RELIGIOUS STUDIES (RELIG ST)

RELIG ST 101 — RELIGION IN GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE
3 credits.

Foundational and thematic approaches in the academic study of religion applied across global religious systems.

Requisites: None
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Elementary
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2019

RELIG ST 102 — EXPLORING RELIGION IN SICKNESS AND HEALTH
3 credits.

An introduction to the study of religion through the lens of health and health through the lens of religion employing approaches from the humanities and social sciences in conversation with health-related disciplines. It asks questions such as, How do religious peoples understand and live in sickness and health? How do people connect physical well-being to spiritual well-being? Medicine to meaning-making? How does looking at religion in sickness and health provide insight into its roles in a variety of cultures and contexts, globally and locally? How do health and religion connect particularly in situations of social marginalization and immigration? How does religion impact understandings of health and sickness beyond the borders of specific religious communities?

Requisites: None
Course Designation: Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science
Level - Elementary
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2022

RELIG ST 103 — EXPLORING RELIGION AND SEXUALITY
3 credits.

An introductory examination of “what religion is” via investigation of how religious traditions imagine, interrogate, and regulate sexuality using several approaches in the discipline of religious studies. Focuses, although not exclusively, on the religions of the Ancient Mediterranean (Greeks, Romans, Rabbinic Jews, and early Christians) and also considers the (re)construction of ideas and practices over time and contexts.

Requisites: None
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Elementary
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2022

RELIG ST/FOLKLORE 104 — SACRED PLACES AND JOURNEYS
3 credits.

An introduction to the study of religion through the lens of sacred places and journeys, including pilgrimage.

Requisites: None
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Elementary
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2021

RELIG ST 105 — RELIGION AND POPULAR CULTURE-LOCAL AND GLOBAL
3 credits.

Introduces religious studies through the lens of popular culture. In recent decades, many have predicted the demise of religion and the "death of God." Indeed, many seem to embrace science and rationality over faith and the supernatural, yet religion, religious language, religious themes permeate popular culture. This raises many questions: What is popular culture? What role is religion playing in it? How can we better understand popular culture using religious studies theory? Explores these questions through theme parks in the U.S. and Japan, Sports, Music, and tattoos.

Requisites: None
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Elementary
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No

RELIG ST/HISTORY/MEDIEVAL 112 — THE WORLD OF LATE ANTIQUITY
(200-900 C.E.)
4 credits.

History of the Mediterranean World from the late Roman Empire to the development of distinct European, Byzantine and Islamic civilizations (ca. 200-900 CE). Special attention will be paid to the rise and development of Christianity and Islam.

Requisites: None
Course Designation: Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science
Level - Elementary
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2018

RELIG ST/HISTORY 131 — INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIANITY: JESUS TO THE PRESENT
4 credits.

Survey of Christianity from its beginnings to its diverse global manifestations today, including beliefs, institutions, ritual, lived experience, and interactions with broader culture and society.

Requisites: None
Course Designation: Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science
Level - Elementary
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
RELIG ST/CNSR SCI 173 — CONSUMING HAPPINESS
3 credits.

As the saying goes, money can't buy happiness — but in modern America, we certainly try. This course will provide an overview of the study of happiness and well-being, examine how consumers engage in consumption in pursuit of happiness, as well as explore the emergence of the experience economy, and the intersection of money and well-being. Students will read academic and popular pieces on positive psychology, prosocial spending and explore the psychology of persuasion in the promises associated with this industry. In addition to integrating visual media, students will have the opportunity to experience first-hand whether the advice works in their own lives.

Requisites: None
Course Designation: Level - Elementary
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2022

RELIG ST 200 — INTRODUCTORY TOPICS IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES (HUMANITIES)
3-4 credits.

Topics in religious studies in the humanities at an introductory level.

Requisites: None
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Elementary
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions
Last Taught: Fall 2022

RELIG ST/JEWISH/LEGAL ST 203 — JEWISH LAW, BUSINESS, AND ETHICS
3 credits.

Explores the development of Jewish law from antiquity to modernity, with a focus on legal questions related to business practices and ethics. Consider issues ranging from ethical practices in agriculture to how to run a modern multi billion-dollar kosher industry; from the ethics of Jews celebrating Thanksgiving to regulations governing the preparation, consumption, and sale of coffee.

