

*A student in REL 100 last semester has offered a few tips, based on her experience in the course— both for how to succeed and, if you start off on the wrong foot in the course, how to improve.*

### **Succeeding in REL 100**

- Attend all lectures (tests questions will come from information in lecture)
- Take notes in lectures on the elaboration of the slide/context (don't write out the slides word for word, but rather the main points and how it relates to the overall message/person)
- Read assigned readings twice (once to get the gist and the second to retain the information)
- While reading, write down all vocab (bolded) words and look up the definitions in the back of the book as well as the context of the word in the reading
- Look over vocab words and notes taken in lectures throughout the week to understand the information
- When studying, study with someone so you can talk through the information. It will help make sure you know the material rather than just memorizing it
- Study days before rather than cramming the night before

### **Improving Your Grade in REL 100**

- Talk to Dr. McCutcheon about the grade and ask if he has any tips to help (attend office hours)
- Reach out to the TA and ask for study tips they used
- Take advantage of any extra/optional opportunities (extra credit)—it adds up!
- Rewrite lecture notes after class and then re-read/review the chapters to retain the information better and to pull it all together