

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION – UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OFFERINGS – FALL 2017
As of: Monday, May 15, 2017

Course Number	Title	Description	Day(s)	Campus	Cross-Listing	Comments
01:840:101:01	Gods, Myths, and Religions in a Secular Age	This course introduces students to the academic study of religion. We will draw on diverse source material, including Indian, Muslim, Greek, Chinese, and Christian traditions but maintain a focus on the appropriation and re-interpretation of these traditions in the modern, secular west. Sub-topics will include popular notions of “cults,” magic, and illegitimate religion; race, ethnicity, and gender; religious fundamentalism and violence; and debates about religion and science in the 20th and 21st centuries. Another goal will be to familiarize students with major theories of religion, including the work of E. B. Tylor, Sigmund Freud, Karl Marx, Émile Durkheim, Clifford Geertz, and Bruce Lincoln as well as contemporary Cognitive Science research. [21C, AHo]. Prof. Surowitz	MTh2	DC		
01:840:101:02	Gods, Myths, and Religions in a Secular Age	[21C, AHo] Prof. Surowitz	MTh3	DC		
01:840:101:03	Gods, Myths, and Religions in a Secular Age	[21C, AHo] Prof. Fruchtmann	MW4	LC		
01:840:105 01 / 02 / 03 / 04 / 05 / 06 / 07 / H1	Religions Now: 21 st Century Controversies (4 Credits) School of Arts and Sciences Signature Course	Everywhere you look, religions—and religious controversies —are shaping our world. This course focuses on how religions, both as belief systems and socio -cultural systems, are interwoven in today’s challenges. How are religions, themselves, changing in response to contemporary events and developments? How can the academic study of religions help us assess and make sense of religion’s role in the 21st century? This course fulfills 21st Century Challenges [21C] and Arts and Humanities [AHo].	MW4	LC		Lecture (80 Minutes)
01:840:105:01	Religions Now: 21 st Century Controversies	This course fulfills 21st Century Challenges [21C] and Arts and Humanities [AHo].	W1	LC		Recitation (55 Minutes)

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01:840:105:02	Religions Now: 21 st Century Controversies	This course fulfills 21st Century Challenges [21C] and Arts and Humanities [AHo].	W2	LC		Recitation (55 Minutes)
01:840:105:03	Religions Now: 21 st Century Controversies	[21C, AHo]	W3	LC		Recitation (55 Minutes)
01:840:105:04	Religions Now: 21 st Century Controversies	[21C, AHo]	M2	LC		Recitation (55 Minutes)
01:840:105:05	Religions Now: 21 st Century Controversies	[21C, AHo]	M3	LC		Recitation (55 Minutes)
01:840:105:06	Religions Now: 21 st Century Controversies	[21C, AHo]	M6	LC		Recitation (55 Minutes)
01:840:105:07	Religions Now: 21 st Century Controversies	[21C, AHo] Prof. Kolbaba	W5	LC		Recitation (55 Minutes)
01:840:105:H1	Religions Now: 21 st Century Controversies	[21C, AHo] Prof. Williams	W3	LC		Recitation (55 Minutes)
01:840:111:01	The Hero's Quest: Religion, Mythology, and Harry Potter (Hybrid) 3	A comparative study of religion focusing on the common theme of the hero's quest found in the mythologies of major world religions. Prof. Russell-Jones	T5	CAC		In-class meetings on Tuesdays. Hybrid course—some meetings online.
01:840:112:01	Death and Afterlife (Hybrid) (3)	Various religious concepts of death, resurrection, reincarnation, and other forms of afterlife; their relevance to this-worldly life. [AHo] Prof. Bishop	T1	DC		In-class meetings on Tuesdays. Hybrid course—some meetings online.
01:840:112:02	Death and Afterlife (3)	Same as above. Prof. Myladil	MW4	LC		
01:840:112:03	Death and Afterlife (3)	Same as above. Prof. Myladil	MW5	LC		

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01:840:112:04	Death and Afterlife (Hybrid) (3)	Same as above. Prof. Bishop	T2	DC		In-class meetings on Tuesdays. Hybrid course—some meetings online.
01:840:201:01	Intro. To Bible: Torah and Prose (3)	This is the first course of a two-semester sequence. The main goal is to introduce students to the literature of the Bible, focusing on the Torah and the historical material in Joshua through Samuel. Emphasis is placed on literary, historical, and theological matters. Special use is made of archaeological discoveries. The Bible is studied against the backdrop of ancient Near Eastern literature, history, religion, mythology, and law. (Credit not given for both this course and 01:563:220.) [HST, AHp] Prof. Rendsburg	TTh4	CAC	01:563:220:01	
01:840:202:01	New Testament (3)	This course treats the history of early Christianity, primarily through the study of the texts which became the Christian New Testament. To understand the social, religious and intellectual contexts in which these texts emerged, we will be reading not only from the New Testament but also from non-Christian sources as well as other Christian texts which did not become part of the canon. We will explore how these settings shaped both the texts and the early Christian communities which honored these texts. [HST]	TTh6	CAC	01:563:223:01	
01:840:204:01	Hindu Scriptures (3)	Interpretation of basic Hindu scriptures in their historical, literary, and theological contexts to see how they contributed to the development of various traditions and spiritual paths in Hinduism. Prof. Sherbow	TTh5	CAC		
01:840:211:01	Religion in Asia (3)	This course offers an introduction to the history of religions in South, Southeast, and East Asia. [HST, AHo, AHp]. Prof. Jiang	TTh4	CAC		
01:840:211:02	Religion in Asia (3)	[HST, AHo, AHp] Prof. Sherbow	TTh6	CAC		
01:840:212:01	Religions of the Western World (3)	This course examines the beliefs, practices, and sacred writings of Judaism, Islam, Christianity, and indigenous traditions. [HST, SCL, AHo]. Prof. Pavlin	MW6	DC		
01:840:212:02	Religions of the Western World (3)	[HST] [SCL] [AHo] Ballentine	TF2	CAC		
01840:212:03	Religions of the Western World (3)	[HST] [SCL] [AHo] Prof. Pavlin	MW4	DC		
01:840:226:01	Islam (Hybrid) (3)	This course provides an overview of Islam, from the narratives	W6	CAC	01:685:226:01	In-class meetings

