RELIGIOUS STUDIES

College of Liberal & Creative Arts
Dean: Dr. Andrew Harris

Religious Studies Program
HUM 388
Phone: (415) 338-1596

Coordinator: Mohammad Azadpur
Undergraduate Advisors: Justin Tiwald, Fred Astren

Program Scope
The Minor in Religious Studies offers students the opportunity to study the full spectrum of humankind's religious heritage from an interdisciplinary perspective. Religion is an individual as well as a social phenomenon and the curriculum takes the students through both realms. Basic value questions are investigated from the viewpoint of religion, of disciplines looking at religion and of the individual in a pluralistic, unsettled world. More than half the minor is individually selected in consultation with an advisor, though the courses must represent the different dimensions of the religious experience as listed on the "Courses" page. Students may choose to focus their course combination in the minor on a specific religious tradition such as Judaism, Islam, Christianity, Buddhism; on a particular issue common to different religions; or on a particular culture or historical period.

As an interdisciplinary minor, religious studies can be taken in conjunction with any major.

Career Outlook
The religious studies minor provides an excellent background for those considering the ministry, social work, counseling, politics, law, or teaching at any level. As a help in shaping a person's view of the meaning and purpose of life, it can be of lasting value whatever one's career.

Religious Studies Minor – 21 units
All course work used to satisfy the requirements of the minor must be completed with a minimum grade point average of 2.0.

Introduction to Religious Traditions (3 units)
Code  Title                  Units
PHIL 502  World Religions  3

or comparable course completed at another institution

The Nature of Religious Experience (3 units)
Code  Title                        Units
PHIL 525/ RELS 300  The Nature of Religious Experience  3

or PHIL 500  Philosophy of Religion

The Dimensions of Religious Experience (12 units)
Select one course from each of the following categories; no more than two courses from a single discipline.

Code  Title                                Units
ARTH 202  Western Art History II  3

The Study of Particular Religious Traditions
AFRS 326  Black Religion  3
AIS 310  American Indian Religion and Philosophy  3
AIS 450  American Indian Science  3
CLAS 230  Ancient Epic Tales  3
ENG 501  Age of Chaucer  3
ENG 630  Selected Studies  3
HIST 110  History of Western Civilization I  3
HIST 111  History of Western Civilization II  3
HIST 321  Hellenistic Greece  3
HIST 326  The Byzantine Empire  3
HIST 328  Pagans and Christians in a Changing Roman World  3
HIST 329  Early Christian Church: 313-787  3
HIST 331/ HUM 404  The High Middle Ages  3
HIST 336  The Reformation  3
HIST/HUM 480  Thought and Culture in America to 1880  3
HUM 403/ HIST 330  The Early Middle Ages  3
HUM 404/ HIST 331  The High Middle Ages  3
JS 410/PHIL 514  Kabbalah and Mysticism in the Jewish Tradition  3
JS 425/PHIL 552  Judaism: Religion and Text  3
JS/PHIL/HUM 501  Judaism, Christianity, and Islam  3
PHIL 302  Medieval Philosophy  3
PHIL 436  Islamic Political Philosophy  3
PHIL 509  The Buddhist Tradition  3
PHIL 511  Chinese Philosophy and Religion  3
PHIL 516  Islamic Philosophy  3
PHIL 530  Selected Religious Thinkers  3
WGS 565  Muslim Feminisms  3

The Study of Religious Phenomena: Disciplinary Perspectives
ANTH 570  Anthropology of Religion  3
HUM 345  Humanism and Mysticism  3
PHIL 500  Philosophy of Religion  3

The Senior Experience (3 units)
Code  Title                                Units
RELS 696  Directed Reading in Religious Studies  3
RELS 300 The Nature of Religious Experience (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: Successful completion of GE Areas A1, A2, A3, and B4 or consent of the instructor.

Nature of religious experience drawn from different religions and academic disciplines within the humanities and social sciences; investigation of the meaning of religious commitment in a secular world. (This course is offered as PHIL 525 and RELS 300. Students may not repeat the course under an alternate prefix.)

Course Attributes:
- E1: Lifelong Learning Develop
- UD-C: Arts and/or Humanities
- Global Perspectives

RELS 696 Directed Reading in Religious Studies (Units: 3)
Prerequisite: RELS 300.

Project to synthesize varying perspectives on religion and religious experiences.