Requisites: None
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Elementary
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2021

RELIG ST/HISTORY 205 — THE MAKING OF THE ISLAMIC WORLD: THE MIDDLE EAST, 500-1500
3-4 credits.

Development of society and culture in the Middle East and North Africa from the emergence of Islam (7th century) to early modern times.

Requisites: None
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Elementary
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2022

RELIG ST/ASIAN 206 — THE QUR'AN: RELIGIOUS SCRIPTURE & LITERATURE
3 credits.

An introduction to the Qur'an, the sacred scripture of the Islamic religious tradition, focused on Muslim approaches to reading the text, its themes and history, and its use as a source of law, theology, aesthetics, politics, and practices of piety.

Requisites: None
Course Designation: Breadth - Literature. Counts toward the Humanities req
Level - Elementary
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2018

RELIG ST/HISTORY 208 — WESTERN INTELLECTUAL AND RELIGIOUS HISTORY TO 1500
3-4 credits.

Survey of key themes in Western intellectual history and religious thought from ancient Greece through the Renaissance, focusing on relationships among classical, Jewish, and Christian traditions.

Requisites: Sophomore standing or 3 credits in HISTORY or RELIG ST
Course Designation: Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2022

RELIG ST/HISTORY 209 — WESTERN INTELLECTUAL AND RELIGIOUS HISTORY SINCE 1500
3-4 credits.

A survey of major trends in Western intellectual history and religious thought in the modern era, a period that saw a new range of competing ideas about the divine, the human condition, justice and the social order, and the quest for meaning. Explores shifts in Christian and Jewish thought as well as secular alternatives to religious outlooks. Topics include the impact of the Reformation, Scientific Revolution, and Enlightenment; radical critiques of religion; existentialism; theological responses to World Wars and the Holocaust; and civil rights and social justice. Sources include films, novels, autobiographies, essays, theological works, and political manifestos.

Requisites: Sophomore standing or 3 credits in HISTORY or RELIG ST
Course Designation: Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2022

RELIG ST/JEWISH 211 — INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM
4 credits.

General introduction to Judaism covering the biblical, classical rabbinic, medieval, and modern periods.

Requisites: None
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Elementary
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2018
RELIG ST/HISTORY 212 — THE HISTORY OF WESTERN CHRISTIANITY TO 1750
4 credits.
A survey of Christianity from being a small, persecuted sect in the Roman Empire to becoming the dominant religion of western Europe, penetrating into the lives of Europeans, fissuring into multiple churches, and spreading across the globe. Attention is given to doctrine, ritual, worship, architecture, images, and music.
Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2018

RELIG ST/ASIAN 218 — HEALTH AND HEALING IN SOUTH ASIA
3-4 credits.
Study primary and secondary sources to explore how South Asian societies have understood the ideas of health and well-being throughout history. We will consider a number of cases that illustrate uniquely South Asian conceptions of illness and physical dysfunction and the ways in which people in South Asia have attempted (and continue to attempt today) to heal bodies. Students will learn about the traditional healing systems of South Asia, including Ayurveda, Siddha, and Unani, the basic components of each system's ideas about disease pathology and treatment that have been used for centuries to heal illness, maintain good health, and, in some instances, aspire to a state of super-health that transcends the limitations of bodily existence altogether.
Requisites: None
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Elementary
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2022

RELIG ST/CLASSICS/JEWISH/LITTRANS 227 — INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL LITERATURE (IN ENGLISH)
4 credits.
Introduction to the text, development, history, and social context of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament. Covers the Torah (Pentateuch), Nevi'im (Former and Latter Prophets), and Ketuvim (Writings), and provides a brief introduction to early Jewish literature (Pseudepigrapha/Apocrypha). Discusses various methods of analysis and theories of composition. Addresses major theological claims made of the text by Jewish and Christian communities. Explores contextualized interpretations in the ancient and modern day.
Requisites: None
Course Designation: Breadth - Literature. Counts toward the Humanities req
Level - Elementary
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2022

RELIG ST/ILS 234 — GENRES OF WESTERN RELIGIOUS WRITING
3 credits.
Explores literary forms through which religions originating in western culture convey ideas. Focuses on Jewish, Christian, Muslim and related religious texts.
Requisites: Satisfied Communications A requirement
Course Designation: Gen Ed - Communication Part B
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2021

