



FACULTY OF ARTS

## RELIGION & CULTURE

---

**The study of religion focuses on the human search for meaning and purpose in life.**

---

If you want to understand where the search for meaning and purpose has taken some of the world's people, consider pursuing religious studies. Religion & Culture at The University of Winnipeg will familiarize you with the quest for meaning and purpose as it is expressed in stories, rituals, codes of conduct, canonical texts, and cultural values.

The Religion & Culture program does not promote any one religion or any particular faith; we study religion as an important aspect of culture and society and promote critical enquiry, understanding, and tolerance. We explore religion in four areas: Historical Judaism, Christianity, and Islam; Religion and Modern Western Culture; Asian Religions and Cultures; and Indigenous Religious Traditions. The scope of religions we cover ranges from traditional Western religions like Judaism and Christianity, to local Indigenous traditions, Islam, and Asian traditions (Hinduism, Buddhism, Daoism, and Confucianism).

This program leads to a **Bachelor of Arts (3-year, 4-year, or Honours)** with a Major in Religion & Culture. The Department of Religion & Culture also offers a Joint Master's program in cooperation with the University of Manitoba. Students taking an undergraduate degree in another Major may choose to add a **Minor** in Religion & Culture as a secondary area of interest.

---

### SAMPLE CAREERS

If you are interested in fields where human interaction and/or multiculturalism are significant factors, such as education, mediation services, social work, employee relations, immigration services, international development, and certain branches of law, you will benefit greatly from courses in Religion & Culture.

### SAMPLE COURSES

**Exploring Religion: the World's Religions** is a first-year course that explores the ways religion is understood in different cultures through a survey of the major world religious traditions. The teachings of individual traditions, how these teachings developed over time, and differences in interpretation will be examined against the background of the culture that produced them.

**Introduction to Indigenous Spirituality** is a 2000-level course that provides an introduction to the plurality of Indigenous traditions in North America, and familiarizes students with the diversity, complexity and vitality of these traditions. Indigenous and Christian Encounter is also a 2000-level course. It explores the encounter between Christianity and the traditional religions of the Indigenous peoples of Canada and the United States from first contact to the present.

---

**Religion and Popular Culture**, a second-year course, considers the place of religion in North American popular culture. It explores how elements of popular culture (radio, television, music, film, video, and fashion) influence the ways many people conceive of religion and its role in their lives.

### **MORE SAMPLE COURSES**

- Exploring Religion: the Bible
- Science, Atheism, Skepticism and Religion
- Contemporary Jewish Life
- Contemporary Islam
- Women in Asian Religions
- Religions of India
- Chinese Religions
- Indigenous Sacred Narratives

### **SAMPLE FIRST YEAR**

**One of:**

REL-1002(3) Exploring Religion: the World's Religions plus one 2000-level course in Religion and Culture OR

REL-1003(6) Exploring Religion: the Bible

**Plus:**

RHET-1101(3) Academic Writing: Humanities or any other section of Academic Writing (if required)  
21-24 credit hours Electives, depending on interest

**NOTE:** *This sample first year is representative of the courses you may take. For many of our programs, you may choose another set of courses and still be well on your way to a degree. Also, for most programs you do not have to take 30 credit hours (five full courses) in your first year.*

---

***“The Religion and Culture program has exposed me to diverse material and helps me to feel prepared to work or study in a variety of fields.”***

Annie McBay, BA Honours (Religion & Culture)

---

### **REQUIRED HIGH SCHOOL COURSES**

You must meet The University of Winnipeg's general admission requirements. No specific courses required.

### **HOW TO APPLY**

For details on application requirements and deadlines, and to apply online, please visit:  
[uwinnipeg.ca/apply](http://uwinnipeg.ca/apply)

For more information contact a student recruitment officer at [welcome@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:welcome@uwinnipeg.ca) or 204.786.9844. In any case where the University's Academic Calendar and this fact sheet differ, the current Calendar takes precedence.

### **CONTACT US**

**Dr. W. Rory Dickson**

Department Chair

P 204.786.9202

E [w.dickson@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:w.dickson@uwinnipeg.ca)

<http://uwinnipeg.ca/religion-and-culture/index.html>