

RELIGION & CULTURE (REL)

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Chair: Associate Professor: C. Colorado; Professors: J. Barter, P.L. Day, M.F. Ruml, A. Walker-Jones; Associate Professors: J. Newmark; Assistant Professors: S.Balkwill, W.R. Dickson, L. Szekely.

DEGREES/PROGRAMS OFFERED

3-Year BA

4-Year BA

Honours BA

Pre-Master's Program

Joint Masters Program (For information, please see the *Graduate Studies Academic Calendar*.)

Minor

INTRODUCTION

The study of religion aims to understand religious thought and practices as aspects of the culture and society that produced them. It offers an opportunity to explore beliefs and ideas, philosophies and mythologies, rituals and symbols, etc., that shape the cultures and civilizations of the world both in historical perspective and as contemporary phenomena. In the process of this exploration, the Religion & Culture program sensitizes students to the variety of traditions, commitments, and cultures which exist in our world, both globally and locally. It also provides an environment for students to thoughtfully reflect upon their own religious traditions and experiences as well as to think about issues and problems of modern life from a variety of perspectives.

The introductory courses are open to all students. They provide an opportunity to survey the diversity of religion in either the contemporary Canadian or the global context, or to explore the biblical roots of Judeo-Christian tradition. General interest courses are also offered at the 2000 level, and are open to all students without prerequisite. These courses do not presuppose previous knowledge or background and enable students to focus either on particular religious traditions (Indigenous, Buddhist, Biblical, etc.) or on contemporary issues in religion (sexuality, technology, new religions, popular culture, etc.). Departmental faculty members have particular interests and strengths in the areas of religion and modern culture, mythology, Chinese and Japanese religions, Buddhist traditions, Indigenous traditions, Hebrew Bible/Old Testament, Islam and the Qur'an, and gender studies. The Major program, leading to either a 3-Year BA, 4-Year BA, or a BA Honours degree, is designed to provide an opportunity to explore a variety of religious traditions and topics as well as to concentrate on areas of particular interest. The Department also participates in a Joint Masters Program in Religion with the University of Manitoba.

Graduates who are interested in fields where human interaction and/or multiculturalism are significant factors, such as education, mediation services, social work, international business and international development, employee relations, immigration services and certain areas of law and the justice system, benefit greatly from courses in Religion & Culture.

REQUIREMENTS FOR A 3-YEAR BA IN RELIGION & CULTURE

ADMISSION REQUIREMENT	Students are advised to consult with the faculty advisor in planning their curriculum at the beginning of each registration session.
GRADUATION REQUIREMENT	90 credit hours
RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT	
Degree:	Minimum 30 credit hours
Major:	Minimum 18 credit hours
GENERAL DEGREE REQUIREMENT	
Humanities:	12 credit hours in Humanities
Science:	6 credit hours in Science
Writing:	Minimum 3 credit hours of Academic Writing, to be completed in the first year.
Indigenous:	3 credit hours in designated Indigenous requirement courses.
Maximum Introductory Courses:	Students may use a maximum of 42 credit hours at the 1000 level. Of these, a maximum of 6 credit hours may be below the 1000 level. As a result, students must take a minimum of 48 credit hours at the 2000-level or above in order to not exceed the maximum number of introductory courses.
Distribution:	Minimum three (3) credit hours from each of five (5) different subjects.
MAJOR REQUIREMENT	
Single Major:	Minimum 30 credit hours/Maximum 48 credit hours.
Double Major:	30 credit hours in Religion & Culture and specified number of credit hours in the other department/program.
Distribution:	Minimum of 3 credit hours at the 2000 level in each of three (3) of the four (4) Areas of Study: "Historical Judaism, Christianity, and Islam", "Religion and Modern Western Culture", "Asian Religions and Culture", and "Indigenous Religious Traditions".
Required courses:	
One of	REL-1002(3) Exploring Religion: the World's Religions REL-1003(6) Exploring Religion: the Bible
Note:	REL-1005(3) and REL-1006(3) at Canadian Mennonite University do not fulfil this requirement.

Maximum of 12 credit hours at the 1000-level.
Minimum 6 credit hours at the 3000 level in Religion & Culture.

Combined Major: Minimum 48 credit hours from 2 different majors with no fewer than 18 credit hours from each major subject.