RELIG ST/ASIAN 236 — ASIA ENCHANTED: GHOSTS, GODS, AND MONSTERS
3 credits.
Explores how different cultures in Asia conceive of and relate to the monstrous, ghostly, and divine, both in the past and in the contemporary world. These themes are approached from a range of different disciplinary perspectives, including religious studies, literature, anthropology, and history.
Requisites: None
Course Designation: Gen Ed - Communication Part B
Level - Elementary
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2022

RELIG ST/LITTRANS/MEDIEVAL 253 — OF DEMONS AND ANGELS. DANTE’S DIVINE COMEDY
3 credits.
Have you ever wondered about human nature? What is our place in this world? Through readings, videos, and original images, explore and discuss Dante’s answers from one of the greatest world literary classics, his Divine Comedy. From Hell, through Purgatory to Paradise, we will travel together with Dante in a universal tale of the journey of the human soul. Along the way, learn about Dante, his life and his works, development of literary history, historical and socio-political context of medieval Europe, the Mediterranean and the Middle East. Make connections that cross today’s geographic and cultural lines in an exploration of literary topics, the history of ideas, and shared history, pondering universal concepts and patterns in the development of civilization that can still be observed today.
Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Literature. Counts toward the Humanities req
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Summer 2022
RELIG ST/ASIAN/HISTORY 267 — ASIAN RELIGIONS IN GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE
3-4 credits.
Comparative and thematic introduction to diverse Asian religious traditions, ideas and communities, and their relevance to human societies of the past and present. Not open to students with credit for E ASIAN 267 prior to Fall 2019
Requisites: None
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Elementary
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2018

RELIG ST/ENVIR ST 270 — THE ENVIRONMENT: RELIGION & ETHICS
3-4 credits.
What are sources on which members of religious communities draw in order to understand and address environmental change? Explores how religious persons and communities confront global environmental questions and challenges today, with case studies drawn from culturally and religiously plural societies such as India and Indonesia. Introducing diverse varieties of Christianity, Islam, and Hindu and Buddhist systems, gives overview of some approaches in the environmental humanities related to philosophy, history, sociology and anthropology, and ethics.
Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Sustain - Sustainability
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2018

RELIG ST 271 — RELIGION IN HISTORY AND CULTURE: THE WEST
3 credits.
An interdepartmental, multidisciplinary survey of the major religious traditions of prehistory; the ancient near east; the ancient Mediterranean; biblical, post-biblical and contemporary Judaism; Christianity; Islam; and selected topics for comparative-historical study.
Requisites: None
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Elementary
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Summer 2014

RELIG ST/ASIAN 274 — RELIGION IN SOUTH ASIA
3 credits.
Introductory survey of Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Sikhism, etc., and an examination of the cultural, historical, ritual, and philosophical foundations of South Asian religion. Not open to students with credit for LCA 274 prior to Fall 2019.
Requisites: None
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Elementary
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2020

RELIG ST/JEWISH 278 — FOOD IN RABBINIC JUDAISM
3-4 credits.
Rabbinic literature frames the fundamental attitudes for how Judaism relates to food. Examine the history of food in rabbinic Judaism. In addition, theories from the field of food studies will be applied to rabbinic texts.
Requisites: None
Course Designation: Level - Elementary
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2016

RELIG ST 300 — AMERICA AND RELIGIONS
3 credits.
Explores the colorful, contested relationship of religion and American (U.S.) culture. Surveys a variety of themes from Native American-European encounters to the present. Significant court cases focus on the tension between a quest for American consensus and an abiding religious and cultural pluralism.
Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2018

RELIG ST 302 — CHRISTIANITY: INTERPRETATION AND PRACTICE
3 credits.
A comparative, thematic exploration of major Christian theological ideas and their relationships to practices across varieties of Christianity and contexts.
Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No

RELIG ST/GEN&WS 305 — WOMEN, GENDER AND RELIGION
3 credits.
Explores themes significant to the impact of religion on women and women on religion, historically and today, across a diverse range of contexts.
Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2022
RELIG ST/ASIAN 306 — HINDUISM
3 credits.

