REL - Religious Studies

RELIGIOUS STUDIES Courses

REL 311. Hebrew Bible/Old Testament. 3 Credits.
An investigation of the Hebrew Bible on the basis of Biblical criticism and research. Attention is given to the cultural and historical background of these writings. Prerequisites: junior standing and three semester hours in philosophy, or permission of the instructor.

REL 312. New Testament. 3 Credits.
An investigation of New Testament literature and thought on the basis of Biblical criticism and research. Attention is given to the religious and cultural background of early Christianity, particularly in late Judaism. Prerequisites: junior standing and three semester hours in philosophy, or permission of the instructor.

REL 333. Historical Jesus. 3 Credits.
This course examines the several quests to uncover the historical reality behind Jesus of Nazareth in modern biblical-historical scholarship, including the work of scholars like Albert Schweitzer, Rudolph Bultmann, and the many contemporary inquirers. Students are expected to have some familiarity with the New Testament and/or early Christianity. Prerequisites: Junior standing and three semester hours in REL or PHIL.

REL 350. Judaism. 3 Credits.
This course is a basic introduction to Judaism. We will explore the fundamental tenets of Jewish belief, examine primary expressions of Jewish ritual and practice, discuss the historical development of Judaism, and explore sacred texts, secular Yiddish texts, and contemporary issues confronting Jews and Judaism. Prerequisites: ENGL 110C.

REL 351. Christianity. 3 Credits.
A study of the Christian tradition, including its primary texts, historical development, intellectual tenets, and contributions to human culture. Specific attention will be given to Christianity as a way of life. Prerequisites: three semester hours in philosophy or permission of the instructor.

REL 352. Islam. 3 Credits.
A study of the Islamic tradition, including its primary texts, historical development, intellectual tenets, and contributions to human culture. Specific attention will be given to Islam as a way of life. Prerequisites: three semester hours in philosophy or permission of the instructor.

REL 395. Topics in Religious Studies. 3 Credits.
The advanced study of selected topics designed to permit qualified students to work on subjects that, because of their specialized nature, may not be taught regularly. These courses will appear in the course schedule booklet and will be more fully described in information distributed to all academic advisors. Prerequisites: 3 hours in PHIL or permission of the instructor.

REL 396. Topics in Religious Studies. 3 Credits.
The advanced study of selected topics designed to permit qualified students to work on subjects that, because of their specialized nature, may not be taught regularly. These courses will appear in the course schedule and will be more fully described in information distributed to all academic advisors. Prerequisites: three hours in PHIL or REL or permission of the instructor.

REL 400/500. Sacred Texts of Islam. 3 Credits.
The course will examine the Qur'an, the scripture of Islam, as well as other sacred texts such as the Hadith literature (sayings of Muhammad) and the Sira literature (accounts of Muhammad’s life). This course will explore the role of these literatures in the faith, culture, and history of Islam. Our survey will include explorations of the history and reception of various texts, their literary and stylistic features, and various themes such as mystical, legal, modern, and feminist interpretations.

REL 496/596. Topics in Religious Studies. 1-3 Credits.
The advanced study of selected topics designed to permit qualified students to work on subjects that, because of their specialized nature, may not be taught regularly. These courses will appear in the course schedule and will be more fully described in information distributed to all academic advisors. Prerequisites: three hours of PHIL or REL or permission of the instructor.

REL 497/597. Tutorial Work in Religious Studies. 1-3 Credits.
Independent reading and study of a topic to be selected under the direction of an instructor. Conferences and papers as appropriate. Prerequisite: permission of the instructor.

REL 498/598. Tutorial Work in Religious Studies. 1-3 Credits.
Independent reading and study of a topic to be selected under the direction of an instructor. Conferences and papers as appropriate. Prerequisites: permission of the instructor.

REL 500. Sacred Texts of Islam. 3 Credits.
The course will examine the Qur'an, the scripture of Islam, as well as other sacred texts such as the Hadith literature (sayings of Muhammad) and the Sira literature (accounts of Muhammad’s life). This course will explore the role of these literatures in the faith, culture, and history of Islam. Our survey will include explorations of the history and reception of various texts, their literary and stylistic features, and various themes such as mystical, legal, modern, and feminist interpretations.

REL 595. Topics in Religious Studies. 3 Credits.
The advanced study of selected topics designed to permit small groups of qualified students to work on subjects of mutual interest which, due to their specialized nature, may not be offered regularly. These courses will appear in the course schedule and will be more fully described in information distributed to all academic advisors. Prerequisites: 3 hours in PHIL or permission of the instructor.

REL 596. Topics in Religious Studies. 3 Credits.
The advanced study of selected topics designed to permit small groups of qualified students to work on subjects of mutual interest which, due to their specialized nature, may not be offered regularly. These courses will appear in the course schedule and will be more fully described in information distributed to all academic advisors.

REL 597. Tutorial Work in Religious Studies. 1-3 Credits.
Independent reading and study of a topic to be selected under the direction of an instructor. Conferences and papers as appropriate.

REL 598. Tutorial Work in Religious Studies. 1-3 Credits.
Independent reading and study of a topic to be selected under the direction of an instructor. Conferences and papers as appropriate.

REL 697. Tutorial Work in Religious Studies. 1-3 Credits.
Independent reading and study of a topic to be selected under the direction of an instructor. Conferences and papers as appropriate.

REL 698. Tutorial Work in Religious Studies. 1-3 Credits.
Independent reading and study of a topic to be selected under the direction of an instructor. Conferences and papers as appropriate.