RELIGIOUS STUDIES, BACHELOR OF ARTS

College of Letters & Science

The Major Program
Religion is a major force in human experience. It has shaped the world’s history, literature, art, culture, politics, ethics, and economics. In addition to offering courses in all the major religious traditions (Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and Hinduism,) the Religious Studies Program has developed cross cultural courses dealing with religious symbols, myths, and rituals in written texts, art, theater, and film, and the Internet, as well as, thematic courses dealing with such topics as religion and the body, the rise of fundamentalism, religion and science, religion and ethics, and religion and violence.

The Program
The major introduces students to the academic study of religion. Students can choose from a broad range of courses both in the program itself and in other departments and programs-history, philosophy, psychology, sociology, anthropology, American studies, classics, and medieval studies. In addition to studying religious thought per se, students in the major can also study the way religion has shaped human behavior in such matters as family life, gender roles, ethics, artistic life, concepts of individual freedom, the pursuit of science, and economics. For some students, Religious Studies is an appropriate second major and combines well with anything from philosophy to international agricultural development, political science, and the physical sciences.

Career Alternatives
Because of the program’s focus on developing critical thinking, writing, and reading skills, students who major in Religious Studies are well prepared to enter a variety of careers, including, the health professions, law, business, teaching, and government. In an increasingly global society, knowledge of the world’s religious traditions and practices has become an essential part of a student’s education.

Recommended
A reading knowledge of a foreign language is highly recommended.

Course Equivalents
The major advisors have a list of lower and upper division courses that can be substituted for courses suggested above.

Honors & Honors Program
A student becomes eligible for graduation with honors by meeting the minimum GPA and course requirements established by the College of Letters & Science. Upon successful completion of the additional requirements of the College of Letters & Science Honors Program, individual students may be recommended by the program for graduation with high honors or highest honors on the basis of an evaluation of their academic achievements in the major.

Education Abroad Program
The Religious Studies program encourages students to study in the Summer Abroad program, the Quarter Abroad program, or the Education Abroad program. With the approval of a major advisor, applicable courses taken abroad may be accepted in the major or minor programs.

Teaching Credential Subject Representative
See the Teaching Credential/M.A. Program (https://education.ucdavis.edu/teaching-credentialma/).

Hebrew
Students interested in Hebrew courses should see Hebrew (https://mesa.ucdavis.edu/hebrew/).

Human Rights Minor
Students interested in the Human Rights minor should see Human Rights Minor.

Jewish Studies
Students interested in Jewish Studies should see Jewish Studies (http://jewishstudies.ucdavis.edu).

Major Advisors
Consult the Program office.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Preparatory Subject Matter</td>
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<tr>
<td>(A)</td>
<td>Choose one from the RST 001 series:</td>
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<tr>
<td>RST 001</td>
<td>Survey of Religion</td>
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<td>RST 001A</td>
<td>Pilgrimage</td>
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<td>RST 001B</td>
<td>Death &amp; Afterlife</td>
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<td>RST 001C</td>
<td>Sacrifice</td>
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<td>RST 001D</td>
<td>Conversion</td>
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<td>RST 001E</td>
<td>Fundamentalism</td>
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<td>RST 001F</td>
<td>Religion Today</td>
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<td>RST 001G</td>
<td>Myth, Ritual, &amp; Symbolism</td>
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<td>RST 001H</td>
<td>Sex, Marriage, &amp; Divorce in Medieval &amp; Modern Society</td>
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<td>RST 001J</td>
<td>Music, Voice, &amp; the Word</td>
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<td>(B)</td>
<td>Choose four from other lower division RST offerings:</td>
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<td>RST 005</td>
<td>Comparative Religion</td>
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<td>RST 006</td>
<td>Introduction to Health Sciences &amp; the Humanities</td>
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<td>RST 008</td>
<td>Healthcare &amp; Religious Ethics</td>
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<td>RST 010</td>
<td>Contemporary Ethical Issues</td>
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<tr>
<td>RST 010A</td>
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<td>RST 011</td>
<td>Ethical Eating</td>
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<td>RST 012</td>
<td>Emergence of Judaism, Christianity &amp; Islam</td>
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<td>RST 015Y</td>
<td>Reading War/Fighting War</td>
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<td>RST 021</td>
<td>The Bible &amp; Its Interpreters</td>
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<td>RST 023</td>
<td>Introduction to Judaism</td>
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<td>RST 030</td>
<td>Religions of South Asia</td>
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<td>RST 031</td>
<td>Introduction to Jainism</td>
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<td>RST 032</td>
<td>History of Yoga</td>
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<td>RST 033</td>
<td>Magic &amp; Demons in South Asia</td>
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<td>New Testament</td>
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<td>RST 042</td>
<td>Religion &amp; Science Fiction</td>
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<td>RST 045</td>
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<td>RST 060</td>
<td>Introduction to Islam</td>
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<td>RST 065C</td>
<td>The Qur’an &amp; Its Interpretation</td>
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<td>RST 066</td>
<td>The Song of God: The Bhagavad Gita</td>
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Religious Studies, Bachelor of Arts

Preparatory Subject Matter Subtotal 20

Depth Subject Matter

RST 100 Study of Religion: Issues & Methods 4
or RST 190 Seminar

Choose nine upper division RST courses. Four of these courses may be upper division courses related to religion that are offered by other departments and taken with the approval of a Religious Studies advisor:

RST 102 Christian Origins
RST 103 Medieval & Byzantine Christianity
RST 104 Christianity 1450-1700
RST 105 Christianity & Modernity, 1700-1920
RST 106 Christianity in the Contemporary World
RST 110 Life, Meaning & Identity
RST 111 Persuasion & Conviction in Religious Tradition
RST 115 Mysticism
RST 120 Religion, Magic & Science
RST 122 Studies in Biblical Texts
RST 123 Sex & Gender in the Bible
RST 124 Topics in Judaism
RST 125 Dead Sea Scrolls, Apocrypha, & Pseudepigrapha
RST 126 The Formation of the Rabbinic Tradition
RST 130 Topics in Religious Studies
RST 132 Topics in Mediterranean Ancient Religion
RST 135 The Bible & Film
RST 136 Topics in Jainism
RST 137 Topics in Buddhism
RST 139 Topics in Hinduism
RST 140 Christian Theology
RST 141A New Testament Literature: Synoptic Gospels
RST 141B New Testament Literature: John
RST 141C New Testament Literature: Paul
RST 143 New Testament Apocrypha
RST 144 History of the Bible
RST 145 Contemporary American Religion
RST 150 Religious Ethics
RST 152 Justice, Equity, & Privacy in Medical Humanities
RST 154 The Hindu Temple
RST 155A Bhakti: Indian Devotional Traditions to 1200 CE
RST 155B Bhakti: Indian Devotional Traditions, 1200 CE to Present
RST 156 Religion & the Performing Arts in India
RST 157 Hindu Women & Goddesses
RST 158 The Ramayana
RST 159 The Mahabharata
RST 160 Introduction to Islamic Thought
RST 161 Modern Islam
RST 161B Modern Islam: Authority & Tradition In Process
RST 162 Introduction to Islamic Law
RST 163 Social Life of Islam
RST 165 Islam in Asia
RST 166 Religion & Media in the Arab World
RST 169 Topics in Islam
RST 171 Buddhist Art
RST 172 Ch’an (Zen) Buddhism
RST 175A Daoist Traditions
RST 180 Popular Religious Art in India
RST 181 Hindu Gods & Hindu Symbols
RST 182 Ramayana, Religion, & the Arts
RST 189 Senior Colloquium

Depth Subject Matter Subtotal 40

Total Units 60