A historical survey of Hindu scriptures, rituals, philosophies, and ethics from the ancient to the contemporary world. Concepts such as karma, yoga, and reincarnation will be put in the broader contexts of Hindu theology, worship, and law. Not open to students who completed RELIG ST 355 prior to Fall 2019.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2022

RELIG ST/ASIAN 307 — A SURVEY OF TIBETAN BUDDHISM
3 credits.

By studying the distinctively Tibetan forms of Buddhism, we also examine more general issues, such as the relationship between theory and practice, ancient meditation and mind training, the politics of "world making", and the connection between identity and experience. Not open to students with credit for LCA 421 prior to Fall 2019.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2022

RELIG ST/ASIAN/HISTORY 308 — INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM
3 credits.

The basic thought, practices and history of Buddhism, including selflessness and relativity, practices of meditation, merit-making and compassion from both local and translocal perspectives. Includes a discussion of Buddhism as a contemporary, North American religion. Not open to students with credit for E ASIAN or LCA 308 prior to Fall 2019.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2021

RELIG ST/HISTORY/MEDIEVAL 309 — THE CRUSADES: CHRISTIANITY AND ISLAM
3-4 credits.

An examination of the Crusades from both Christian and Islamic perspectives; the historical, social, and religious context and significance of the Crusades for both Christians and Muslims.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2022

RELIG ST 311 — SECTS AND CULTS
3 credits.

An introduction to new religious movements in the U.S. frequently referred to as "sects," "cults," and "fringe religions.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2019

RELIG ST/JEWISH 322 — THE SABBATH
3 credits.

Takes up the question: What is the "Sabbath"? What does it mean "to rest"? Offers a broad, comparative introduction to the history of the Sabbath, from the Bible to the present day. Readings encompass a range of textual sources from the Jewish and Christian traditions. Topics include the major theological, ritual, and cultural practices that have developed around the Sabbath. Discuss contemporary political iterations of the Sabbath in modern, secular contexts.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2022

RELIG ST 327 — CHRISTIANITY AND THE ALMIGHTY DOLLAR
3 credits.

Examines the relationships of Christian beliefs, ethics, spaces and practices to money, marketplace, wealth and poverty, consumption and business culture. Examines how Christians in a variety of situations and in a variety of ways shape and are shaped by capitalism and other economic forms. Focuses primarily on modern (19th-century) American contexts up to today. Global contexts and interactions with American religious cultures and well as earlier historical factors, however, figure prominently as well.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No

RELIG ST/JEWISH/LITTRANS 328 — CLASSICAL RABBINIC LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION
3-4 credits.

Introduction to the literature of the Classical Rabbinc or Talmudic period of Judaism (2nd to 7th centuries CE). Historical and intellectual background; the interrelation of liturgy, legal and non-legal literature.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Literature. Counts toward the Humanities req
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2019
RELIG ST/HIST SCI/MED HIST 331 — SCIENCE, MEDICINE AND RELIGION
3 credits.
Introduction to the study of religion, science, and medicine. Focus on how religion, science, and medicine have shaped practices of knowledge production and meaning making with respect to human life, by considering theories of human history and racial progress; how logics of contagion structure human relationships and communal boundaries; the variety of ways of understanding and caring for bodies; and the place of humans within broader ecologies.
Requisites: Junior standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2020

RELIG ST/CLASSICS/JEWISH/LITTRANS 332 — PROPHETS OF THE BIBLE
4 credits.
An introduction to the thought, literature, and history of the prophets of ancient Israel (in English).
Requisites: RELIG ST/CLASSICS/JEWISH/LITTRANS 227 or Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Literature. Counts toward the Humanities req
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2019

RELIG ST 333 — EARLY CHRISTIAN LITERATURE: MATTHEW-REVELATION
3 credits.
An exploration of Christianity’s charter documents in the light of what modern scholarship has discovered about the New Testament’s sociohistorical context, composition, theologies, and presentations of Jesus.
Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Literature. Counts toward the Humanities req
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2021

RELIG ST/CLASSICS/JEWISH 335 — KING DAVID IN HISTORY AND TRADITION
3 credits.
An exploration of the literary and historical aspects of the text of 1-2 Samuel + 1 Kings 1-2; the history and archaeology of Jerusalem during the tenth century B.C.E.; and the varieties of ways in which the figure of King David has been received in subsequent religious and secular literature, visual art, music, television, and cinema.
Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Literature. Counts toward the Humanities req
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2020

