

**DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION – UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OFFERINGS – FALL 2016**  
**As of: Monday, September 12, 2016**

<b>Course Number</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Day(s)</b>	<b>Campus</b>	<b>Cross-Listing</b>	<b>Comments</b>
01:840:105 01 / 02 / 03 / H1	Religions Now: 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Controversies (4 Credits) <a href="#">School of Arts and Sciences Signature Course</a>	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]. Profs. Kolbaba and Williams	MW4	LC		Lecture (80 Minutes)
01:840:105:01	Religions Now: 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Controversies	Same as above.	W1	LC		Recitation (55 Minutes)
01:840:105:02	Religions Now: 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Controversies	Same as above.	W2	LC		Recitation (55 Minutes)
01:840:105:03	Religions Now: 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Controversies	Same as above.	W3	LC		Recitation (55 Minutes)
01:840:105:H1	Religions Now: 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Controversies	Same as above (SAS honors).	W3	LC		Recitation (55 Minutes)
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	TF1	DC		In-class meetings on Tuesdays.
01:840:112:02	Death and Afterlife (3)	Various religious concepts of death, resurrection, reincarnation, and other forms of afterlife; their relevance to this-worldly life. (AHo) Prof. Myladil	MW4	LC		
01:840:112:03	Death and Afterlife (3)	Various religious concepts of death, resurrection, reincarnation, and other forms of afterlife; their relevance to this-worldly life. (AHo) Prof. Myladil	MW5	LC		

01:840:121:01	Martyrdom: From the Maccabees to ISIS (1.5)	Martyrdom as a historical, literary, and religious phenomenon. Tools that enable students to decipher martyrdom discourse in other contexts--including in interreligious conflicts (medieval and modern) and in American pop culture. Prof. Fruchtman	MW4	BC		Mini Course. Dates: 10/26/16-12/14/16.
01:840:122:01	Saints, Sinners, and Scholars: A History of Christianity (1.5)	Christian history, beginning with Jesus and the gospels (canonical and noncanonical), weaving through Late Antiquity, the Middle Ages, the Reformation and the American context before ending with discussions of contemporary issues in Christianity. Prof. Fruchtman	TTh4	DC		Mini Course Dates: 10/25/16-12/13/16
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. Ballentine	MTh2	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) Prof. Dixon	TTh6	CAC	01:563:223:01	
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. Lammerts	TTh4	CAC		
01:840:211:02	Religion in Asia (3)	This course offers an introduction to the history of religions in South, Southeast, and East Asia. (HST, AHo, AHp) (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. Surowitz	MTh3	CAC		

01:840:212:02	Religions of the Western World (Hybrid) (3)	This course focuses on the Religious beliefs, practices and writings of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam as well as lesser-known “new religious movements” such as Ba’hai and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. (HST, SCL, AHo) Prof. Bishop	TF2	DC		In-class meetings on Tuesdays.
01840:212:03	Religions of the Western World (3)	This course introduces the academic study of religion by focusing on religions of the Near Eastern and Western traditions. After treating methodologies appropriate for the academic study of religion, the course will focus on the origin and development of the scriptures, beliefs, and practices of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Attention will be given to primary sources and issues of theology, mysticism, and authority (HST, SCL, AH) Prof. Pavlin	MW6	DC		
01:840:224:01	Hinduism (3)	This course presents the beliefs and practices of Hinduism, from the earliest to the modern era, through its major primary texts: select Vedic hymns and <i>Upanisads</i> , portions of the <i>Laws of Manu</i> , the <i>Mahabharata</i> , and <i>Puranas</i> . The nature of the Divine and spirit, the practice of <i>dharma</i> and yogic methods of realizing the Self will be focused on through a close reading of assigned texts, assisted by insights from traditional and modern commentators.. Prof. Sherbow	TTh5	CAC		
01:840:226:01	Islam (Hybrid) (3)	This course provides an overview of Islam, from the narratives 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	MW6	CAC	01:685:226:01	In-class meetings on Wednesdays.
01:840:305:01	Apocalypse Now? Religious Movements and the End of Time (3)	From the biblical books of Daniel and Revelation to prophecy-like warnings from today's supposed pundits, many texts and leaders threaten a time of global catastrophe and divine judgment. Although many of these traditions convey images of “the apocalypse” or “the end,” we will seek to understand these claims as products of diverse social-settings and cultural environments, not as evidence for a single over-arching religious event. Focusing especially on Christian literature, this course aims to understand the way ancient and modern apocalyptic traditions reflect the values, aspirations, and anxieties of their writers, editors, and earliest audiences. The first part of the course sets Jewish and Christian	TF2	DC		

