

RELIGIOUS STUDIES, BACHELOR OF ARTS (769)

Program Coordinator

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The academic study of religion provides the student with the methodological orientation necessary to comprehend the central beliefs, ethical practices, ritual systems, and social institutions of diverse religious traditions in their historic, contemporary and global contexts. Study in this field is multicultural and comparative, examining the patterns of life and moral worlds of societies past and present, our own as well as others. The student learns to probe for the structure, function and meaning of religion through those rites of passage, sacred narratives, faith communities, and codes of behavior that give meaning to human existence.

Program Requirements (30 hours)

A baccalaureate degree requires a minimum of 120 unduplicated semester hours. More information can be found at www.wku.edu/registrar/degree_certification.php. (https://www.wku.edu/registrar/degree_certification.php)

Students who began WKU in the Fall 2014 and thereafter should review the Colonnade requirements located at: <https://www.wku.edu/colonnade/colonnaderequirements.php>. (<https://www.wku.edu/colonnade/colonnaderequirements.php>)

The major in Religious Studies requires a minimum of 30 semester hours and leads to a Bachelor of Arts degree. At least fifteen hours must be at the 300- or 400-level. A minor or second major is required.

Code	Title	Hours
World Religions		
RELS 102	World Religions	3
Religious Traditions, Comparative Approaches, and Restricted Electives		
Select six courses from the following:		18
RELS 100	The New Testament	
RELS 101	The Old Testament/ Hebrew Scriptures	
RELS 211	Jesus in Film	
RELS 222	Christians, Jews, and Pagans in the Greco-Roman World	
RELS 242	The Meaning of Life; Atheism to Zen	
RELS 300	The Life of Jesus	
RELS 302	Buddhism	
RELS 303	Hinduism	
RELS 304	Judaism	
RELS 305	Christianity	
RELS 306	Islam	
RELS 309	Global Christianity	
RELS 317	Confucianism	
RELS 318	Daoism	
RELS 319	Religions of Asia	
RELS 322	Pilgrimage, Islam and Modernity	

RELS 331	Islam in America: Hope & Hip Hop
RELS 333	Women and Religion
RELS 335	Islam, Sexuality, and Gender
RELS 340	Popular Culture and the Religious Marketplace
RELS 341	Religion and the Environment
RELS 455	Saints, Monsters and Superheroes

Electives

Select two courses from the following: ¹ 6

Any RELS course not already counted toward the major.

ANTH 446	Anthropology of Religion
ART 316	Medieval Art & Architecture
ART 407	Islamic Art and Architecture
ENG 396	Mythology
ENG 487	Dante's Divine Comedy and Its Influences
HIST 318	Age of the Reformation
HIST 407	The Crusades: West Meets East
HIST 454	History of Religion in America
PSYS 451	Psychology of Religion
SOCL 322	Religion in Society

Senior Seminar

RELS 496	Senior Seminar	3
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Total Hours 30

¹ 9 Hours must be in religious studies courses; Students may count up to 1 year of language sequence in Arabic, Chinese, Greek, Hebrew, Japanese, or Latin, or other languages approved by the Department Chair.

Finish in Four Plan

First Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
COMM 145 or ENG 100		3 ENG 100 or COMM 145	3
HIST 101 or HIST 102		3 MATH 109 (or higher)	3
Colonnade: Natural & Physical Sciences w. Lab		3-4 Colonnade: Natural & Physical Sciences	3
RELS 102		3 Religious Traditions, Comparative Approaches, and Restricted Electives Course	3
General Elective or Course for Second Major or Minor		3 Colonnade: Social & Behavioral Science	3

15-16 15

Second Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
ENG 200		3 Colonnade Connections Course	3
Religious Traditions, Comparative Approaches, and Restricted Electives Course		3 Religious Traditions, Comparative Approaches, and Restricted Electives Course	3

Religious Traditions, Comparative Approaches, and Restricted Electives Course		3 Religious Studies Elective	3
General Elective or Course for Second Major or Minor		3 General Elective or Course for Second Major or Minor	3
General Elective or Course for Second Major or Minor		3 General Elective or Course for Second Major or Minor	3
		15	15
Third Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Religious Traditions, Comparative Approaches, and Restricted Electives Course		3 Religious Traditions, Comparative Approaches, and Restricted Electives Course	3
ENG 300		3 Colonnade Connections Course	3
Colonnade Connections Course		3 General Elective or Course for Second Major or Minor	3
General Elective or Course for Second Major or Minor		3 General Elective or Course for Second Major or Minor	3
General Elective or Course for Second Major or Minor		3 General Elective or Course for Second Major or Minor	3
		15	15
Fourth Year			
Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
RELS 496		3 Religious Studies Elective	3
General Elective or Course for Second Major or Minor		3 General Elective or Course for Second Major or Minor	3
General Elective or Course for Second Major or Minor		3 General Elective or Course for Second Major or Minor	3
General Elective or Course for Second Major or Minor		3 General Elective or Course for Second Major or Minor	3
General Elective or Course for Second Major or Minor		3 General Elective or Course for Second Major or Minor	3
		15	15
Total Hours 120-121			