RELIG ST/JEWISH 340 — THE AMERICAN JEWISH LIFE OF DNA
3 credits.
Explores the range of relationships between DNA and American Jewish life. It begins with the "prehistory" of the relationship between Jewishness and genetic science, from Biblical genealogies to early twentieth century racial science. It then turns to America in the second half of the twentieth century, when the discovery of the double helix and the atrocities of Auschwitz reinvigorated and reshaped American Jewish relationships to DNA.
Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2022

RELIG ST/FOLKLORE/MEDIEVAL/SCAND ST 342 — NORDIC MYTHOLOGY
3 credits.
Mythology, literature, ritual, traditions, medieval folklore, and religion from Nordic areas and Scandinavia.
Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Literature. Counts toward the Humanities req
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2022

RELIG ST/ANTHRO 343 — ANTHROPOLOGY OF RELIGION
3-4 credits.
Anthropological approaches. Illustrated by critical considerations of outstanding contributions. Selected religious systems; areal and topical comparative studies; religion as an ethnographic problem.
Requisites: ANTHRO 104 or graduate/professional standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2021
RELIG ST/CLASSICS/JEWISH 346 — JEWISH LITERATURE OF THE GRECO-ROMAN PERIOD
3 credits.

Jewish literature from 350 BCE to 150 CE. The Greek and Hebrew sources include stories, religious poetry, wisdom books and apocalyptic texts. Readings (in translation) from the Apocrypha, Pseudepigrapha, and the Dead Sea Scrolls in their historical, cultural and literary setting.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Literature. Counts toward the Humanities req
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2016

RELIG ST/ASIAN 350 — INTRODUCTION TO TAOISM
3-4 credits.

A study of the writings attributed to Lao-tzu and Chuang-tzu and their concepts, and the history and various aspects of religious Taoism. Consideration is given to Taoist influences on literature. Undergraduate majors register for 4 cr; non-majors and graduate majors register for 3 cr

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2017

RELIG ST/FOLKLORE 352 — SHAMANISM
3 credits.

Survey of shamanism as a religious tradition and sociocultural force in Siberian, Asian, and Native American societies. Exploration of shamanic rituals, roles, cosmology. Cultural and political uses of shamanism in traditional and modern contexts.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Ethnic St - Counts toward Ethnic Studies requirement
Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2022

RELIG ST/ENVIR ST/HIST SCI 356 — ISLAM, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, AND THE ENVIRONMENT
3-4 credits.

Survey of Muslim religious understandings of science, technology, nature and environment. Gain a global perspective through case studies, covering sources such as the Qur’an, theology and law, and traditions of esoteric piety (mysticism), and historical and contemporary issues like medical ethics, virtual realities, and environmental change, challenge and crisis.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Sustain - Sustainability
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2015

RELIG ST/FOLKLORE 359 — MYTH
3 credits.

The relationship between myth and tale, history, culture. Myth research; methodological approaches; world mythologies; myth and modern times.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2017

RELIG ST/ENGL/HISTORY 360 — THE ANGLO-SAXONS
3 credits.

Life and literature during the Old English period (c450-c1100). Primary emphasis on the vernacular and Latin writings of the Anglo-Saxons themselves. Extensive historical and archaeological background; attention to the development and character of monasticism, to the production of manuscripts, etc. All reading in translation.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Literature. Counts toward the Humanities req
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2022

RELIG ST 361 — EARLY CHRISTIAN LITERATURE: PAULINE CHRISTIANITY
3 credits.

By conventional reckoning, Paul was a major contributor to the development of Christianity. Analyzes both Paul’s and other contemporary writings to assess the extent to which he contributed to the development of the early church.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Literature. Counts toward the Humanities req
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2022
RELIG ST/ASIAN 362 — INTRODUCTION TO CONFUCIANISM
3 credits.

The development of Confucianism in pre-Buddhist China emphasizing interactions with competing viewpoints. Particular attention to issues of morality and human nature, stressing the roots of Confucianism in more general theories of value. All readings in translation. Not open to students with credit for RELIG ST 363 prior to Fall 2019.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2014

RELIG ST/AFRICAN/ASIAN 370 — ISLAM: RELIGION AND CULTURE
3-4 credits.

