



## Program Planning Guide

Current and past Program Planning Guides are available on the UofL website at [www.uleth.ca/ross/ppgs/ppg.html](http://www.uleth.ca/ross/ppgs/ppg.html)

Calendar Year: 2011/2012

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 (AH154 | 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 : \_\_\_\_\_

**Required courses:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 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)
 

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- \_\_\_\_\_ 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
 

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- \_\_\_\_\_ 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**

<p><b>John Harding</b> <i>Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania</i></p>	<p>East Asian Religions Japanese Buddhism Buddhism in the West</p>
<p><b>Atif Khalil</b> <i>Ph.D., University of Toronto</i></p>	<p>Classical Islamic Thought: Sufism, Philosophy &amp; Theology</p>
<p><b>James R. Linville</b> <i>Ph.D., University of Edinburgh</i></p>	<p>Judaism Hebrew Bible Ancient Hebrew Prophets</p>
<p><b>Thomas A. Robinson</b> <i>Ph.D., McMaster University</i></p>	<p>Early Church (100-500 C.E.) New Testament Greek North American Religions</p>
<p><b>Hillary P. Rodrigues</b> <i>Ph.D., McMaster University</i></p>	<p>South Asian Religion and Culture Popular Hinduism and its Rituals Hindu Goddesses Pedagogy of Religious Studies</p>

**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><b>Year 1, Fall</b> Religious Studies 1000 GLER course GLER course GLER course GLER course</p>	<p><b>Year 1, Spring</b> Western or Eastern Religions 2000 level GLER course GLER course GLER course GLER course</p>
<p><b>Year 2, Fall</b> Western or Eastern Religions 2000 level Elective Elective Elective Elective</p>	<p><b>Year 2, Spring</b> Religious Studies 2000 level Elective Elective Elective Elective</p>
<p><b>Year 3, Fall</b> Religious Studies 3000/4000 level Elective 3000/4000 level Elective Elective Elective</p>	<p><b>Year 3, Spring</b> Religious Studies 3000/4000 level Required "One of:" course Elective 3000/4000 level Elective Elective</p>
<p><b>Year 4, Fall</b> Religious Studies 4001<sup>1</sup> Religious Studies 3000/4000 level Elective 3000/4000 level Elective Elective</p>	<p><b>Year 4, Spring</b> Religious Studies 3990 or 4990 (Independent Study) Elective 3000/4000 level Elective 3000/4000 level Elective Elective</p>

<sup>1</sup> 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 2011/2012 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 2011/2012 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.



**[www.ulethbridge.ca](http://www.ulethbridge.ca)**

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