

Religious Studies

Spring 2019 Course Offerings

RELI 1000.01	Introduction to Religion – CHG <> H, ASG	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, ASG	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, ASG	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 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 2200.40	Contemporary American Religion - CHD <> C2	Heise
Online	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 2225.01	History of Christianity- <> H	Fall
TR 2:45-4:00 pm	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. Consider why the church in the 21st century is growing rapidly in Africa, South America and Asia, even as European churches stand largely vacant. (XL: HIST 2225)	
RELI 2320.40	History of Islam CHG<> C2	Ward
Online	The Media gives the impression of Islam as a religion of "angry young men" who hate. Learn how Islam is a religion of love of God and family, as well as respect for others. Learn how Islam has been practiced through time and what events shaped it. (XL: HIST 2320)	
RELI 2500.01	Tp: Philosophy of Religion	Rettler
TR 9:35-10:50 am	Philosophy of religion is the attempt to answer questions about God, religion, and religious experience. Some of the questions that we'll be discussing this semester are: Does God exist? Is the existence of God compatible with the existence of evil? Do the physical constants of the universe give us reason to believe in God? Is the existence of God compatible with God's hiddenness? Can we make sense of goodness without God? Cross-listed with Phil 2310	
RELI 3220.01	Modern Middle East G<>	Ward
TR 1:20-2:35 pm	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. (XL: HIST3220)	
RELI 3320.40	Eastern Thought	Grether
Online	Examines the development of major concepts found in Zoroastrian, Hindu, Gnostic, Buddhist, and Taoist sacred texts. Themes include selfhood, soteriology, apotheosis, eschatology, and cosmic dualisms; especially as they develop along the Silk Road. Cross-listed with PHIL 3320	
RELI 4090.01	Film & Religion	Flesher
T 6:00-10:00 PM	Film is one of the most powerful media in the modern world and its use of religion has helped to make it so. This course analyzes how film makers use religion and religious themes to depict religious ideals and behavior as well as to promote particular social positions. We will look at how religion provides the narrative structure for films—making their plots clear and compelling. The main focus of this course will be to examine how films interact with a variety of religions. Possible films to be studied include: <i>Matrix</i> , <i>Life of Brian</i> , <i>Total Recall</i> , <i>Davinci Code</i> , <i>Truman Show</i> , and <i>Legend of Bagger Vance</i> .	
RELI 4500.01	Tp: Contemporary Issues in Islam	Ward
W 6:00-9:00 pm	How does Islam interact with Modernity? This course extends beyond the news to study contemporary trends and movements among the world's Muslims. Includes a general introduction to the history and religion of Islam and discusses contemporary Islamic topics, reflecting current issues, and instructor research and student choices. Cross-listed with (INST 4990/5990)	
RELI 4500.02	Tp: Radical Spirits/Women's Suffrage	Heise
MWF 9:00-9:50 AM	Radical Spirits and Women's Suffrage: A History of Spiritualism, Mormonism, and Evangelicalism in Expanding Women's Rights in America. This course examines religion's role in expanding (and contesting the expansion) of women's rights in the United States. In recognition of the 100 th anniversary of women's suffrage in the nation and the 150 th anniversary of women's suffrage in the state of Wyoming, the course pays special attention to the extension of voting rights to women through the activism of a broad coalition of religious groups and movements committed to bringing the home into the world through social reform movements like abolitionism, temperance, and birth control. The course also examines the political travails of the Equal Rights Amendment from its introduction, failure, and possible revival today. (Cross-listed as WMST 4500-02/HIST 4990-02.)	