Prescribed courses:
One of

REL-1001(6) Religion and Identity in Contemporary Canada

REL-1002(3) Exploring Religion: the World's Religions

REL-1003(6) Exploring Religion: the Bible

Minimum of 3 credit hours at the 2000 level from three (3) of the four (4) Areas of Study:

Historical Judaism, Christianity, and Islam

Religion and Modern Western Culture

Asian Religions and Cultures

Indigenous Religious Traditions

Minimum of 3 credit hours at the 3000 level or above.

REQUIREMENTS FOR A 4-YEAR BA IN RELIGION & CULTURE

ADMISSION REQUIREMENT Students must consult with the department advisor in planning their studies.
Students must have completed at least 30 credit hours previously.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENT 120 credit hours

RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT

Degree: Minimum 60 credit hours

Major: Minimum 30 credit hours

GENERAL DEGREE REQUIREMENT

Humanities: 12 credit hours in Humanities

Science: 6 credit hours in Science

Social Science: 12 credit hours in Social Science

Writing: Minimum 3 credit hours of Academic Writing.

Indigenous: 3 credit hours in designated Indigenous requirement courses.

Maximum Introductory Courses: Students may use a maximum of 42 credit hours at the 1000 level.

Of these, a maximum of 6 credit hours may be below the 1000 level. As a result, students must take a minimum of 78 credit hours at the 2000-level or above in order to not exceed the maximum number of introductory courses.

Distribution: Minimum three (3) credit hours from each of five (5) different subjects.

MAJOR REQUIREMENT

Single Major: Minimum 48 credit hours/Maximum 66 credit hours.

Double Major: Minimum 48 credit hours in each Major subject as specified by the department/program.

Distribution: Minimum of 6 credit hours at the 2000 or 3000 level in each of three (3) of the four (4) Areas of Study: "Historical Judaism, Christianity, and Islam", Religion and Modern Western Culture", Asian Religions and Culture", and "Indigenous Religious Traditions".

Required courses:
One of

REL-1002(3) Exploring Religion: the World's Religions

REL-1003(6) Exploring Religion: the Bible

Note: **REL-1005(3)** and **1006(3)** at Canadian Mennonite University do not fulfil this requirement.

Maximum of 12 credit hours at the 1000 level.

Minimum 18 credit hours at the 3000 level or above in Religion & Culture.

Combined Major: Minimum 60 credit hours from two (2) different majors with not less than 24 credit hours from each major subject.

Prescribed courses:
One of

REL-1002(3) Exploring Religion: the World's Religions

REL-1003(6) Exploring Religion: the Bible

Minimum of 3 credit hours at the 2000 level from three (3) of the four (4) Areas of Study:

Historical Judaism, Christianity, and Islam

Religion and Modern Western Culture

Asian Religions and Cultures

Indigenous Religious Traditions

Minimum of 3 credit hours at the 3000 level or above and an additional 6 credit hours at the 3000 level or above is recommended.

Individuals' programs will be structured to meet student needs and interests.

Students planning to major in Religion & Culture must consult with the Department Chair after completing 30 credit hours.