		apocalyptic literature within relevant social, political, and mythic contexts, considers the evidence for apocalyptic or millenarian movements associated with the Dead Sea Scrolls and the origins of Christianity, and explores relevant historical and social-scientific methodologies. In the second part of the course, we will shift to consider how 19th and 20th century traditions appropriate and re-imagine the thought and imagery of the biblical texts, especially relating them to recent millenarian cults and the Left Behind series of Christian thrillers. Prof. Dixon (HST, WCR, WCD) Prof. Ketchum				
01:840:305:02	Apocalypse Now? Religious Movements and the End of Time (3)	Same as above. Prof. Dixon	TTh4	CAC		
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 4-6 p.m.
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 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	MTh1	DC		
01:840:325:01	Prophet Muhammad (3)	The course focuses on Muhammad, the Prophet of Islam and on the basic beliefs, practices and history of Islam and the Muslim peoples of the world. Using the <i>Sirah</i> (biography) of the Prophet as a foundation, we will explore various themes related to the study of the Prophet as a historical and religious figure,	MW4	DC	01:685:325:01	

		including tensions arising from the Muslim and non-Muslim interpretations of the Messenger and the message as well as diverse forms of veneration of the Prophet within the Islamic world. (Credit not given for both this course <i>and</i> 01:685:325). Prof. Pavlin				
01:840:340:01	The Dead Sea Scrolls (3)	Since their discovery in 1947, the Dead Sea Scrolls have been the subject of intense study and debate, and have profoundly influenced the way in which we understand the ancient Jewish world, as well as the origins of Christianity and Rabbinic Judaism. This class will examine a number of the Dead Sea Scrolls, attempting to understand them within their original historical contexts, as well as their significance for later Jewish and Christian traditions. All readings are in English. (Credit not given for both this course and 01:563:340). Prof. Rendsburg	MW6	CAC	01:563:340:01	
01:840:362:01	Post Modern Approaches to Sacred Literature (3)	Postmodern literary analysis of religious texts drawn from Jewish, Christian and Hindu traditions. The course will analyze key texts by Sigmund Freud, D.H. Lawrence, C.G. Jung, and Marcel Proust. The analysis will also include films of two modern directors (Peter Weir's <i>The Last Wave</i> /apocalyptic themes and Jean-Luc Godard's <i>Hail, Mary</i> /the Annunciation to the Virgin) and my own literary contextualization of the <i>Bhagavad Gita</i> . These analyses will provide material for the study of such postmodern religious themes as the antinomy of Good and Evil, apocalypse as a myth of both world and individual transformation, and the feminine side of God. (Credit not given for this course and 01:195:318). Prof. Walker	MW7	CAC	01:195:318:01	
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	
01:840:370:01	Buddhism, Society, and Politics in Southeast Asia (3)	This course offers an exploration of the histories of Buddhist social and political culture in Southeast Asia from premodernity to the present. We read primary literary and historical texts, inscriptions, and art historical and archaeological evidence, as well as current interdisciplinary scholarship in Buddhist and	W3/4	DC		

		Southeast Asian Studies, to consider how Buddhism has played, and continues to play, a vital role in the construction of norms and habits of the sociopolitical domain. Examples of particular thematic foci include diverse regional Buddhist practices and understandings of law, gender, class, political authority, the family, monastic institutions, colonialism, and economic life. (HST, WCD, WCR). (Prof. Lammerts				
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	MW4	CAC		In-class meetings on Wednesdays.
01:840:380:01	Religious Healing in the U.S.	This course will explore the history of religious healing in the United States, focusing especially on the questions: How have major social, cultural, economic, and political trends in the United States impacted the way in which religious Americans defined illness and its cure? How have individuals from various religious traditions responded to the ascendancy of the medical establishment and the growing prestige of medical science? How does the practice of modern medicine compare to explicitly religious healing rituals? How have different healing traditions interacted within an American context (cross listed with 16:840:580:01). (HST, WCR, WCD). Prof. Williams	MW5	DC		
01:840:401:01	Seminar in Old Testament Literature: Sanctifying Violence and the Biblical Tradition (3)	We will explore the relationship between biblical traditions and justifying violence, through critical analysis of how violent acts may be legitimated by appeal to notions of the divine. We will begin with theoretical questions about religion and violence and then turn to in-depth readings of particular biblical stories that feature violence, from mutilating corpses of enemies to slaughtering children. We will also examine broader ancient Near Eastern themes of ritual violence and sanctified combat in order to better understand biblical descriptions of violence. We will conclude with the use of biblical "scripture" to frame violence within Jewish and Christian traditions. Prof. Ballentine	T2/3	DC		