

**DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION – UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OFFERINGS – SPRING 2018**  
**As of : Friday, October 27, 2017**  
**(subject to change)**

<b>Course Number</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Day(s)</b>	<b>Campus</b>	<b>Cross-Listing</b>	<b>Comments</b>
01:840:101:01 Index: 18482	Gods, Myths, and Religions in a Secular Age (3)	This course introduces students to the academic study of religion by focusing on four major areas of inquiry: myth; religious authority; purity and sacred space; and ritual practices. 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 20 <sup>th</sup> and 21 <sup>st</sup> 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] [AH]. Prof. Surowitz	MTh1	DC		
01:840:101:02 Index:15599	Gods, Myths, and Religions in a Secular Age (3)	Same as above. Prof. Fruchtman	TTh4	DC		
01:840:101:03 Index: 15591	Gods, Myths, and Religions in a Secular Age (3) (Hybrid)	Same as above. Prof. Wasserman	Tues 3	DC		Hybrid course. Some meetings online.
01:840:101:04 Index: 18483	Gods, Myths, and Religions in a Secular Age (3)	Same as above. Prof. Surowitz	MTh2	DC		
01:840:111:01 Index: 19729	Religion, Myth and Harry Potter (3) (Hybrid)	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	T5	LC		Hybrid course. Some meetings online.

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		religious narratives, we will also discover how this theme is present in the contemporary world in popular fantasy literature and film. Some 20 <sup>th</sup> 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. Prof. Russell Jones				
01:840:202:01 Index: 00365	New Testament	Interpretation of basic Christian scriptures in translation; influence of Jesus and Paul on the early Christian community (same as 563:223). SAS Core Code: HST. Prof. Jeong	TTh6	DC	01:563:223:01	
01:840:206:01 Index: 10825	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 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). [HST] [AHp] Prof. Ballentine	MTh2	LC	01:563:206:01	
01:840:211:01 Index: 03741	Religion in Asia (3)	Introduction to the history of religions in South, Southeast, and East Asia. [HST] [AHo] [AHp] Prof. Lammerts	TTh4	CAC		
01:840:211:02 Index: 03328	Religion in Asia (3)	Introduction to the history of religions in South, Southeast, and East Asia. [HST] [AHo] [AHp] Prof. Sherbow	TTh5	CAC		
01:840:212:01 Index: 03740	Religions of the Western World (3)	Religious beliefs, practices and sacred writings of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. [HST] [SCL] [AHo] Prof. Ballentine	MTh3	LC		
01:840:212:02 Index: 03588	Religions of the Western World (3)	Religious beliefs, practices and sacred writings of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. [HST] [SCL] [AHo] Prof. Pavlin	MW4	DC		
01:840:212:03 Index: 18484	Religions of the Western World (3)	Religious beliefs, practices and sacred writings of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. [HST] [SCL] [AHo] Prof. Pavlin	MW6	DC		
01:840:222:01 Index: 19730	The Question of God in Modern Culture (3)	Questions faced by religion in the contemporary era: faith and reason, religious experience, role of religion in a scientific society, nature of God. [HST] [AHo] Prof. Kolbaba	MTh2	DC		
01:840:226:01 Index: 18485	Islam (3) (Hybrid)	Muhammad and the development of Muslim beliefs and practices; major movements and their effects on historical and current events. [HST] [AHo] Prof. Mojaddedi	W6	CAC	01:685:226:01	Hybrid course. Some meetings online.
01:840:305:01 Index: 16936	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 and 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. [HST] [WCR] [WCD] Prof. Jeong	TTh7	DC		

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01:840:307:90 Index: 08981	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. Prof. Ketchum	N/A	N/A		Online Course. Chat Sessions Thurs., 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
01:840:307:91 Index: 11179	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. Prof. Ketchum	N/A	N/A		Online Course. Chat Sessions Thurs., 4-6 p.m.
01:840:319:01 Index: 18486	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.[HST] [WCr] [WCd] Prof. Williams	MW4	CAC		
01:840:321:01 Index: 18462	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 un-derstanding of the practice of classical Yoga and its goals. The second component of the course will consist of an analysis of the history of Yoga in India, consider-ing 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 op-portunity of attending a Yoga class on campus. Prof. Bryant	TTh4	CAC	16:840:521:01	
01:840:333:01 Index: 18487	Caribbean Religion (3)	Examination of the history and role of the diverse religious components of the Caribbean basin from Indigenous practices to Catholicism, Protestantism, Judaism and the emergence and development of African belief systems and practices such as Vodou, Santeria and Rastafarianism from the 18th century to the present (same as 01:595:333). [21C], [SCL], [WCR]. Prof. Surowitz	MTh3	DC	01:595:333:01	