REQUIREMENTS FOR AN HONOURS BA IN RELIGION & CULTURE

ADMISSION REQUIREMENT	Entry into the program after completing a minimum of 30 credit hours. Entry, continuing, and graduation minimum GPA is 3.0 (B) in Religion & Culture courses and 2.5 (C+) in other courses. The minimum 3.0 GPA (B) will be based on all attempts (including course repeats and failures) in Religion & Culture courses. The minimum 2.5 GPA (C+) in all other courses will be calculated as for the general degree (i.e. F's are not included, and in the case of repeated courses, only the highest grade will be used). Students in the Honours program must have approval of the Department Chair, or designate.
GRADUATION REQUIREMENT	120 credit hours
RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT	
Degree:	Minimum 60 credit hours
Honours:	Minimum 30 credit hours, including minimum 18 credit hours at upper level (3000/4000) of which a minimum of 9 credit hours must be at the 4000 or 5000 level.
GENERAL DEGREE REQUIREMENT	
Humanities:	12 credit hours in Humanities
Science:	6 credit hours in Science
Writing:	Minimum 3 credit hours of Academic Writing.
Indigenous:	3 credit hours in designated Indigenous requirement courses.
Maximum Introductory Courses:	Students may use a maximum of 42 credit hours at the 1000 level. Of these, a maximum of 6 credit hours may be below the 1000 level. As a result, students must take a minimum of 78 credit hours at the 2000-level or above in order to not exceed the maximum number of introductory courses.
Distribution:	Minimum three (3) credit hours from each of five (5) different subjects.
HONOURS REQUIREMENT	
Single Honours:	Minimum 54 credit hours/Maximum 78 credit hours in Religion & Culture.
Required courses:	
One of	
REL-1002(3) Exploring Religion: the World's Religions	
REL-1003(6) Exploring Religion: the Bible	
Note: REL-1005(3) and 1006(3) at Canadian Mennonite University do not fulfil this requirement.	
Maximum of 12 credit hours at the 1000 level.	
Distribution Requirement:	Minimum of 6 credit hours at the 2000, 3000, 4000 level from three (3) of the four (4) Areas of Study: "Historical Judaism, Christianity and Islam", "Religion and Modern Western Culture", "Asian Religions and Culture", "Indigenous Religious Traditions".
Advanced Level Course	Minimum 36 credit hours in advanced level (3000, 4000, and 5000) courses, of which a minimum 24 credit hours are at the 4000 or 5000 level.
Requirement:	Note: All 3000 level courses are also offered at a 4000 level. Students may not receive credit for the same course at both a 3000 and a 4000 level except REL-3990(6)/4990(6), REL-3991(3)/4991(3), and REL-3999(6)/4999(6).
Language Requirement:	Minimum 6 credit hours in a second language, or equivalent.
Languages for credit:	Students may receive Religion & Culture Honours credit (a maximum of 12 credit hours) in approved languages for the study of religion. Languages currently approved are: biblical Hebrew, classical Greek, Latin, Arabic, Sanskrit, classical Chinese, Cree, Ojibway, Dakota. Students who wish to receive Religion & Culture credit in other languages should consult the Department Chair.
Double Honours:	Minimum 36 credit hours in each Honours subject as specified in each department/program.
Required courses:	
One of	
REL-1002(3) Exploring Religion: the World's Religions	
REL-1003(6) Exploring Religion: the Bible	
Note: REL-1005(3) and 1006(3) at Canadian Mennonite University do not fulfil this requirement.	
Maximum of 12 credit hours at the 1000 level.	
Distribution Requirement:	Minimum of 6 credit hours at the 2000, 3000, 4000 level from each of the four (4) Areas of Study.
Advanced Level Courses	Minimum 18 credit hours in advanced level (3000, 4000, and 5000) courses in Religion & Culture of which a minimum 15 credit hours are at the 4000 level.
Requirement:	Note: All 3000 level courses are also offered at a 4000 level. Students may not receive credit for the same course at both a 3000 and a 4000 level except REL-3990(6)/4990(6), REL-3991(3)/4991(3), and REL-3999(6)/4999(6).

Language Requirement: Minimum 6 credit hours in a second language, or equivalent.
 Languages for credit: Students may receive Religion & Culture Honours credit (a maximum of 12 credit hours) in approved languages for the study of religion. Languages currently approved are: biblical Hebrew, classical Greek, Latin, Arabic, Sanskrit, classical Chinese, Cree, Ojibway, Dakota. Students who wish to receive Religion & Culture credit in other languages should consult the Department Chair..

For the required courses in the second Honours subject, consult the department involved.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PRE-MASTER'S PROGRAM

Students wishing to prepare for entry into a program of graduate studies in Religion & Culture may do so by completing a BA Honours Program, a 4-Year BA degree program, or by taking courses equivalent to a pre-master's year from the University of Manitoba and the University of Winnipeg Religion & Culture Departments.

Students wishing to pursue this option are advised to consult with the Department Graduate Chair, Dr. Albert Welter.

REQUIREMENTS FOR A MINOR IN RELIGION & CULTURE

Degree: Students completing any undergraduate degree program are eligible to complete Minor
 Minor: 18 credit hours in the Minor subject, with a minimum of 12 credit hours above the 1000-level
 Residence Requirement: Minimum 12 credit hours in the Minor subject
 Required courses: Minimum 3 credit hours at 3000 or 4000 level
 Restrictions: Students cannot declare the same subject as a Major and a Minor.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Prerequisites

Most courses below the 3000 level have no course prerequisites. They are open to all students.

One 1000-level 6 credit hour course is required for entry to the Major program.

Note: REL-1005(3) and REL-1006(3) offered at Canadian Mennonite University do not fulfil this requirement.

