



Program Planning Guide

Current and past Program Planning Guides are available on the UofL website at www.uleth.ca/ross/ppgs/ppg.html

Calendar Year: 2010/2011

Faculty: Arts & Science

About the Religious Studies Major

Religious Studies aims to enhance critical understanding of the phenomenon of religion and the diversity of religious experience and expression from antiquity to the present in both Eastern and Western traditions. Fundamental issues such as belief, texts, worship, ritual, concepts of the divine, the human condition, and the historical development of particular religions are examined. The academic study of religion requires a measure of neutrality and distance, whereby all religious traditions are treated with similar respect and critical inquiry.

The Department of Religious Studies offers courses in the following areas of study:

World Religions	Western Religions
Eastern Religions	Ancient Languages

Graduate Studies

There are more than a dozen graduate schools and programs in Religious Studies across Canada, including Ph.D. programs at the University of Toronto, McMaster University, McGill University, the University of Alberta, and the University of Calgary.

Opportunities for Graduates with Religious Studies Majors

University students in Religious Studies acquire a range of skills. Religious Studies graduates have entered such fields as teaching, journalism, counselling, human resources, law, and civil service, or have worked with religious and humanitarian organizations.

Independent Study

The major in Religious Studies requires a minimum of one Independent Study, designed by the student in co-operation with a Religious Studies professor. This course offers the student the opportunity to address his or her particular academic interests beyond the regular curriculum. The required concepts and methods course provides the student with the scholarly tools necessary to appreciate the academic study of religion.

Co-operative Education

A Co-op option, requiring three work terms, is available. Students interested in the Co-operative Education/Internship program should contact the Coordinator of Co-operative Education in the Career Resources Centre (B610 | phone: 403-382-7154) for further information.

Program Requirements

The B.A. degree with a major in Religious Studies requires 40 semester courses, including a minimum of 10 courses in the major (nine Religious Studies courses plus one cognate). A maximum of 20 courses in Religious Studies is allowed.

Transfer Credit

Remember that you may use both University of Lethbridge credit and credit transferred from another college or university to meet degree and major requirements. Transfer credit may be either specified or unspecified. Specified credit is indicated on your transcript by the subject name and the specific number of the course, e.g., Religious Studies 1000, Religious Studies 2500. Unspecified credit (1XXX, 2XXX, etc.) is indicated by the subject name and level of the course in parentheses, e.g., Religious Studies (1000 level), Religious Studies (2000 level), etc.

Unspecified Course Credit

Unspecified course credit means that the University of Lethbridge does not offer the same course you transferred in, but we recognize it and treat it as a regular course. An unspecified course would count as one of your maximum of 20 from one department, but it could not meet a specific course requirement. For example, if Religious Studies 2600 is required in your program, you could not use Religious Studies (2000 level) to fulfill that requirement. Students with unspecified transfer credit need to consult an Academic Advisor to establish how the transfer credit fits in the degree program. This should be done as soon as possible after transfer credit is awarded.

Program Worksheet

Name : _____ ID : _____

- _____ 1. Religious Studies 1000 - Introduction to World Religions
- _____ 2. At least ONE course in Eastern Religions drawn from the following:
- _____ Religious Studies 2100 - The Hindu Tradition
- _____ Religious Studies 2200 - The Buddhist Tradition
- _____ Religious Studies 2300 - East Asian Religions
- _____ 3. At least ONE course in Western Religions drawn from the following:
- _____ Religious Studies 2400 - Judaism
- _____ Religious Studies 2450 - Bible Survey
- _____ Religious Studies 2500 - Christianity
- _____ Religious Studies 2600 - Islam
- _____ 4. ONE additional course in Religious Studies at the 2000 level selected from Eastern Religions, Western Religions, or Religious Studies 2000 - Dimensions of Religion (Series)
- _____
- _____ 5-7. THREE of:
- _____ Religious Studies 3000 - Studies in Religious Traditions (Series)
- _____ Religious Studies 3100 - Studies in Indian Religion (Series)
- _____ Religious Studies 3300 - Studies in East Asian Religions (Series)
- _____ Religious Studies 3400 - Studies in Judaism (Series)
- _____ Religious Studies 3450 - Hebrew Bible
- _____ Religious Studies 3501 - Studies in Christianity (Series)
- _____ Religious Studies 3600 - Studies in the Islamic Tradition (Series)
- _____ Religious Studies 4000 - Seminars in Religious Studies (Series)
- _____ Religious Studies 4110 - Seminars in Eastern Religions (Series)
- _____ Religious Studies 4400 - Seminars in Western Religions (Series)
- _____ 8. Religious Studies 4001 - Concepts and Methods in the Study of Religion
- _____ 9. ONE Independent Study course in Religious Studies at the 3000 or 4000 level
- _____
- _____ 10. ONE of:
- _____ Anthropology 3500 - Ritual, Practice, and Performance
- _____ Anthropology 3550 - Anthropology of Religion
- _____ Archaeology 3171 - Ancient Israel
- _____ History 3007 - Greek and Roman Mythology
- _____ History 3402 - The Reformation
- _____ Native American Studies 2000 - Native American Philosophy
- _____ Native American Studies 3000 - Native American Philosophy - Advanced
- _____ Philosophy 2010 - Ancient Philosophy
- _____ Philosophy 2210 - Philosophy of Religion
- _____ Philosophy 3260 - Metaphysics
- _____ Sociology 3330 - Sociology of Religion

