

RELIGION DEPARTMENT

FALL 2016 UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

REL 1003 Introduction to World Religions

This course is an introduction to the major religions of the world: Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, and Daoism. We will examine the central aspects of these religions including the doctrinal, ethical, ritual, experiential, and social dimensions, and explore similarities and differences between these religious traditions.

Koukios | TR 9:35-10:50 | MPA 309

REL 2165 The Gospels

This course studies the four canonical gospels (traditionally those of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) in terms of each presenting a distinct literary portrait of Jesus of Nazareth and each being the product of a religious community that shared at least some beliefs and practices with surrounding "pagan" and Jewish communities.

Houghtby-Haddon | MW 3:45-5:00 | TOMP 203

REL 2302 Christianity

This course explores themes, patterns, and points of diversity within the Christian religion; commonly shared and contested features and its complex relationship with broader culture.

Wood | MW 2:20-3:35 | MON 115

REL 2401 Islam

This course investigates Islam as both a religion and a civilization, covering the basic Islamic beliefs and practices: the Qur'an, Hadith, and Islamic intellectual legacy; and the history of Islam from 632 to the present with particular attention to its encounter with the West.

Faghfoory | TR 3:45-5:00 | TOMP 301

REL 2506 Religion, Myth, and Magic

This course studies theories of religion developed by anthropologists, and is a survey of world religions with emphasis on non-Western societies, religious processes, and change. (Same as ANTH 2506)

Johnston | WF 12:45-2:00 | FNGR 222

REL 2562 Mythologies of India

This course explores the lore of Indian gods (Vedic, Puranic), heroes (epics), and holy men (Hindu, Buddhist, Jain, Tantric), along with their ties to Indian art, caste, cult, cosmology, and spiritual ideals.

Hiltebeitel | TR 2:20-3:35 | ROME B103

REL 2601 Buddhism

This course considers the Buddhist tradition both thematically and historically, focusing on topics such as Buddhist doctrine, meditation, rituals, and the lived tradition in the pre-modern and modern periods.

Aviv | TR 1:00-2:15 | AMES B112

REL 2811 Confucian Literature in East Asia

This course introduces Confucian literature in China and other parts of East Asia, from its beginnings to the present day. The various historical, philosophical, and religious dimensions of Confucian texts and practices; the role of Confucianism in the formation and development of Chinese and East Asian political systems, family systems, and gender relationships; recent intellectual debates on Confucianism in East Asia. (Same as EALL 3811)

Kang | TR 11:10-12:25 | TOMP 303

REL 2981 Women in Western Religion

This course is a historical, theological, and ethical investigation of the image and role of women in Judaism and Christianity; special consideration of the Biblical experience, the sexual qualifications for religious office, use of male and female images and languages, and contemporary issues. (Same as WSTU 3981)

Pemberton | TR 11:10-12:25 | DUQUES 361

REL 3341 Christianity in the Ancient World

Explore the rise and development of Christianity in relation to the culture, philosophy, mystery religions, and general religious life of the Greco-Roman world to A.D. 500.

Wood | MF 11:10-12:25 | 1957 E 313

REL 3405 Shi'ite Islam

This course examines the emergence and development of Shi'ism as a branch of Islamic orthodoxy with particular emphasis on its doctrine, practices, theology, the law, politics, and the geographical and political context within which a distinct Shi'i identity developed.

Faghfoory | TR 9:35-10:50 | DUQUES 152

REL 3832 Myth, Ritual, and Popular Religion in China

This course investigates key aspects of popular religious myths, symbols, rituals, and practices in China, such as ancestor worship, spirit possession, fengshui theories, and pilgrimage.

Kang | TR 2:20-3:35 | GELM 608

REL 3901 Theories and Methods in the Study of Religion

This course features analysis of different ways in which religious phenomena can be approached, with readings and discussion of some of the epoch-making books in the development of the study of religion.

Duff | W 5:10-7:00 | TOMP 303

REL 3990.80 India's Great Epics: Mahabharata

This course is an introduction to the Indian epic *Mahabharata*, placing it in religious, literary, and historical context.

Hiltebeitel | W 5:10-7:00 | MON B36

REL 3990.81 Pious Forgeries

This interdisciplinary seminar explores a series of forgeries of religious texts and sacred objects that date back to antiquity and forward to our own day. Along the way, it looks at the changing meaning of authenticity and its relationship to faith, practice and community.

Weissman Joselit | R 11:10-1:00 | 2142 G CONF

REL 3990.82 Law & Diplomacy in the Ancient Near East/Mediterranean

Rollston | TR 9:35-10:50 | GELM 609

REL 3999 Readings and Research**REL 4101 Senior Capstone Seminar**

Required of and open to students majoring in religion.

Eisen | W 11:10-1:00 | ROME B103