

RELIGIOUS STUDIES, MINOR

Religious studies is an interdisciplinary major or minor that draws on courses from multiple departments to give students a broad understanding of the historical, cultural and philosophical principles of the world's religions, including Buddhism, Christianity, Classical Greek and Roman religions, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, African and Native-American religions. These diverse belief systems are studied not just for their influence over past generations but also to better understand their role in modern issues.

Religious Studies is not just for students planning to go on to become a priest, rabbi or minister. The program provides excellent preparation for all careers that require critical thinking, logic, analysis and writing skills. Because of the breadth of the subject matter, students graduate with a global perspective, an appreciation for different viewpoints and substantive knowledge about ethics and core belief systems of the past and present.

UWM students in Religious Studies take courses in history, anthropology, philosophy, political science, classics, art history, literature, and more. Many students also complement their major with studies in the foreign language since many religions have traditions and foundations in another language.

Students will also find a very active student organization - the Religious Studies Student Organization. The group brings in speakers and engages with the local community on scholarly topics of interest.

Requirements

The minor requires 18 credits in approved Religious Studies courses, including at least 9 upper-division (numbered 300 and above) credits taken in residence at UWM. Students may take courses in the Religious Studies curricular area (RELIGST) as well as courses from the approved list below. Students must complete coursework from at least two different curricular areas.

In addition, the minor must include courses dealing with two different religious traditions. (RELIGST 101 may not be used in fulfilling this requirement.) The College requires that students earn at least a 2.0 GPA on all UWM courses attempted for the minor. A 2.0 GPA also is required on all minor credits attempted, including any transfer work.

To discuss the minor, please contact Program Director David Divalerio at divaleri@uwm.edu.

Approved Religious Studies Content Courses

Code	Title	Credits
AFRIC 311	African Religious Thought and Social Organizations (Indigenous religions)	3
AFRIC 312	The Church in African-American Life (Christianity)	3
AIS 106	Anishinaabe Ethnobotany: Plants in Anishinaabe Philosophy	3
AMLLC 240	Vampires: From Slavic Village to Hollywood (Indigenous religions)	3
ANTHRO 203	Indigenous Religions (Indigenous religions)	3
ANTHRO 305	The Celtic World	3

ANTHRO 314	American Indian Societies and Cultures (Indigenous religions)	3
ANTHRO 326	Peoples and Cultures of South Asia	3
ANTHRO 351	Anthropological Theories of Religion	3
ANTHRO 543	Cross-Cultural Study of Religion	3
ANTHRO 544	Religious Giving in Anthropological Perspective	3
ARABIC 390	Islam: Religion and Culture (Islam)	3
ARABIC 111	Cultures and Civilizations of the Muslim Middle East (Islam)	3
ARTHIST 101	Ancient and Medieval Art and Architecture	3
ARTHIST 102	Renaissance to Modern Art and Architecture	3
ARTHIST 104	African, New World and Oceanic Art and Architecture	3
ARTHIST 105	Asian Art and Architecture	3
ARTHIST 237	Northern Renaissance Art	3
ARTHIST 241	Introduction to Baroque Art	3
ARTHIST 251	Introduction to the Art and Architecture of Latin America	3
ARTHIST 255	Survey of Italian Renaissance Painting and Sculpture	3
ARTHIST 270	Pre-Columbian Art, Myth, and Legacy (Indigenous religions)	3
ARTHIST 281	Modern and Contemporary Chinese Art	3
ARTHIST 312	Minoan and Mycenaean Art and Archaeology	3
ARTHIST 314	Art and Archaeology of the Ancient Near East	3
ARTHIST 315	Art and Archaeology of Ancient Egypt (Indigenous religions)	3
ARTHIST 316	Roman Art and Archaeology (Indigenous religions)	3
ARTHIST 323	Age of Apocalypse: Western European Art after the First Millennium	3
ARTHIST 324	Early Christian and Byzantine Art and Architecture (Christianity)	3
ARTHIST 325	Early Medieval Art in the West	3
ARTHIST 326	Chivalry and Spirituality: French Gothic Art and Architecture	3
ARTHIST 327	Caliphs, Emirs, & Kings: Art & Architecture of Medieval Spain (Islam)	3
ARTHIST 333	High Renaissance Art in Italy	3
ARTHIST 371	African Art (Indigenous religions)	3
ARTHIST 372	Art of the Inca and their Ancestors (Indigenous religions)	3
ARTHIST 373	Art of Ancient Mexico and Central America (Indigenous religions)	3
ARTHIST 375	Art of the Aztec Empire (Indigenous religions)	3
ARTHIST 380	Chinese Painting	3
ARTHIST 382	Chinese Art and Architecture	3
ARTHIST 383	Japanese Art and Architecture	3
ARTHIST 386	Art, Ritual, and Ethnicity of China	3

