

RELIGIOUS STUDIES, BACHELOR OF ARTS

Minimum Total Credit Hours: 120

Major Hours: 36

Minimum Upper-Division Hours: 48

Upper-Division Hours Within Major: 21

Overall GPA - Combined and OU: 2.25

Major GPA - Combined and OU: 2.25

Program Code: B820

- 48 Upper-Division Hours Required.
- Some courses required for the major may also fulfill University General Education and/or College of Arts & Sciences Requirements.
- No course may be used more than once to satisfy major requirements.
- Courses counted for the major may not be used for other majors or minors, except for support requirements.
- A grade of C or better must be earned for each course fulfilling requirements for the Religious Studies degree.

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Introductory Courses		
RELS 1113	Introduction to Religious Studies	3
Choose one of the following:		3
ANTH 1823	Religion in Everyday Life	
PHIL 1203	Philosophy and Human Destiny, East and West	
PHIL 2403		
RELS 2403	Introduction to Comparative Religion	
RELS 2413	Religion, Culture, and the Meaning of Life	
The Variety of Religious Traditions		
Choose one course each from three of the following groups:		9
Judaism:		
HIST 3973	Judaism - A Religious History	
Christianity:		
RELS 2133	Introduction to Christianity	
Islam:		
IAS 2413	Islam	
RELS 2303	Islamic Religious Tradition	
Asian Traditions:		
PHIL/IAS 1223	Introduction to Asian Philosophy	
PHIL 3303		
RELS 2703	Introduction to Buddhism	
RELS 2713	Introduction to Hinduism	
Indigenous Traditions:		
NAS 3113	Native American Philosophy	
Other Traditions:		
RELS 3663	Roman Religion	
RELS 3693	Greek Religion	
Approaches to Religious Studies		

Choose one course each from three of the following groups: ¹	9
Religion, Literature, and the Arts (p. 1)	
Religion, Social Organizations, & Politics (p. 1)	
Religion and History (p. 2)	
Religion and Philosophy (p. 2)	

Electives		
Choose three additional courses from the groups above or the following:		9
RELS 2900	Special Topics in Religious Studies	
RELS 3643	Special Topics in Religious Studies: Travel Abroad	
RELS 3900	Special Topics	
RELS 4640/5640	Field Study in Religious Studies	
Capstone		
RELS 4323	Capstone	3
Total Credit Hours		36

¹ Students should consult with the departmental advisor for specific content offered under variable topics courses.

Approaches to Religious Studies COURSE LISTS Religion, Literature, and the Arts

Code	Title	Credit Hours
A HI 3263	Survey of Byzantine Art and Architecture	3
A HI 4233	Medieval Art I: Early Christian to c. 1100	3
A HI 4243		
A HI 4253		
A HI 4273	Byzantine Icons	3
AFAM 3143	Gospel Music Past and Present	3
ENGL 3653	The Bible as Literature	3
HIST 4603		
HIST 4613	Old Testament: An Introduction	3
HIST 4973	Undergraduate Seminar in History (The Bible Since Enlightenment (topic))	3
MLLL 1073	The Hebrew Bible as Literature	3
MLLL 3063	Survey of Jewish Literature from Antiquity to the Present	3
MLLL 4993	Epics of India: Ramayana and Mahabarata	3
RELS 3183	Lost Scriptures and the Formation of the Bible	3
RELS 3193	Biblical Literature	3
RELS 3533	The Qur'an	3
RELS 3573	Jesus in the World's Religions	3
RELS 3583	Comparative Sacred Texts	3

Religion, Social Organizations, & Politics

Code	Title	Credit Hours
ANTH 3423	Anthropology of Religion	3
CL C 3053	Origins of Christianity: Jesus to Augustine	3
HON 2973	Perspectives on the American Experience (American Religion on the Margins)	3

HON 2973	Perspectives on the American Experience (Religion and State)	3
IAS 3473	The Arab-Israeli Conflict	3
IAS 3573	Religious Conflict in Asia	3
RELS 3123		
RELS 3213	Religion and Violence	3
RELS 3223	Religion and Nationalism in India	3
RELS 3313	World Religions in America	3
RELS 3413	Approaches to the Study of Religion	3
RELS 3423	Gender, Sex, and the Body in the Christian Tradition	3
RELS 3543	Islamic Law	3
RELS 3623	Discovering the Apostle Paul: His Life and Thoughts	3
RELS 3633	Religious Leaders for Social Justice	3
SOC 3873	World Religions and Society	3

