



# RELI 4000: Theory and Method in Religion

Dr. Tammy  
Heise

Fall 2022  
6 to 8:40 p.m.  
Mondays  
(In-Person  
Meetings)

**Hua Shan, China**  
(Sacred Taoist site)

## **W**hat is religion? How and why do we study it?

Where did religion come from? What (if anything) does it do? What makes something religious? How can religion be studied? These are some of the perennial questions that scholars of religion ask and attempt to answer. In this course, we examine contemporary theories to explain religion

and methods used to interpret it. Students then apply critical theory in their own research projects. One might, for example, interpret Beyonce Masses in light of critical race and gender theory. Another might analyze QAnon conspiracy theories as examples of apocalyptic thinking in a new religious movement. All will conduct research and interpret theory to support their own interests in the discipline of religious studies.

For more information about this class, e-mail [theise2@uwyo.edu](mailto:theise2@uwyo.edu).