The emergence and development of Islam; schism; theology; asceticism; speculative and popular mysticism; literatures in diverse Islamic languages. Not open to students with credit for LCA 370 prior to Fall 2019.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2019

RELIG ST/ART HIST 373 — GREAT CITIES OF ISLAM
3 credits.

A comparative study of the foundation and development of five great cities in the history of Islam: Cairo, Istanbul, Delhi, Mecca, and Isfahan. Architectural projects, ornamental idioms, and changes to the urban plan are studied from aesthetic and cultural perspectives. Integrates historical and religious studies to highlight the shifting nature of Islamic culture, from the tenth century CE to the present.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2019

RELIG ST/COM ARTS 374 — THE RHETORIC OF RELIGION
3 credits.

Rhetorical character of religious controversy and sectarian persuasion in Western religion.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Summer 2022

RELIG ST 400 — TOPICS IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES - HUMANITIES
3-4 credits.

Topics may include religion in specific societies or regions; religion in the arts; contemporary themes in religion.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions
Last Taught: Fall 2022

RELIG ST 401 — TOPICS IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES - SOCIAL STUDIES
3-4 credits.

Topics in religious studies in the social sciences.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions
Last Taught: Fall 2022

RELIG ST 403 — TOPICS IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES-US ETHNIC STUDIES
3-5 credits.

Topics in historical or contemporary religious culture and society pertaining to persistently marginalized racial or ethnic groups in the United States.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Ethnic St - Counts toward Ethnic Studies requirement
Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions
Last Taught: Summer 2020

RELIG ST/AFROAMER 404 — AFRICAN AMERICAN RELIGIONS
3 credits.

Explores the varieties of African American religious expressions from the colonial era to the present with emphasis on racism and resistance, marginalization and resilience, creative expression and the continued influence of Africa and the Caribbean.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Ethnic St - Counts toward Ethnic Studies requirement
Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2018
RELIG ST/ASIAN 405 — GODS AND GODDESSES OF SOUTH ASIA
3 credits.

Introduces some of the most important deities of South Asia through visual representation, mythical narratives and rituals of worship. Topics include the development of iconographic forms and concepts, masculine and feminine aspects of the divine, the belief in human embodiments of divinities, the phenomenon of possession, modes of domestic and public worship and the symbolism of the temple structure.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement
Repeatable for Credit: No

RELIG ST 406 — THE AMISH
3 credits.

An exploration of the faith and life of one of America’s most familiar yet widely misunderstood religious groups, the Old Order Amish.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2021

RELIG ST 410 — CHILDREN AND RELIGION IN AMERICA
3 credits.

Based upon the assumption children are important participants in religious communities; that they co-create their religious traditions. Through studies of children's lives in various religious communities in America (mostly), explore how including children's perspectives shifts general claims about religious groups and their practices.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2021

RELIG ST/HISTORY 411 — THE ENLIGHTENMENT AND ITS CRITICS
3 credits.

European intellectual history in the 17th and 18th centuries, from the Wars of Religion to the French Revolution. Examines the rise of Enlightenment thought in relation to political and religious conflict, revolutions in science and philosophy, and the emergence of the public sphere. Special attention is paid to the Enlightenment’s relationship to religion and to contemporary critiques made of Enlightenment thinking, including those of the early Romantic movement.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2020
RELIG ST/ENGL 434 — MILTON
3 credits.

Study of John Milton’s poems and selected prose.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Literature. Counts toward the Humanities req
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2020

RELIG ST/JEWISH/PHILOS 435 — JEWISH PHILOSOPHY FROM ANTIQUITY TO THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY
3 credits.

A survey of major philosophers and philosophical currents within Judaism from antiquity through the seventeenth century.

Requisites: Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Advanced
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2018

RELIG ST/ASIAN/HISTORY 438 — BUDDHISM AND SOCIETY IN SOUTHEAST ASIAN HISTORY
3-4 credits.

Therevada Buddhism in Southeast Asia; ideas and basic tenets; history and its impact on social and political institutions; the monastic order and relations with the states; roles in the early history up to the present; focus on Thailand, Burma and Cambodia. Not open to students with credit for LCA 438 prior to Fall 2019.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement
Repeatable for Credit: Yes
Last Taught: Spring 2020

RELIG ST/ASIAN/444 — INTRODUCTION TO SUFISM (ISLAMIC MYSTICISM)
3 credits.

