

# RELIGION

## Overview

In light of the pivotal role religion has played in shaping selves, societies, and cultures from ancient times to the present, the Religion program provides students with an understanding of the complexity of religious phenomena and offers the advanced student a variety of methods appropriate to such study.

The mission of the Religion program is to encourage critical thinking about religious traditions, ideals, rituals, and practices; to develop empathetic insight into the fundamental ideas and values of peoples from different times and places; and to foster critical self-consciousness about the values and commitments of one's own age and society. Through these studies, students reflect upon the historically developed content of their own culture as well as that of others.

## Faculty in Religion

Alexandria Griffin (<https://www.ncf.edu/directory/alexandria-griffin/>), Visiting Assistant Professor of Religion

Manuel Lopez (<https://www.ncf.edu/directory/manuel-lopez/>), Associate Professor of Religion and Buddhist Studies

Nassima Neggaz (<https://www.ncf.edu/directory/nassima-neggaz/>), Associate Professor of History and Religion (On Leave)

Susan Marks (<https://www.ncf.edu/directory/susan-marks/>), Professor Emeritus of Religion

## Requirements for the AOC in Religion

A minimum of ten (10) academic units.

### Code Title

#### Introductory Courses in the Study of Religion

Two courses are required:

RELI 2100	Introduction to the Study of Religion *
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RELI 2110	Introduction to World Religions
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#### Conceptual Approach to the Study of Religion

Select **one** from the following examples:

RELI 2120	Religion and Popular Culture*
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RELI 2400	Ritual Theory*
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RELI 3300	God(s)
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#### Scriptures Course

Select **one** from the following examples:

RELI 2290	Introduction to the Qur'an*
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RELI 3440	Jewish Scriptures*
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RELI 3200	Christian Scriptures*
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#### Religion and Society Course

Select **one** from the following examples:

RELI 2115	Religion and Politics in America
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RELI 2125	Growing Up Amish in Sarasota
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RELI 2135	Cults, Sects, Communes: Religion on the Margins
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RELI 2276	Islam and Medicine*
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RELI 2355	American Christianities*
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RELI 3110	Righteous Discontent: Authority, Inclusion, and Exclusion in American Religion
RELI 3125	Race/Gender in Amer Religion*
RELI 3140	Resisting, Recreating, Reclaiming: LGBTQ+ People and Religion*
RELI 3280	Islamic History (570-1500): Politics, Society, and Culture*
RELI 3290	Islamic Movements, Past and Present*
RELI 3450	Judaism and Ecology*
RELI 3815	Religion and Activism: Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X

#### Religious Traditions Courses

Select **three** courses focusing on a primary religious tradition and **one** course from a different tradition:

RELI 2700	Buddhism for Beginners: The Buddha, his Quest for Enlightenment, and the Rise of a Global Religion*
RELI 3700	Buddhist Meditation
RELI 3720	Monks, Oracles, and Lamas: Buddhism in the Himalayas*
RELI 4700	Topics in Buddhist Studies
RELI 2270	Introduction to Islam*
RELI 2274	Islam 101: Beyond Western Media*
RELI 2280	Islamic Movements: From Early to Modern Religious Militancy*
RELI 2800	Introduction to Black Religions*
RELI 3350	The Black Church*
RELI 3800	Black Liberation Theologies*
RELI 3825	African American Religions
RELI 3250	Chinese Religions*
RELI 2320	Varieties of Judaism in the Modern World*
RELI 2370	The Many Gods of Hinduism: Ritual, Faith, and Representation in India*
RELI 2500	Contemporary Catholicism*

#### Strongly Recommended

RELI 3996	Religion Capstone: Getting Ready for Your Senior Thesis
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#### Additional Requirements

One Independent Study Project (ISP) in Religion

Senior Thesis in Religion and Baccalaureate Exam

## Requirements for the Joint AOC in Religion

A minimum of seven (7) academic units.

### Code Title

#### Introductory Courses in the Study of Religion

Two courses are required:

RELI 2100	Introduction to the Study of Religion *
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RELI 2110	Introduction to World Religions
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**Conceptual Approach to the Study of Religion**

Select **one** from the following examples:

RELI 2120	Religion and Popular Culture*
RELI 2400	Ritual Theory*
RELI 3300	God(s)

**Scriptures Course**

Select **one** from the following examples:

RELI 2290	Introduction to the Qur'an*
RELI 3440	Jewish Scriptures*
RELI 3200	Christian Scriptures*

**Religion and Society Course**

Select **one** from the following examples:

RELI 2115	Religion and Politics in America
RELI 2125	Growing Up Amish in Sarasota
RELI 2135	Cults, Sects, Communes: Religion on the Margins
RELI 2276	Islam and Medicine*
RELI 2355	American Christianities*
RELI 3110	Righteous Discontent: Authority, Inclusion, and Exclusion in American Religion
RELI 3125	Race/Gender in Amer Religion*
RELI 3140	Resisting, Recreating, Reclaiming: LGBTQ+ People and Religion*
RELI 3280	Islamic History (570-1500): Politics, Society, and Culture*
RELI 3290	Islamic Movements, Past and Present*
RELI 3450	Judaism and Ecology*
RELI 3815	Religion and Activism: Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X

**Religious Traditions Courses**

Select **one** course focusing on one religious tradition and **one** course focusing on another tradition:

RELI 2700	Buddhism for Beginners: The Buddha, his Quest for Enlightenment, and the Rise of a Global Religion*
RELI 3700	Buddhist Meditation
RELI 3720	Monks, Oracles, and Lamas: Buddhism in the Himalayas*
RELI 4700	Topics in Buddhist Studies
RELI 2270	Introduction to Islam*
RELI 2274	Islam 101: Beyond Western Media*
RELI 2280	Islamic Movements: From Early to Modern Religious Militancy*
RELI 2800	Introduction to Black Religions*
RELI 3350	The Black Church*
RELI 3800	Black Liberation Theologies*
RELI 3825	African American Religions
RELI 3250	Chinese Religions*
RELI 2320	Varieties of Judaism in the Modern World*

RELI 2370	The Many Gods of Hinduism: Ritual, Faith, and Representation in India*
RELI 2500	Contemporary Catholicism*

**Representative Senior Theses in Religion**

- Memory: Abstracted Manifestations of the Void of Jewish Life within the Jewish Museum of Berlin
- Dancing Out of Bounds: The Disruptive Image of the Tavern Dancer in the Babylonian Talmud
- Catholic Empire: Austria-Hungary and the Nationalities Question
- A Tillichian Analysis of Hip Hop as an Instrument for Communal Courage and Religious Expression
- Collective Action: The Social Dimension of Buddhist Karma Doctrine
- Pursuing Harmony with Life's Flux: The Pragmatic Value of Experience for Modern Life in William James
- Feminist Methodologies and Qumran Ideologies: Rhetorical Criticism of 1QS, The Community Rule Scroll
- Ascending the Heavens on Conjured Dragons: Differentiating Between Magic and Religion in Chinese Daoist Practice
- What about the Agape?: Understanding the Communal Love-Feast of Early Christianity
- Learning to Live and to Lead: How Post-Secondary Religious Education Helps Women to Shape Modern Orthodox Judaism in Israel
- Religious Responses to the Problem of Evil
- Dissent in Modern Catholicism
- Acting Womanish: Black Slave Women's Religion
- Creativity in Crisis: The Theology and Fiction of Flannery O'Connor and Dietrich Bonhoeffer
- Lilith: Mother of Demons or Feminist Ideal?