ARTHIST 387	Buddhist Art and Architecture (Buddhism)	3	HIST 307	A History of Rome: The Republic (Indigenous religions)	3
ARTHIST 412	Cities and Sanctuaries of Ancient Greece (Indigenous religions)	3	HIST 308	A History of Rome: The Empire (Indigenous religions)	3
ARTHIST 431	Renaissance Architecture in Italy	3	HIST 318	Medieval Civilization: The High Middle Ages	3
ARTHIST 474	Maya Art (Indigenous religions)	3	HIST 319	The Era of the Crusades (Christianity)	3
CELTIC 133	Celtic Crossings: Overview of the History and Cultures of the Celtic World	3	HIST 329	The Roman Catholic Church, 1500 to the Present (Christianity)	3
CLASSIC 170	Classical Mythology (Indigenous religions)	3	HIST 330	The Papacy in History (Christianity)	3
CLASSIC 201	Introduction to Greek Life and Literature	3	HIST 358	The Jews of Modern Europe: History and Culture	3
CLASSIC 202	Introduction to Roman Life and Literature	3	HIST 364	The Holocaust: Anti-Semitism & the Fate of Jewish People in Europe, 1933-45	3
CLASSIC 274	Ancient Egyptian Civilization (Indigenous religions)	3	HIST 370	Topics in the History of Religious Thought:	3
CLASSIC 301	The Life and Literature of Classical Athens: Herodotus and Dramatists	3	HIST 379	Introduction to Jewish History	3
CLASSIC 302	War and Politics in Ancient Greece	3	HIST 380	Buddhism: A Cultural History (Buddhism)	3
CLASSIC 303	The Life and Literature of the Roman Empire	3	HIST 386	Africans in World History: Communities, Cultures, and Ideas	3
CLASSIC 370	Hittite Myth and History (Indigenous religions)	3	HIST 393	History of Mexico	3
CLASSIC 351	Ancient Greek Religion (Indigenous religions)	3	HIST 452	History of Religion in American Life to 1870	3
CLASSIC 390	Egyptian Mythology (Indigenous religions)	3	HIST 453	History of Religion in American Life Since 1870	3
COMPLIT 231	Literature and Religion:	3	HIST 454	God at the Movies: American Religion in Fiction and Film	3
ENGLISH 454	Milton (Christianity)	3	HIST 594	Methods and Theory in the Historical Study of Religion:	3
GEOG 333	Muslim Geographies: Identities and Politics (Islam)	3	ITALIAN 333	Dante's Divine Comedy in Translation (Christianity)	3
GLOBAL 371	Rethinking Global Security	3	JEWISH 100	Introduction to Judaism (Judaism)	3
HEBREW 201	Third-Semester Hebrew (Judaism)	4	JEWISH 101	Jewish Culture in America: History, Literature, Film (Judaism)	3
HEBREW 202	Fourth-Semester Hebrew (Judaism)	4	JEWISH 230	Bible Stories (Judaism)	3
HEBREW 301	Modern Hebrew Literature I in Hebrew (Judaism)	3	JEWISH 231	Introduction to the Old Testament/ Hebrew Bible (Judaism)	3
HEBREW 302	Modern Hebrew Literature II in Hebrew (Judaism)	3	JEWISH 235	The Dead Sea Scrolls and the Bible (Judaism)	3
HIST 175	East Asian Civilization to 1600	3	JEWISH 261	Representing the Holocaust in Words and Images (Judaism)	3
HIST 131	World History to 1500	3	JEWISH 331	Topics in Biblical Literature:	3
HIST 201	The Ancient World: The Near East and Greece (Buddhism)	3	JEWISH 332	Women in the Bible (Judaism)	3
HIST 202	The Ancient World: The Roman Republic and Empire	3	JEWISH 358	The Jews of Modern Europe: History and Culture (Judaism)	3
HIST 274	Ancient Egyptian Civilization (Indigenous religions)	3	JEWISH 368	Jewish and Christian Responses to the Holocaust (Judaism)	3
HIST 280	Islamic Civilization: The Formative Period, ca. 500-1258 (Islam)	3	JEWISH 379	Introduction to Jewish History (Judaism)	3
HIST 282	The Modern Middle East in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries	3	JEWISH 411	Old Testament Texts:	3
HIST 284	Buddhism Across Asia (Buddhism)	3	JEWISH 449	Modern Jewish Thought (Judaism)	3
HIST 303	A History of Greek Civilization: The Greek City-State	3	LATIN 306	Readings in Latin Literature:	3
HIST 304	A History of Greek Civilization: The Age of Alexander the Great (Indigenous religions)	3	PHILOS 204	Introduction to Asian Religions	3
			PHILOS 207	Religion and Science	3

PHILOS 250	God, Faith and Reason	3
PHILOS 304	Buddhist Philosophy (Buddhism)	3
PHILOS 350	Introduction to the Comparative Study of Religion	3
PHILOS 431	History of Medieval Philosophy (Christianity)	3
PHILOS 461	Islamic Philosophy and Mysticism (Islam)	3
PHILOS 474	Contemporary Religious Thought:	3
PHILOS 475	Special Topics in Indian Religious Thought:	3
POL SCI 215	Ethnicity, Religion and Race in American Politics	3
RUSSIAN 361	Russian and Slavic Folklore	3

Letters & Science Minor Advising

Advising for the minor takes place within the department by a faculty member or staff member. Follow the steps using the "Declare a Minor" button on the department's website which may include instructions on how to select a faculty advisor if there is more than one to choose from.

Students who already have an L&S college advisor because their degree plan is in L&S can discuss the minor with them as well since they will be familiar with any minor in L&S. Students who are working on a degree from a UWM college other than the College of Letters & Science will not need an L&S college advisor for just a minor and one will not be assigned. These students should work with the faculty or staff advisor they receive as part of the minor declaration process or contact the department directly for assistance.

Applicants who have not started classes at UWM yet who wish to declare a minor should wait until they are registered for their first UWM classes and then can declare the minor using the "Declare a Minor" button on the program's website. If you have questions about the minor before then, contact let-sci@uwm.edu.