The rise and development of mysticism in Islam; basic Sufi doctrines, values and practices; life and works of important speculative and popular Sufi saints; Sufi brotherhoods in the Middle East, South Asia and North Africa. Not open to students with credit for LCA 444 prior to Fall 2019.

Requisites: Sophomore standing
Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities
Level - Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Spring 2020
**RELIG ST/ASIAN 466 — BUDDHIST THOUGHT**  
3 credits.

Survey of the fundamental trends in Buddhist thought through the works of major philosophers. Themes include the concept of "selflessness" and concomitant theories of essencelessness, perception, language and rationality. Not open to students with credit for E ASIAN or LCA 466 prior to Fall 2019.  
**Requisites:** Sophomore standing  
**Course Designation:** Breadth - Humanities  
Level - Intermediate  
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S  
Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement  
**Repeatable for Credit:** No  
**Last Taught:** Spring 2020

**RELIG ST/ASIAN 473 — MEDITATION IN INDIAN BUDDHISM AND HINDUISM**  
3 credits.

Examines contemplative practices in the two major Indian religions, Buddhism and Hinduism. Covers practices described in ancient texts but also provides an overview of selected modern practices.  
**Requisites:** Sophomore standing (not open to students with credit for LCA 624 prior to Fall 2019)  
**Course Designation:** Breadth - Humanities  
Level - Intermediate  
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S  
**Repeatable for Credit:** No  
**Last Taught:** Fall 2022

**RELIG ST 475 — RELIGION, GLOBAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH**  
3 credits.

Explores health issues and practices in religious communities and their interaction with public health concerns and programs in U.S. and international contexts.  
**Requisites:** Sophomore standing  
**Course Designation:** Breadth - Humanities  
Level - Intermediate  
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S  
**Repeatable for Credit:** No  
**Last Taught:** Fall 2022

**RELIG ST/ART HIST 478 — ART AND RELIGIOUS PRACTICE IN MEDIEVAL JAPAN**  
3 credits.

A study of spaces, objects, and images within the context of religious belief and practice in Japan between 1300 and 1600, when great Zen monasteries grew up alongside older Buddhist/Shinto religious "megaplexes," and new salvationist sects spread throughout Japan.  
**Requisites:** Sophomore standing  
**Course Designation:** Breadth - Humanities  
Level - Intermediate  
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S  
**Repeatable for Credit:** No  
**Last Taught:** Fall 2018

**RELIG ST 500 — ADVANCED TOPICS IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES**  
2-4 credits.

Topics may include religion in specific contexts, religion and other disciplines or specific themes in Religious Studies.  
**Requisites:** Sophomore standing  
**Course Designation:** Breadth - Humanities  
Level - Advanced  
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S  
Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement  
**Repeatable for Credit:** Yes, unlimited number of completions  
**Last Taught:** Spring 2020

**RELIG ST/PHILOS 501 — PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION**  
3-4 credits.

Analysis of religious experience and activity, and examination of principal religious ideas in light of modern psychology, philosophy, science, and anthropology.  
**Requisites:** Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS  
**Course Designation:** Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science  
Level - Advanced  
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S  
**Repeatable for Credit:** No  
**Last Taught:** Fall 2019

**RELIG ST/PHILOS 502 — SPECIAL TOPICS IN PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION**  
3 credits.

One or more topics selected from among the following: religious discourse, God, evil, survival, great philosophers of religion, etc. Variable content.  
**Requisites:** Junior standing or 3 Credits in PHILOS  
**Course Designation:** Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science  
Level - Advanced  
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S  
**Repeatable for Credit:** Yes, unlimited number of completions  
**Last Taught:** Fall 2013