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		about its beginnings until the present day. This course provides a reliable understanding for anyone seeking an academic inquiry into Islam as a religious system, with reflection on its diverse schools and historical development in the light of modern secular scholarship. [HST, AHo] Prof. Mojaddedi				on Wednesdays. Hybrid course—some meetings online.
01:840:307:90	Jesus (Online) 3	This course is a study of the many varied constructions of Jesus of Nazareth. The class will examine how Jesus' earliest followers made sense of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus in ways that resulted in a diverse array of gospels and other ancient texts. We will also examine depictions of Jesus in other media (literature, art, film, etc.) and the complex ways they do and do not engage with these early sources. Prof. Ketchum	Online			Chat Sessions Thursdays 10-12 a.m.
01:840:307:91	Jesus (Online) 3	Same as above. Prof. Ketchum	Online			Chat Sessions Thursdays 4-6 p.m.
01:840:311:01	Christians, The Other, and Violence (3)	History and analysis of Christians as both victims and perpetrators of violence from early Christianity to the present. Topics will include martyrdom, crusades, the European Wars of Religion in early modern Europe, 20th century religious conflicts, and contemporary political discourse. [WCR]. Prof. Fruchtman	TTh5	CAC		
01:840:314:01	Origins of Western Morality (3)	Early Christian groups used Jewish and Greek moral traditions and reshaped them according to their developing interests. These interests came to shape the moral language, laws, politics, and social codes of Christian Europe and America. The course will pay particular attention to the roles of Hellenistic philosophy, the Greek translation of the Hebrew Bible, the letters of Paul, the teaching attributed to Jesus in writings from the end of the first century C.E., and the development of ascetic practices and ideology. [HST, WCR, WCD]	MTh2	CAC		
01:840:316:01	Evangelicalism in the U.S. (3)	Explores key developments within American evangelicalism over the course of the twentieth century, focusing especially on evangelicals' varied responses to major political, economic, social, and cultural trends in the United States. [HST, WCR, WCD]. Prof. Williams	MW5	LC	16:840:516:01	
01:840:319:01	Religion in American History (3)	This course offers a broad survey of the role of religion in American history and culture. We will explore the contours of religion in North America from the pre- Columbian period to the	MTh1	DC		

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		present. This course pays special attention to American religious diversity and the complexities of American religious life. We will look at the encounter and exchange that occurred among religious communities during the past 400 years, and the manner in which this influenced the development of a unique and dynamic North American religious landscape. Further we will explore the religious dimensions of gender, race, and the development of the interaction of American religion and politics [HST, WCR, WCD]. Prof. Surowitz				
01:840:366:01	The Yoga of Devotion: Bhakti (3)	Overview of some of the main forms Hindu devotion, Bhakti, has taken over the centuries. Attention paid to the main streams of Bhakti focused on Shiva, Vishnu and the various forms of the Goddess. Prof. Bryant	T/Th5	LC		
01:840:369:01	Buddhist Philosophy (3)	This class is an introduction to some of the foundational doctrines of the Buddhist philosophy in India. We start with the teachings of the historical Buddha that center on the problem of suffering, the nature of the self and a distinct conception of reality and then survey some of the major schools of Buddhist philosophy that have developed from these teachings. Our focus will be on the two major schools of Indian Mahāyāna Buddhism, Madhyamaka and Yogācāra and end with the Buddhist encounter with the West. (Credit not given for this course and 01:730:369). [HST, AHo] Prof. Jiang	TTh5	CAC	01:730:369:01 16:840:569:01	
01:840:372:01	Islamic Mystical Literature (Hybrid) (3)	This course will examine the literary output of Sufi mystics in the Islamic world. As a religion course, the main focus will be on mystical teachings, although attention will also be given to the literary genres represented, which include not only poetry of various forms and from diverse regions and periods, but also biography and the modern novel, all in English translation (from Arabic, Persian, and Turkish). Audio-visual resources shall be used to witness the performance of poetry in mystical rituals and in more popularized forms. [AH, WCR, WCD] Prof. Mojaddedi	W4	CAC		In-class meetings on Wednesdays. Hybrid course—some meetings online.
01:840:405:01	Western Encounter with Hinduism (3)	This course will attempt an overview of representation of India on the Western Religious Landscape stemming from the earliest interactions between West and East, the subsequent cultural and intellectual exchanges, the eventual colonialization of the subcontinent, and the post-colonial aftermath. Attention will be especially paid to the Orientalist construction of Hinduism during	Th6/7	DC	16:840:506:01	

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		this period. Prof. Bryant				
01:840:426:01	Seminar in the Study of Religion: Apocalypse Now: Religious Movements and the End of Time (3)	The course compares ancient, Medieval, and contemporary apocalyptic movements. Case studies will include the Jewish apocalyptic movement associated with the Dead Sea Scrolls, Pauline Christianity, Medieval apocalypticism surrounding Joachim of Fiore and the Crusades, and more contemporary movements such as Jonestown and the Left Behind series of Christian thrillers. Prof. Wasserman	T3/4	DC	16:840:505:01	