

RELIGION & CULTURE (REL)

Updated February 23, 2017

Note: The department/program code REL replaces the former code 47. Students cannot hold credit in REL-xxxx and the former 47.xxxx having the same course number (e.g., REL-1001(6) and 47.1001(6)).

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

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| 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. |
| 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-1001(6) | Religion and Identity in Contemporary Canada |
| 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.
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-1001(6) Religion and Identity in Contemporary Canada
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-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 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

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| 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. 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-1001(6) Religion and Identity in Contemporary Canada 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 Requirement: 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. 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-1001(6) Religion and Identity in Contemporary Canada 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 Requirement: 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. 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, 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.

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| 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-2101(3) | Mennonite Studies I; |
| | MENN-2102(6), | Mennonite Studies II; |
| | 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-1001(6) Religion and Identity in Contemporary Canada
 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-2121(3) Origins of Rabbinic Judaism
 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-2213(3) Jesus in John
 REL-2302(3) The Age of Renaissance and Reformation
 REL-2305(3) Early and Medieval Christianity
 REL-2306(3) Christianity in the Modern Era
 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-3710(3)/4710(3) The Bible and 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-2404(3) Religion and Culture: Religions in Encounter and Change
 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-2508(3) Images of Power: The Technological and the Religious Imaginations
 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-3551(3)/4551(3) Religion and Social Change
 REL-3553(3)/4553(3) Religion, Culture and Human Rights
 REL-3601(3)/4601(3) Stories Lives: Contemporary Spiritual Biographies and the Construction of Identity
 REL-3602(3)/4602(3) Rituals and Rites of Passage in Contemporary Societies
 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

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-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-3704(3)/4704(3) Chinese & East Asian Perspectives on Human Rights
 REL-3707(3)/4707(3) Zen Buddhism
 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-2872(3) African Traditional Religions & the Christian Encounter
 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 the back portion of the print Undergraduate Academic Calendar. They are also available in one large PDF in the "Academic Calendar" section of the University website: <http://uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/index.html>