**RELIG ST/ASIAN 505 — THE PERFECTIBLE BODY IN RELIGIONS, MEDICINES, AND POLITICS**  
3 credits.

Looking at the cultural institutions of politics, medicine, and religion in multiple cultures and historical times, students will explore ideas about what constitutes a perfect body, how and why different parts of the body are privileged over others, and how and why the notion of bodily perfectibility differs for men and women, children and adults, and humans and gods. Readings encourage such questions as: Is the perfect body attainable and, if so, how? And, who benefits from bodily perfection (or the rhetoric of the bodily perfection)? We will ask these questions with comparative intent: we want both to learn about cultures other than our own and, in the process of understanding the other, we will ask how this new knowledge might empower us to be more observant and critical of the role(s) and treatment of the body in our own society historically and today.  
**Requisites:** Junior standing  
**Course Designation:** Breadth - Humanities  
Level - Advanced  
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S  
Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement  
**Repeatable for Credit:** No
RELIG ST/CURRIC/ED POL 516 — RELIGION AND PUBLIC EDUCATION
3 credits.
Examines theories and practices related to the role of religion in public schooling and its accompanying tensions: political and philosophical, practical and personal.
**Requisites:** Junior standing
**Course Designation:** Breadth - Social Science
**Level:** Advanced
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement
**Repeatable for Credit:** No
**Last Taught:** Spring 2021

RELIG ST/CLASSICS/HISTORY 517 — RELIGIONS OF THE ANCIENT MEDITERRANEAN
3 credits.
Ancient religions in their political, social and cultural contexts; topics include ritual, literary and artistic representations, religious persecutions, and/or modern approaches to the study of ancient religions. Chronological and geographical focus will vary between Greece, Rome, Judaea and Egypt.
**Requisites:** Sophomore standing
**Course Designation:** Breadth - Humanities
**Level:** Intermediate
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
**Repeatable for Credit:** No
**Last Taught:** Spring 2017

RELIG ST 600 — RELIGION IN CRITICAL PERSPECTIVE
3 credits.
Theory and analysis of religion as a human phenomenon.
**Requisites:** Consent of instructor
**Course Designation:** Level - Advanced
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
**Repeatable for Credit:** No
**Last Taught:** Fall 2022

RELIG ST 601 — SENIOR CAPSTONE RESEARCH AND COLLOQUIUM
4 credits.
Integrated capstone course combining discussion of research methods, conduct of senior thesis research, and presentation and discussion of research results.
**Requisites:** Consent of instructor
**Course Designation:** Level - Advanced
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
**Repeatable for Credit:** No
**Last Taught:** Spring 2022

RELIG ST/ASIAN 650 — PROSEMINAR IN BUDDHIST THOUGHT
2-3 credits.
Advanced topics in theories focused on the mechanisms of contemplative practices such as mindfulness, focused attention and compassion practices, with special emphasis on the interaction of traditional theories from contemplative traditions such as Buddhism and more recent theoretical accounts in psychology and cognitive science.
**Requisites:** Junior standing
**Course Designation:** Breadth - Humanities
**Level:** Advanced
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement
**Repeatable for Credit:** Yes, unlimited number of completions
**Last Taught:** Spring 2022

RELIG ST 681 — SENIOR HONORS THESIS
3 credits.
Independent research undertaken by students in the honors program.
**Requisites:** Consent of instructor
**Course Designation:** Level - Advanced
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Honors - Honors Only Courses (H)
**Repeatable for Credit:** No
**Last Taught:** Fall 2022

RELIG ST 682 — SENIOR HONORS THESIS
3 credits.
Independent research undertaken by students in the honors program.
**Requisites:** Consent of instructor
**Course Designation:** Level - Advanced
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Honors - Honors Only Courses (H)
**Repeatable for Credit:** No
**Last Taught:** Spring 2022

RELIG ST 699 — DIRECTED STUDY
1-4 credits.
Advanced directed study projects as arranged with a faculty member.
**Requisites:** Consent of instructor
**Course Designation:** Level - Advanced
L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
**Repeatable for Credit:** Yes, unlimited number of completions
**Last Taught:** Spring 2022

RELIG ST 799 — INDEPENDENT RESEARCH
1-6 credits.
Independent research for graduate students.
**Requisites:** Consent of instructor
**Course Designation:** Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement
**Repeatable for Credit:** No
**Last Taught:** Summer 2010
RELIG ST/HISTORY 963 — AMERICAN RELIGIOUS HISTORY TO 1860
3 credits.

The creation of a national religious culture from the earliest settlements to the mid-nineteenth century.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing
Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement
Repeatable for Credit: No
Last Taught: Fall 2017

RELIG ST 999 — INDEPENDENT WORK
1-6 credits.

Individual tutorial on topics in religious studies.

Requisites: Consent of instructor
Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement
Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions
Last Taught: Spring 2020