Humanities Requirement

All Religion & Culture courses **except** REL-2001(6) and REL-2007(6) may be used to fulfill the Humanities Requirement.

Language Courses

6 credit hours (3-year BA) or 12 credit hours (4-year BA or Honours BA) in approved language study (biblical Hebrew, classical Greek, Latin, Arabic, Sanskrit, classical Chinese, Cree, Ojibway, Dakota, and Japanese) may be counted toward a Major in Religion & Culture. Hebrew is taught on a rotating basis by the Department of Religion & Culture (University of Winnipeg), Faculty of Theology (University of Winnipeg), Canadian Mennonite University, Department of Religion (University of Manitoba), and William and Catherine Booth College. Greek is taught in the Faculty of Theology (University of Winnipeg) Classics Department (University of Winnipeg), and Canadian Mennonite University. Classical Chinese is offered through the Religion & Culture Department on the basis of student interest. Sanskrit is available at the University of Manitoba, depending on student interest. Cree and Ojibway are available at the University of Winnipeg and the University of Manitoba. Dakota is available at Brandon University.

Graduate Studies

The Department offers a joint MA degree with the Department of Religion at the University of Manitoba. See Graduate Studies for details. Interested undergraduate Religion & Culture majors should consult with the Department JMP Chair, Dr. Rory Dickson, so that their undergraduate program can be structured to meet the joint MA admission requirements.

Courses in Other Departments

Students may include a maximum of 6 credit hours from the following toward the Major, providing the Major Distribution Requirement is met.

Anthropology	ANTH-2108(3)	Myth, Magic and Shamanism.
Classics	CLAS-2700(3)	Topics in Ancient Religion: Early Christianity ,
	CLAS-2701(6)	Introduction to Classical Mythology,
	CLAS-2702(3)	Religion in Greece and Rome,
	CLAS-2703(3)	Magic and Divination in the Greek and Roman Worlds
	CLAS-2010(3)	Religious Architecture in the Greco-Roman World
English	ENGL-3905(3)* or (6)*	Topics in Biblical Texts and Cultural Studies
History	HIST-3612(3)*	Religion in American History,
	HIST-3831(3)*	Islamic Art & Architecture
Mennonite Studies	MENN-2009(3)	Mennonites in Global Context;
	MENN-2322(3)	Origins and Character of Anabaptism;
	MENN-3452(3)*	Anabaptism and Evangelicalism
Philosophy	PHIL-2232(3)	(or the former PHIL-2231(6)) Philosophy of Religion

* Does not fulfil the major requirements of a course at the 3000 level or above.

COURSE LISTINGS

INTRODUCTORY COURSES

Majors are required to take one 6 credit hour introductory course. Maximum of 2 introductory courses may be taken for credit.

- REL-1002(3) Exploring Religion: the World's Religions
REL-1003(6) Exploring Religion: the Bible

AREAS OF STUDY

Note: Courses are offered on rotation.

Note: 2000-level courses are open to all students, without prerequisite.

Note: Except where otherwise indicated the 3000-level courses are open to students who have completed successfully at least 6 credit hours in Religion & Culture, or who have received the consent of the instructor.

Note: All 3000-level courses are also offered at a 4000 level. Students may not receive credit for the same course at both a 3000 and a 4000 level except REL-3990(6)/4990(6), REL-3991(3)/4991(3), and REL-3999(6)/4999(6). Students registering at the 4000 level must have departmental permission.

Historical Judaism, Christianity, and Islam

- REL-2001(6) Elementary Biblical Hebrew
REL-2010(6) Introduction to Modern Standard Arabic
REL-2125(3) Modern Biblical Interpretation
REL-2127(3) Major Biblical Themes
REL-2131(3) Apocalyptic Literature
REL-2211(3) Studies in the Synoptic Gospels
REL-2305(3) Early and Medieval Christianity
REL-2306(3) Christianity in the Modern Era
REL-2363(3) Mennonite Studies I
REL-2364(3) Mennonite Studies II
REL-2710(3) Classical Islam
REL-3120(3)/ 4120(3) The Prophets in Israel's Culture
REL-3125(3)/ 4125(3) Biblical Myths, Legends and Folktales
REL-3157(3)/ 4157(3) Women in Ancient Israel
REL-3701(3)/ 4701(3) Issues in the Interpretation of the Qur'an
REL-3900(3)/ 4900(3) Topics in Historical Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
REL-3990(6)/ 4990(6) Readings in Religion
REL-3991(3)/ 4991(3) Readings in Religion
REL-3999(6)/ 4999(6) Languages for Religious Studies

