:50am	The U.S. is home to more world religions and to more versions of those religions than any other nation on the planet. Examine how the U.S. has shaped these religions and the impact these religions have had on U.S. society and culture.	
RELI 2250.40	American Religious History I - CHD <> H	Heise
Online	Traces the history of religion in America through the Civil War. We will pay particular attention to the intertwining of religion and colonialism; the tension between emerging Protestant hegemony and religious pluralism; and the roles religion has played in justifying oppression and pursuing liberty in American history. (XL: HIST2250)	
RELI 2250.41	American Religious History I - CHD <> H	Heise
Online	Traces the history of religion in America through the Civil War. We will pay particular attention to the intertwining of religion and colonialism; the tension between emerging Protestant hegemony and religious pluralism; and the roles religion has played in justifying oppression and pursuing liberty in American history. (XL: HIST2250)	
RELI 2315.40	History of Non-Western Religions -CHG <> H	Grether
Online	This course examines what Buddhism 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 Buddhists believe and how Buddhism is practiced, it concentrates on questions of how Buddhist concepts and practices shape and constitute Buddhist worlds of meaning. (XL:HIST 2315)	
RELI 3090.01	Middle East and Israel Film - <> H	Ward
W 6:00-10:00	Films often capture the deepest hopes and dreams of broad populations. Israeli, Egyptian, American and other films provide a unique avenue for insights into such Middle East and Israeli issues as national identity, love and despair, corruption, persecution and terror, and hopes for peace and reconciliation in the region	
RELI 3200.01	Religion & American Culture – <> H	Heise
MWF 9:00 - 9:50am	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 4000.01	Theory of Religion- WC <> C3	Flesher
T 6:00-9:00pm	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	Topics: Women in Judaism	Ward
TR 11:00-12:15pm	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 Bible, in late antiquity (including Jewish perspectives on early Christianity), 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	Topics: Religion & Fantasy	Aronstein
TR 11:00-12:15pm	This course begins with the "founding" of Modern High Fantasy by the Inklings (C.S. Lewis, J.R.R. Tolkien, and Charles Williams) during the turbulent years surrounding World War II. We will then read more recent authors (Susan Cooper, Patricia McKillip, Guy Gavriel Kay, Phillip Pullman, Ian Hearn) who expand the world of High Fantasy, building on and disputing the founders' moral and religious vision as they offer readers a new vision.	