

Religious Studies

Course Offerings – Spring 2013

RELI 1000-40-43	Introduction to Religion - C1/G1, CH, Non-Western	Outreach
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 2050-01	Religions of Asia – CH,G	DeNapoli
TR 9:35-10:50 am	This course introduces the four major Eastern religions of South Asia: Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism. We will study these religions' sacred texts, rituals, practices, histories, cultural institutions and narrative traditions. The course is designed to familiarize students with the key analytic categories in religious studies and the indigenous categories of the four Eastern religions. Through these perspectives, students will gain a deeper understanding of religion-as-lived, imagined, and experienced in South Asia.	
RELI 2110-40	Old Testament Introduction – CH	Elliott
Online	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 2150-40	New Testament	Neely
Online	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 2250-01	American Religion 1 (to 1865) – CH, D	Newell
TR 1:20-2:35 pm	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. Cross-listed with: Hist 2250	
Also Offered Online		
RELI 2410-01	Varieties of Non-Belief in the Western World – CH	Fall/Downs
TR 1:20-2:35 pm	A broad, chronological survey of different types of non-belief, primarily from the Renaissance onwards. It examines critiques by philosophers, politicians, poets, and novelists aiming to understand their objections to religion and analyzing how these objections shaped the modern religious landscape and the way we understand religion itself.	
RELI 3220-40	Modern Middle East	Kamp
Online	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. Cross-listed with: HIST 3220	
RELI 3225-01	Apocalypse	Utterback
TR 9:35-10:50 am	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 3235-01	Medieval Christianity	Utterback
TR 8:10-9:25 am	The Middle Ages, ca. 500 – 1500, saw European Christianity develop many of its most recognizable aspects, including the papacy as a spiritual and governmental power, the crusades, persecution of Jews and religious minorities, the idea of purgatory. These developments were hotly contested, as groups vied for power and authority, seeking control of this life and the next. Cross listed with: HIST 3235	
RELI 3260-40	African Spirits in New World	Keller
Online	Begins with Yoruba roots in Africa travels with the African Diaspora focusing on spirit possession in Haitian Vodou, Cuban Santeria, Jamaican Revival Zion, Jamaican Rastafarianism, Brazilian Candomblé, and "Black Church" in the United States using ethnography and postcolonial theory of religious studies. Cross-listed with: AAST3260	
RELI 3400-01	Religion in the American West – CH,D	Newell
TR 9:35-10:50 am	People have conceived of the American West as exile and Promised Land, as New Babylon and New Jerusalem. This course examines the religious history of the complicated place that has been not only the west, but also the north (to Hispanics coming from New Spain and then Mexico); the south (to Russians moving down the coast from Alaska), the east (to Asian immigrants crossing the Pacific), and, of course, the center (to Native Americans who had lived in the region for centuries).	
RELI 4100-40	African American Religious Culture – WC, D	Keller
Online	This mid-level writing-intensive seminar compares African American religious celebration, primarily in the context of Afro-Christianity, but touching on Islam, Candomble, "Voodoo," Santeria, and Rastafarianism. Cross-listed with: AAST 4100	
RELI 4310-01	Seminar in Asian Religions: Goddess Traditions of South Asia	DeNapoli
W 3:10-5:50 pm	In this course, we will be introduced to an amazing world of popular and orthodox Eastern goddesses in their particular cultural and historical settings with a specific focus on Indian goddesses. While we will be learning forms, characteristics, narratives and modes of worship relating to several individual goddesses, we will pay considerable attention to interpretive strategies in goddess scholarship from comparative and feminist frameworks.	
RELI 4500-01	Tp: Israel in the Graeco-Roman World	Flesher
TR 2:45-4:00 pm	The Hebrew Bible/Old Testament ends with Judea ruled by the Persians. This course follows what happens for the next half millennium, with the arrival of the Greeks and then the Romans in Judea, Samaria and Galilee. Follow the Jews down to the first century and beyond. Cross-listed with: HIST 4990	
RELI 4500-02	Tp: Beyond Life & Death	Palmer
M 6:00-8:45 pm	This course charts the way to see life and death as "natural" and as part of very diverse religions. It explores ethics for sustaining life and appropriate beyond-life understandings from Native American, Christian, and Jewish thought. It offers ways to integrate Kubler-Ross' stages of significant loss. No prerequisites.	
Summer	Huqoq Dig in Israel	Flesher
Study Abroad	This is a summer travel course to Israel. Travel dates 5/20/13-6/20/13. Further info contact pflesher@uwyo.edu	
Summer	Religious Diversity in Indonesia	Utterback
Study Abroad	This is a summer travel course to Indonesia in July 2013. For further info contact utterbck@uwyo.edu	