Religion and History

Code	Title	Credit Hours
HIST 2503	American Jews/Jewish Americans	3
HIST 3113	The Crusades	3
HIST 3143	The Era of the Reformation	3
HIST 3203	Transformation of Jews	3
HIST 3413	The History of Ancient Israel	3
HIST 3733	History of Heaven and Hell in Judaism and Christianity	3
HIST 3943	Muslim Societies in Africa	3
HIST 3963	Rebirth of Israel	3
HIST 3973	Judaism - A Religious History	3
HIST 3983	Medieval Jewish History	3
HIST 3993	The Evolution of Martyrdom in the Judeo-Christian Civilization	3
HIST 4003	Jews and Other Germans	3
HIST 4023	Inquisitions	3
HSCI 2453		3
HSCI 3443	Science in a Religious World	3
HSCI 3453	Science and Civilization in Islam	3
HSCI 3823	Science in Medieval Culture	3
RELS 3153	Jesus of Nazareth	3
RELS 3843	Archaeology of the Lands of the Bible	3

Religion and Philosophy

Code	Title	Credit Hours
PHIL 3303		
PHIL 3423	Ancient and Medieval Religious Philosophy	3
PHIL 3433	Modern Philosophy of Religion	3
PHIL 3443	Contemporary Issues in Philosophy of Religion	3
PHIL/IAS 3343	Chinese Philosophy	3
PHIL/IAS 4343	Early Chinese Philosophy	3
PHIL 4473	Philosophy of Religion	3
RELS 3303	Conceptions of the Afterlife	3

RELS 3563	Islamic Theology	3
RELS 3733	Tibetan Buddhism	3
RELS 3743	Daoism	3
RELS 3753	Zen Buddhism	3

General Education and College Requirements

Courses graded P/NP will not apply

Courses for fulfillment of General Education and College of Arts & Sciences requirements must be from the approved General Education course list published in the Class Schedule or at <http://www.ou.edu/gedned/courses>.

University-Wide General Education (minimum 40 hours) and College of Arts and Sciences Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Core Area I: Symbolic and Oral Communication		
<i>English Composition (6 hours)</i>		
ENGL 1113	Principles of English Composition	3
ENGL 1213	Principles of English Composition	3
	or EXPO 1213 Expository Writing	
<i>Foreign Language (0-13 hours in the same language)</i>		
The College of Arts and Sciences requirement cannot be met by high school coursework.		
	Beginning Course	0-5
	Beginning Course, continued	0-5
	Intermediate Course (2000 level) ^{1,2}	0-3
<i>Mathematics (3 hours)</i>		
	Choose one course from the General Education Mathematics list	3
Core Area II: Natural Science (7 hours, including one laboratory component)		
<i>Biological Science</i>		
	Choose an approved General Education Natural Science course with one of the following prefixes: BIOL, HES, MBIO, or PBIO ¹	3-4
<i>Physical Science</i>		
	Choose an approved General Education Natural Science course with one of the following prefixes: AGSC, ASTR, CHEM, GEOG, GEOL, GPHY, METR, or PHYS ¹	3-4
Core Area III: Social Science (6 hours)		
P SC 1113	American Federal Government	3
	Choose one course from the General Education Social Science list	3
Core Area IV: Humanities (18 hours)		
<i>Understanding Artistic Forms</i>		
	Choose one course from the General Education Artistic Forms list	3
<i>Western Civilization and Culture</i>		
HIST 1483	United States, 1492 to 1865	3
	or HIST 1493 United States, 1865 to the Present	
	Choose one course from the General Education Western Civilization & Culture list ³	3

Non-Western Culture	
Choose one course from the General Education Non-Western Culture list	3
Additional Core IV Upper-Division Humanities courses ⁴	
Choose one course from Understanding Artistic Forms, Western Civilization & Culture, or Non-Western Culture ¹	3
Choose one course from Understanding Artistic Forms, Western Civilization & Culture, or Non-Western Culture ¹	3
Core Area V: Senior Capstone Experience (3 hours)	
Choose one General Education Capstone course	3
Total Credit Hours	56

- ¹ College of Arts and Sciences Requirements: College requirements are not automatically fulfilled by a previous degree.
- ² One course at the intermediate level or demonstrated competency at that level
- ³ Excluding HIST 1483 and HIST 1493
- ⁴ 6 upper-division hours, 2 courses, at the 3000- 4000-level. **Must be outside the major.**

Free Electives

Electives to bring total applicable hours to the minimum total required for the degree including 48 upper-division hours.

Information Concerning General Rules, Regulations and Minimum Requirements

Arts and Sciences Hours: At least 80 semester hours of liberal arts and sciences courses are required for a BA degree. At least 55 semester hours of liberal arts and sciences courses are required for a BS degree.

Pass/No Pass Enrollment: A maximum of 16 semester hours of free elective credit may be attempted under this option.