01:840:340:01 Index: 20283	The Dead Sea Scrolls (3)	The discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls was one of the most dramatic archaeological finds of the twentieth century. 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. In this class, we 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. Prof. Yadin-Israel	MTh3	CAC	01:563:340:01	
01:840:362:01 Index: 19652	Postmodern Approaches to Sacred Literature (3)	An examination of some significant aspects of postmodern literary, psychological and cinematic approaches to religion through the close analysis of a few select texts. The course does not deal primarily with the theological or historical interpretation of canonic sacred texts, but rather is designed to highlight the literary daring and the sometimes even outrageous postmodern freedom of authors who, through a process of <i>bricolage</i> , and via reference to a canonical sacred text, create statements of religious orientation and personal declarations of faith. By means of the elaboration of a creative and original literary, cinematic and/or psychological response, these authors come to terms personally with the ongoing power of the sacred text to captivate modern minds. Their own texts, when put into juxtaposition with the original sacred texts, may be taken to some degree as personal confessions in terms of their particular <i>sensibilité religieuse</i> . The course will analyze key texts by such original postmodern interpreters as Sigmund Freud ( <i>Moses and Monotheism</i> /the Biblical story of Moses), D.H. Lawrence ( <i>Apocalypse/ John of Patmos' Apocalypse</i> ), C.G. Jung ( <i>Answer to Job/The Book of Job</i> ), and Marcel Proust ( <i>Time Regained</i> /the ritual of the Tridentine Mass). The analysis will also include films of two modern directors (Peter Weir's <i>The Last Wave</i> /apocalyptic themes) and Haifaa al- Mansour's <i>Wadjda</i> (secret messages), and my own literary contextualization of the <i>Bhagavad Gita</i> (based initially on van Buitenen's <i>The Gita in the Mahabharata</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. Course Cross-listing: 840:362:01. Prof. Walker	MW7	CAC	01:195:318:01	
01:840:364:01 Index: 20222	Sikhism and North Indian History (3)	The history of the Sikh religious tradition from the 16th century up to the present day. Prof. Shah	MW7	CAC		

01:840:368:01 Index: 15596	Hindu Philosophy (3)	Upanishads, Patanjali, Bhagavad-Gita; theories of matter, energy, states of consciousness; meditation. Yogas of knowledge, action, devotion. Karma. Ethics. Comparison of Hindu and Western cosmology. [HST] [AHo] [AHp] Prof. Bryant	TTh5	CAC	01:730:368:01	
01:840:369:01 Index: 15597	Buddhist Philosophy (3)	Interdependence, impermanence, relativity; suffering; path to liberation; meditation; karma as cosmic justice; death and rebirth. Compassion as central ethical value. Theravada, Mahayana, and Tibetan Buddhism (same as 01:730:369). [HST] [AHo] Prof. Jiang	TTh4	CAC	01:730:369:01	
01:840:380:01 Index: 18488	Religious Healing in the U.S. (3)	This course will explore the history of religious healing in the United States, focusing especially on the following 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? [HST] [WCr] [WCd] Prof. Williams	MW5	CAC		
01:840:396:01 Index: 00366	Research in Religion (3)	N/A				By Arrangement
01:840:423:01 Index: 18489	Seminar in Buddhism: Buddhism and the Family (3)	Although Buddhism is frequently represented as a religion of renunciation, buddhas, bodhisattvas, deities, monks, nuns, and the Buddhist laity are in fact deeply embedded within and influenced by their familial relations. Across Asia throughout history, various configurations of "family" play a central role in Buddhist ritual activity, religious motivation, social engagement, and political transformation. This seminar will consider the relationship of Buddhism and the family, a vast subfield of Buddhist Studies (including approaches to difference, gender, and sexuality) that has received significant attention from scholars in recent years. Through readings of primary Buddhist texts in translation as well as secondary sources, participants in the Seminar will explore the often controversial histories of family matters in Asian Buddhism from antiquity to the present. Prof. Lammerts	W2/3	CAC		
01:840:427:01 Index: 20302	Seminar in the Study of Religion: Readings in Biblical Hebrew Poetry.	Intermediate knowledge of Hebrew required. Prof. Rendsburg	MW5	CAC	01:563:434:01	

01:840:456:01 Index: 18490	Seminar on Rumi	<b>BIG TEN ACADEMIC ALLIANCE DISTANCE LEARNING COURSE.</b> On the basis of primary sources in English translation, this seminar will focus on Rumi's didactic writings (poetry and prose), in order to identify his distinctive teachings and their place in the context of the Sufi tradition and Persian mystical literature. (prerequisite: 01:840:226 or 01:840:356 or 372; only open to majors in their junior or senior year). Prof. Mojaddedi	W4/5	CAC	16:840:556:01	
01:840:496:01 Index: 00367	Research in Religion (3)	N/A				By arrangement
01:840:498:H1 Index: 00368	Honors in Religion (3)	N/A				By Arrangement