Note: *The above courses have prerequisites that are not part of the major*

From time to time, topics courses in some departments will address the subject of religion. These will be considered for credit toward a Religious Studies major on an individual basis when requested by the student.

Faculty Members and Their Research Interests

John Harding

Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania

East Asian Religions
Japanese Buddhism
Buddhism in the West

Atif Khalil

M.A., University of Toronto

Ph.D. (Candidate), University of Toronto

Classical Islamic Thought: Sufism, Philosophy & Theology

James R. Linville

Ph.D., University of Edinburgh

Judaism
Hebrew Bible
Ancient Hebrew Prophets

Thomas A. Robinson

Ph.D., McMaster University

Early Church (100-500 C.E.)
New Testament Greek
North American Religions

Hillary P. Rodrigues

Ph.D., McMaster University

South Asian Religion and Culture
Popular Hinduism and its Rituals
Hindu Goddesses
Pedagogy of Religious Studies

Sample Sequencing Plan

Shown below is a sample sequence of courses for your degree. If you follow this plan, you should be able to graduate in four years, provided you complete five courses per semester. This is just one example of how you could complete your major and degree requirements; you may find that a different sequence works as well as this one.

<p>Year 1, Fall Religious Studies 1000 GLER course GLER course GLER course GLER course</p>	<p>Year 1, Spring Western or Eastern Religions course GLER course GLER course GLER course GLER course</p>
<p>Year 2, Fall Western or Eastern Religions course Elective Elective Elective Elective</p>	<p>Year 2, Spring Religious Studies 2000 level Elective 3000/4000 level Elective Elective Elective</p>
<p>Year 3, Fall Religious Studies 3000/4000 level Elective 3000/4000 level Elective Elective Elective</p>	<p>Year 3, Spring Religious Studies 3000/4000 level Required "One of:" course Elective 3000/4000 level Elective Elective</p>
<p>Year 4, Fall Religious Studies 4001¹ Religious Studies 3000/4000 level Elective Elective Elective</p>	<p>Year 4, Spring Religious Studies 3990 or 4990 (Independent Study) Elective 3000/4000 level Elective 3000/4000 level Elective Elective</p>

¹ Semester of offering may vary.

Terms Used

GLER course: A course that could count toward the General Liberal Education Requirement. You may use courses in your major towards this 12-course requirement. See the 2010/2011 University of Lethbridge Calendar, Part 4 - Academic Regulations (p. 85) for complete information.

The Faculty of Arts and Science offers Liberal Education 1000 and 2000, specifically designed to introduce first-year students to the wide scope of human knowledge and teach essential university success skills, critical thinking, and integrative thinking (see the 2010/2011 University of Lethbridge Calendar, Part 14 - Courses, p. 306). LBED 1000 and 2000 may be used toward satisfying the GLER.

Elective: A course that you may choose freely from all those available and applicable to your program. Use courses inside or outside your major, bearing in mind any restrictions that may apply (e.g., a maximum of 20 courses from any one department).

Cognate: A course from a related discipline deemed to complement the chosen area of study and to encompass knowledge and skills essential to that area.



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