Individual Studies (e.g., courses titled "Independent Study"): A maximum of 12 total semester hours may be counted toward graduation, excluding Honors Reading and Honors Research.

P.E. Courses: No physical education activity courses will be counted toward the 120 semester hours of acceptable credit for graduation.

Senior Institution Hours: A minimum of 60 semester hours applied toward graduation must be earned at senior (4-year) institutions.

Residency:

- At least 15 of the final 30 hours applied toward the degree or at least 50 percent of the hours required by the institution in the major field must be satisfactorily completed at the awarding institution.
- At least 15 semester hours of upper-division major work must be completed in residence at OU.
- OU correspondence courses are **not** considered resident credit.

Grade Point Averages: Students must earn a minimum over all 2.00 for each of the following: Combined Retention GPA (all college grades), OU Retention GPA, GPA for all major courses, and GPA for all major courses taken at OU. Some schools and departments of the College have higher minimum grade point averages required for their students.

Special Degrees: Students may qualify for an Honors degree (cum Laude, Magna cum Laude, or Summa cum Laude) by completing specific requirements of the Honors College. A degree will be earned with Distinction if the student completes at least 60 semester hours at OU with at least a 3.60 combined retention GPA and OU retention GPA. A degree will be earned with Special Distinction if the student completes

at least 60 semester hours at OU with at least a 3.90 combined retention GPA and OU retention GPA.

Suggested Semester Plan of Study

This plan shows one possible grouping of courses that would allow students to graduate in four years. Please refer to the front of the degree checksheet for official requirements. Students must consult with College of Arts and Sciences and Department of Religious Studies academic advisors to verify that courses selected each semester fulfill the recommended plan and satisfy university, College of Arts and Sciences, and Religious Studies major requirements.

Course	Title	Credit Hours
Freshman		
First Semester		
ENGL 1113	Principles of English Composition (Core I)	3
Math (Core I)		3
RELS 1113	Introduction to Religious Studies	3
Beginning Foreign Language (Core I)		5
Credit Hours		14
Second Semester		
ENGL 1213 or EXPO 1213	Principles of English Composition (Core I) or Expository Writing	3
P SC 1113	American Federal Government (Core III)	3
Religious Studies Major Requirement: Introductory Course ^{1,2}		3
Beginning Foreign Language continued (Core I)		5
Credit Hours		14
Sophomore		
First Semester		
HIST 1483 or HIST 1493	United States, 1492 to 1865 (Core IV) or United States, 1865 to the Present	3
Religious Traditions Major Requirement ³		3
Intermediate Foreign Language		3
Natural Science with lab (Core II)		4
Western Civilization & Culture (Core IV) ¹		3
Credit Hours		16
Second Semester		
Religious Traditions Major Requirement ³		3
Religious Studies Conceptual Groupings Requirement ³		3
Natural Science without lab (Core II)		4
Understanding Artistic Forms (Core IV)		3
Social Science (Core III)		3
Credit Hours		16
Junior		
First Semester		
Religious Traditions Major Requirement, upper-division ³		3
Religious Studies Conceptual Groupings Requirement, upper-division ³		3
Humanities, upper-division, outside major (Gen. Ed.)		3
Non-Western Culture (Core IV) ²		3
Free Elective, upper-division (3000-4000-level)		3
Credit Hours		15

Second Semester

Religious Studies Conceptual Groupings Requirement, upper-division ³	3
Religious Studies Major Elective, upper-division ³	3
Humanities, upper-division, outside major (Gen. Ed.)	3
Free Elective, lower- or upper-division	3
Free Elective, upper-division (3000-4000-level)	3
Credit Hours	15

Senior**First Semester**

Religious Studies Major Elective, upper-division ³	3
Religious Studies Major Elective, upper-division ³	3
Free Elective, lower- or upper-division	3
Free Elective, upper-division (3000-4000-level)	3
Free Elective, upper-division (3000-4000-level)	3
Credit Hours	15

Second Semester

RELS 4323 Capstone (Capstone)	3
Free Elective, lower- or upper-division	3
Free Elective, upper-division (3000-4000-level)	3
Free Elective, upper-division (3000-4000-level)	3
Free Elective, upper-division (3000-4000-level)	3
Credit Hours	15
Total Credit Hours	120

¹ If the Western Civilization & Culture Gen. Ed. requirement is satisfied by the Religious Studies Introductory course, a lower-division elective is to be selected.

² If the Non-Western Culture Gen. Ed. requirement is satisfied by ANTH 1823 as the Religious Studies Introductory course, a lower-division elective is to be selected.

³ The Religious Studies major requires 21 upper-division hours within the major; therefore, some of the major requirement courses listed in the semester grid must be selected at the upper-division level to ensure this requirement is met.