MAJOR IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Majors in Religious Studies must complete 36 units of course work, 12 from a set of Area Requirements. Three courses (9 units) at the introductory level are designed to provide students with broad, working knowledge of Western and Asian religious traditions. An advanced course at the 400 level (3 units) assumes knowledge and skills students will have acquired in their course work in Religious Studies. It engages students in critical reflection on religious phenomena broadly conceived and represents the culmination of their experience as Religious Studies Majors. Of the remaining 24 elective units, no fewer than 18 are to be selected from courses in Religious Studies; 6 units may be selected from related disciplines in consultation with students’ academic advisers and with the approval of the department chair.

Code | Title | Units
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RLST 105 | INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF RELIGION | 3
RLST 470 | SEMINAR IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES | 3

**Area 2**

Select one of the following: 3

- RLST 202 | INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIANITY
- RLST 203 | INTRODUCTION TO ISLAM
- RLST 206 | JUDAISM, CHRISTIANITY AND ISLAM
- RLST 210 | INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM

**Area 3**

Select one of the following: 3

- RLST 207 | INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM
- RLST 208 | INTRODUCTION TO HINDUISM
- RLST 209 | RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS OF ASIA

Electives

Select 24 elective units: 24

No fewer than 18 units are to be selected from RLST courses

6 units may be selected from related disciplines in consultation with academic advisers and with the approval of the department chair

No fewer than 18 units must be at the 300 or 400 level

**Total Units 36**

**Sophomore**

**Term 1** | Units | **Term 2** | Units
--- | --- | --- | ---
Select one of the following: | 3 | Select one of the following: | 3
(Area 2) | (Area 3) | (Area 2) | (Area 3)
- RLST 202 (Core 5) | RLST 207
- RLST 203 | RLST 208
- RLST 206 (Core 13) | RLST 209 (Core 13)
- RLST 210 (Core 13) | RLST Elective
- RLST Elective
- Core 5 (if not taken in Area 2) or Elective
- Core 9
- Elective
- Elective
- Elective
- Elective
- Elective
- Elective

**Senior**

**Term 1** | Units | **Term 2** | Units
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RLST 470 (Area 1) | 3 | RLST or other approved Elective
RLST or other approved Elective
RLST or other approved Elective
RLST or other approved Elective

**Total Units 120-122**

1. Demonstrate content knowledge of world religions.
2. Demonstrate ability to compare culturally and historically diverse religious phenomena.
3. Exhibit understanding of and apply methods utilized in the academic study of religion in the analysis, explanation, and/or critical evaluation of religious phenomena.
4. Write clearly and persuasively for a variety of purposes and for different audiences, and revise and improve such texts.
5. Read, interpret, analyze and evaluate written discourse.
6. Engage intellectually and seek to understand the experiences and views of people with different cultural backgrounds and beliefs, whether in one’s own country or abroad.
7. Make use of scholarly information sources and technologies both online and offline in order to access information effectively and evaluate critically the sources and content of that information.

**Suggested Four-Year Plan**

Based on course availability and student needs and preferences, the selected sequences will probably vary from those presented below. Students should consult with their adviser to make the most appropriate elective choices.

**Freshman**

**Term 1** | Units | **Term 2** | Units
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Core 1 (or Core 2) | 3 | RLST 105 (Area 1) (Core 12) | 3
Core 3 | 3 | Core 2 (or Core 1) | 3
Core 4 | 3 | Core 10 | 3
Core 6 | 3 | Core 11 | 3
Core 7 | 3-4 | Core 14 | 3

15-16 | 15

**Junior**

**Term 1** | Units | **Term 2** | Units
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Core 1 (or Core 2) | 3 | Core 2 (or Core 1) | 3
Core 3 | 3 | Core 10 | 3
Core 4 | 3 | Core 11 | 3
Core 6 | 3 | Core 14 | 3

15 | 15