

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION – UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OFFERINGS – SPRING 2016
As of : Tuesday, June 21, 2016

Course Number	Title	Description	Day(s)	Campus	Cross-Listing	Comments
01:840:111:01	The Religious Quest: The Hero's Quest (3)	This course will focus on a major theme found in the narratives of nearly every major (and minor) world religious tradition: the hero's quest. This common theme appears in the scriptures, stories, and legends of religions as different as the animism of the Trobriand islanders to the strict monotheism of Islam. While the details differ, representations of the hero's quest follow a remarkably similar pattern across time and distance. In analyzing this common theme, we will explore the genre of "mythology," as it relates to other categories of religious narratives. While examining the Hero's Quest step by step as it appears in religious narratives, we will also discover how this theme is present in the contemporary world in popular fantasy literature and film. Some 20 th century scholars of religion have argued that "modern man" lives in a "desacralized world," and we will use the course material to question this assumption, and consider what is meant by the term "modern," and indeed, what is meant by the term "religion," in today's world.	TTh5	LC		
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.	TF1	DC		In-class meetings on Tuesdays.
01:840:112:02	Death and Afterlife (Hybrid) (3)	Various religious concepts of death, resurrection, reincarnation, and other forms of afterlife; their relevance to this-worldly life	MTh3	CAC		
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	MW5	CAC		
01:840:202:01	New Testament (3)	Interpretation of basic Christian scriptures in translation; influence of Jesus and Paul on the early Christian community.	MTh2	LC	01:563:223:01	
01:840:202:02	New Testament (3)	Interpretation of basic Christian scriptures in translation; influence of Jesus and Paul on the early Christian community.	TTh6	CAC	01:563:223:02	
01:840:206:01	Intro. Bible II	Second course of two-semester sequence. Introduce students to the literature of the Bible, focusing on the Prophets, historical backdrop of the prophetic message as revealed mainly through	MW4	CAC	01:563:206:01	

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		the book of Kings, and other relevant poetic material (Psalms, Job, etc.). Emphasis placed on literary, historical, theological matters. Special use made of archaeological discoveries. Bible studied against the backdrop of ancient Near Eastern culture. (Credit not given for both this course and 01:563:206).				
01:840:208:01	Religions of the Greco-Roman World (3)	Study of pagan gods and goddesses, cults and practices of the classical Greek world, Roman Republic, and Roman Empire. <i>(same as 01:190:211)</i>	MTh2	DC	01:190:211:01	
01:840:211:01	Religions of the Eastern World (3)	Religious beliefs, practices, and sacred writings of Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, and Shinto.	TTh4	CAC		
01:840:211:02	Religions of the Eastern World (3)	Religious beliefs, practices, and sacred writings of Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, and Shinto.	TTh5	CAC		
01:840:211:03	Religions of the Eastern World (3)	Religious beliefs, practices, and sacred writings of Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, and Shinto.	TTh6	CAC		
01:840:212:01	Religions of the Western World (Hybrid) (3)	Religious beliefs, practices and sacred writings of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.	MW4	DC		In-class meetings will be on Mondays
01:840:212:02	Religions of the Western World (3)	Religious beliefs, practices and sacred writings of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.	MW5	CAC		
01:840:212:03	Religions of the Western World (3)	Religious beliefs, practices and sacred writings of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.	MW6	CAC		
01:840:226:01	Islam (Hybrid) (3)	Muhammad and the development of Muslim beliefs and practices; major movements and their effects on historical and current events	MW6	CAC	01:685:226:01	In-class meetings will be on Wednesdays.
01:840:240:01	Love as Ethic and Idea	Judeo-Christian religious tradition, viewed through the concept of love as moral and theological ideal, from the biblical period to the present.	TTh4	CAC		
01:840:242:01	Introduction to Ancient Judaism (3)	This course will investigate the historical development of Jewish beliefs and practices in ancient times, spanning the Biblical and post-Biblical periods. Issues to be studied include Sabbath, festivals, circumcision, dietary laws, sacrifice, prayer, monotheism, covenant, and eschatology. Our sources will include both classical texts, such as the Bible and the Mishna, and information forthcoming from archaeological discoveries, such as the Dead Sea Scrolls and excavated synagogues.	MW6	CAC	01:563:222:0-1	