Religion and Modern Western Culture

- REL-2304(3) Atheism, Skepticism and Religion
REL-2401(3) Religion and Popular Culture
REL-2402(3) Fundamentalisms in Global Perspective
REL-2405(3) Religion and Culture: The Multifaith Society
REL-2407(3) Contemporary Religion from a Social Scientific Perspective
REL-2507(3) Sexuality in the Religious Context
REL-2511(3) Religion and Society: The Critique of Development
REL-2513(3) Health, Healing and Spirituality in Cross-Cultural Perspective
REL-2515(3) Ecology and Religion
REL-2601(3) Contemporary Jewish Life
REL-2607(3) New Religions in North America
REL-2711(3) Contemporary Islam
REL-2713(3) Muslims in Canada

- REL-3504(3)/ 4504(3) The Problem of Evil
REL-3512(3)/ 4512(3) Religious Quest in the Modern Age
REL-3514(3)/ 4514(3) Religious Critiques of Modernity
REL-3601(3)/ 4601(3) Stories Lives: Contemporary Spiritual Biographies and the Construction of Identity
REL-3940(3)/ 4940(3) Topics in Religion and Modern Western Culture
REL-3990(6)/ 4990(6) Readings in Religion
REL-3991(3)/ 4991(3) Readings in Religion
REL-3999(6) Languages for Religious Studies
4999(6)

Asian Religions and Cultures

- REL-2703(3) Religions of India
REL-2704(3) Buddhist Traditions in India and Southeast Asia
REL-2707(3) Chinese Religions
REL-2708(3) Religion in Japanese Life
REL-2709(3) Women in Asian Religions
REL-2721(3) Traditional Japanese Culture
REL-2718(3) Buddhist Traditions in East Asia
REL-2731(3) Chinese Culture & Beliefs
REL-2735(3) Buddhism Through Art
REL-2774(3) Chinese Intellectual History
REL-2775(3) Intellectual Encounters: China and the West
REL-2901(3) Art in Non-Christian Religions
REL-2942(3) The Philosophy of Yoga
REL-3007(6) Introduction to Classical Chinese
REL-3708(3)/ 4708(3) Topics in Buddhist Culture and Society
REL-3721(3)/ 4721(3) The Age of the Samurai
REL-3970(3)/ 4970(3) Topics in Asian Religions and Cultures
REL-3990(6)/ 4990(6) Readings in Religion
REL-3991(3)/ 4991(3) Readings in Religion
REL-3999(6)/ 4999(6) Languages for Religious Studies

Indigenous Religious Traditions

- REL-2715(3) African Religions
REL-2801(3) Introduction to Indigenous Spirituality
REL-2802(3) Indigenous and Christian Encounter
REL-2803(3) Indigenous Sacred Narratives
REL/IDS-2804(3) Global Perspectives on Indigenous Societies, Spiritualities and the Environment
REL-3802(3)/ 4802(3) Indigenous Healers
REL-3803(3)/ 4803(3) Indigenous Women's Teachings
REL-3804(3)/ 4804(3) Indigenous Spirituality: Research Methods
REL-3980(3)/ 4980(3) Topics in Indigenous Religious Traditions
REL-3990(6)/ 4990(6) Readings in Religion
REL-3991(3)/ 4991(3) Readings in Religion
REL-3999(6)/ 4999(6) Languages for Religious Studies

Pre-Master's Courses

Open to all students accepted in a graduate program, students with a Bachelor's degree, and advanced undergraduates with a 3.0 GPA in Religion & Culture. Permission of Chair or Graduate Chair must be received to enroll.

REL-5001(3)	Method and Theory in the Study of Religion I: Social Scientific Approaches
REL-5002(3)	Method and Theory in the Study of Religion II: Textual Interpretation
REL-5990(6)	Advanced Individual Study in Religion
REL-5991(3)	Advanced Individual Study in Religion

**Does not fulfil the major requirements of a course at the 3000 level or above*

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

All course descriptions for all undergraduate programs can now be found in one large PDF called "All course descriptions" in the "Academic Calendar" section of the University website:
<http://uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/index.html>