

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES

FALL 2024 CLASSES

UNDERGRAD LECTURES & SEMINARS

Introduction to Religious Studies

REL 100.001 42720

Szanto, TR 12:30-1:45 NL 1015

REL 100.002 42544

Altman, TR 11:00-12:15 NL 1000

REL 100.003 45792

Kyselov, MWF 9:00-9:50 PRH 207

REL 100.004 46296

Kyselov, MWF 11:00-11:50 PRH 207

REL 100.005 46297

Kyselov, MWF 1:00-1:50 PRH 207

Draws on a wide variety of examples to examine the definition of religion, insider/outsider problem, theories of religion, religion & law, etc.; ideal introduction to the study of religion in a public university. **HU**

Religions of the World

REL 102.001 43710

Ramey, TR 9:30-10:45 NL 1015

Comparative study of practices and concepts identified as the world's religions; highlights ways individuals & communities across cultures organize lives and values. **HU**

Honors Introduction to Religious Studies

REL 105.001 43237

Simmons, MW 2:00-3:15 PRH 308

Examines REL 100's material in greater detail & in small classes for Honors/Honors eligible students. 3.3 GPA required. **HU/Honors**

Introduction to the New Testament

REL 112.001 48365

Trost, TR 12:30-1:45 NL 2007

This course is an introduction to the ancient Hellenistic world as the social matrix in which early Christianity appeared. The course examines the narrative traditions about Jesus that were variously framed and organized in the Gospels, and the writings of Paul. **HU**

Judaism

REL 224.001 48366

Basauri Ziuzina, MW 3:30-4:45 PRH 207

This course is an introduction to Judaism that will examine history, philosophy, theology, holiday/festival and life cycles, as well as contemporary experiences including the Holocaust and the rebirth of the state of Israel. **HU**

Apocalypse in Popular Media

REL 240.001 48367

Trost, T 3:30-5:50 PRH 207

Examines contemporary depictions of apocalypse and dystopia in popular media. **HU**

REL Goes to the Movies

REL 310.001 44806

*McCutcheon W 6:00-9:00 8/28, 9/18, 10/16,
11/6, 12/4 TH 30*

1 credit with monthly films/discussions; repeatable up to 3 hours. **Open to all students**; RSSA members are invited to attend all films.

Islam in the West

REL 336.001 48368

Szanto, W 3:30-5:50 PRH 210

Every community needs an 'other' in order to be established; for Europe in particular, and 'the West' in general, Islam has played this role since the Middle Ages, although this juxtaposition has taken different forms with varying effects. This course examines the common division of the world into West/East by looking at texts as well as other forms of media. **W**

Adv Study in Religion and Conflict: Antisemitism

REL 371.001 48370

Jacobs, TR 11:00-12:15 PRH 207

Addressing the problem of antisemitism, this seminar attempts to answer such questions as: what is antisemitism, is it different from other forms of hatred and prejudice, how has it manifested itself throughout history, and how can it be combated.

Religion and Genocide

REL 410.001 48372

Jacobs, R 3:00-5:30 PRH 210

Explores the phenomenon known as genocide by examining its relationship to the religion in both its institutional and theological frameworks.

Religion in the American South

REL 415.001 48373

Simmons, W 10:00-12:30 PRH 210

Using the UA campus as its own case study, this course will focus on how notions of “the past” come to be invented in different ways for different social purposes through narrative practice—specifically, memorials and monuments. While some readings will focus on specific religious groups and practices that find their homes in the region, we will emphasize analytical classifications and contestations of “the South” as an identifiable geographical and cultural space. **W**

Theories of Religion

REL 440.001 48374

McCutcheon, T 2:00-4:30 PRH 210

How we understand and explain religious phenomena relies on how we define “religion,” and thus the theory that drives that definition. This seminar examines in-depth scholarly theories that have influenced and shaped the field of Religious Studies and consequently the way scholars study religion.

This course is cross-listed with REL 512.

FALL UNDERGRAD ONLINE COURSES

*Open to Distance Learning (920/921 section) and
Main Campus Students (910-912 sections)*

REL 100.910/911/920 Introduction to Religious Studies (HU)

REL 100 Introduction to Religious Studies Fall 2 (HU)

REL 103.910/911/920 Religion in the News (HU)

REL 104.911/920 Religion and Pop Culture (HU)



HU: Core Humanities Designation
ASST: Asian Studies Credit

GRADUATE SEMINARS

Contact the REL main office for a permit to enroll

Social Theory Foundations

REL 501.001 42414

Touna, W 1:00-3:20 PRH 210

This graduate seminar introduces students to terms and ideas from social theory and their relevance to the academic study of religion. Throughout the course, students will apply theories to analyze examples relevant in Religious Studies, both ancient and modern.

Public Humanities Foundations

REL 502.001 42564

Loewen, R 2:00-4:30 PRH 307

Students will learn a variety of digital tools and apply those to data drawn from religious studies. Students do not need a background in computing or religious studies.

Special Topics

REL 504.001 48376

TBA, M 1:00-3:20 PRH 307

To illustrate the gains of applying social theory to the study of religion, this course will draw upon current examples to study in light of the skills gained in the social theory foundations course. Specific content will be determined by faculty responsible for the course each semester.

Debates in Method and Theory

REL 512.001 48379

McCutcheon, T 2:00-4:30 PRH 210

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This course is cross-listed with REL 440.

BA & MA Independent Study courses, MA Internships, & MA Thesis are also available, in consultation with a faculty member or the BA or MA Directors.

INB: International Business Designation
W: Core Writing Designation