01:840:307:90	Jesus (Online) (3)	The career and teaching of Jesus viewed in historical context; development of the Gospel tradition and its effect on later concepts of Christ.				Online Course. Chat Sessions Thurs., 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
01:840:307:91	Jesus (Online) (3)	The career and teaching of Jesus viewed in historical context; development of the Gospel tradition and its effect on later concepts of Christ.				Online Course. Chat Sessions Thurs., 4-6 p.m.
01:840:314:01	Origins of Western Morality (3)	The ways that 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. Issues of importance to the course include the variety of ancient options available for thinking about ethical psychology, the concept of porneia (harlotry) and the attack on traditional Mediterranean religion, the family/household and opposition to it, wealth/poverty, slavery, sexual ethics and gender norms.	TTh5	CAC		
01:840:316:01	Evangelicalism in the United States (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.	M2/3	DC	16:840:593:01	
01:840:319:01	Religion in American History (3)	Survey of American religious history, exploring the relationship between religion and trends in such areas as politics, science, technology, gender relations, economy, and immigration.	MW5	CAC		
01:840:319:02	Religion in American History (3)	Survey of American religious history, exploring the relationship between religion and trends in such areas as politics, science, technology, gender relations, economy, and immigration.	MTh3	CAC		
01:840:321:01	Yoga: History and Philosophy (3)	While Yoga conjures up images of bodily postures and stretches in popular western culture, this aspect of yoga is only the third and preliminary step of the eight steps outlined in the Yoga Sutras, the classical ancient Indian treatise on the practice of Yoga. This course will have three components. The first will consist of a close reading of the original Yoga Sutras of Patanjali, with particular attention paid to the pre-modern commentaries of the text, thus exposing students to the traditional understanding of the practice of classical Yoga and its goals.	TTh5	CAC	16:840:521:01	

		The second component of the course will consist of an analysis of the history of Yoga in India, considering its variegated expressions in some of the classical traditions of the subcontinent. The third component will be a consideration of Yoga's transplantation to the West. Additionally, Students will have the optional opportunity of attending a Yoga class on campus.				
01:840:323:01	Buddhism (3)	Rise of Buddhist theory and practice in the context of Indian culture; encounters with indigenous religions of East and Southeast Asia; development of Theravada, Mahayana, and Vajrayana.	W2/3	CAC		
01:840:324:01	Chinese Religions (3)	Religious concepts and classic texts of Confucianism and Taoism; relation of religion to society and self in China, including role models and paradigms for self-transformation; alchemy and meditation.	T5/6	CAC		
01:840:357:01	Krishna (3)	Examination of the various faces and theologies of Krishna, one of the most important Hindu deities. Depiction in the Mahabharata, Bhagavad Gita, and Bhagavata Purana with reference to rasa theory, a medieval taxonomy of various moods in which the devotee approaches God as a lover, child, friend or master.	Th2/3	CAC	16:840:557:01	
01:840:404:01	Seminar in Christian Monasticism (3)	Evolution and ideals of Christian Monasticism from early Christianity to the 17th Century; interaction between monks and nuns and the rest of society. (Only open to majors in their junior or senior year.)	W3/4	DC		
01:840:456:01	Seminar on Rumi (3)	This course will explore Islamic Spirituality by focusing on the most famous Sufi Master and Poet of all, Jalal al-Din Rumi (d. 1273). Translations of his writings will give insight into medieval Persian Sufism and will also be compared with other writings in the same genres. The historical development of Sufism before Rumi's time and the revival of his popularity in recent times will also be considered, all on the basis of translated sources or those originally produced in English. There is no language requirement. (prerequisite: 01:840:326 or 01:840:356 or 01:840:372; only open to majors in their junior or senior year). Cross listed with 01:840:456:01 and 21:685:312:01.	T3/4	CAC	16:840:556:01	