RELIGION

Events at home and abroad show that religion continues to be a powerful force, with both positive and negative consequences. An undergraduate major in Religion provides students with the basic tools to understand the diversity of religious phenomena throughout the world in their proper historical, socio-political, psychological, cultural, and philosophical contexts.

About this Program
• College: Liberal Arts and Sciences (http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/colleges-schools/UGLAS/)
• Degree: Bachelor of Arts
• Credits for Degree: 120
• Contact: Email (info@religion.ufl.edu?Subject=Religion%20Major)
• More Info

To graduate with this major, students must complete all university, college, and major requirements.

Department Information

Website (https://religion.ufl.edu/)

CONTACT
Email (info@religion.ufl.edu) | 352.392.1625 (tel) | 352.392.7395 (fax)

P.O. Box 117410
107 ANDERSON HALL
GAINESVILLE FL 32611-7410
Map (http://campusmap.ufl.edu/#/index/0030)

Curriculum
• Combination Degrees
• Religion
• Religion Minor

Students majoring in religion receive truly interdisciplinary training and many pursue advanced degrees in the humanities, social sciences, law, education, journalism, and social services. Religion majors have also gone on to work in non-governmental organizations, private companies, and religious communities. The religion program complements many other programs at the University of Florida, including Latin American studies, sustainability studies, Jewish studies, African studies, and Asian studies.

Coursework for the Major
The program consists of 10 courses, which include at least one class in three of the following four areas: Asian religions; Islam; and Jewish or Christian scripture; and religion and ethics in contemporary society. In addition, all majors must complete a junior seminar on methods and theories in the study of religion and a comparative East-West capstone seminar.

The 10 courses (30 credits) for the undergraduate major in religion must be completed with minimum grades of C. These courses must be taken from the introductory, intermediate, and advanced levels of the religion curriculum and they must expose the student to both eastern and western thought.

Required Coursework
Select at least one course from three of four groups

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asian Religion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select one:</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REL 2315</td>
<td>Religion in Asia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REL 2341</td>
<td>Introduction to Buddhism</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REL 3318</td>
<td>Chinese Religions</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>REL 3330</td>
<td>Religions of India</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REL 3336</td>
<td>Religion in Modern India</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REL 4349</td>
<td>Buddhist Meditation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Islam |                        |         |
| Select one: |                        | 3       |
| REL 2362 | Introduction to Islam |         |
REL 4371  Islam in Africa
REL 4367  The History of Islam in the Modern World
REL 4393  Islam in the Americas

**Jewish or Christian Scripture**
Select one: 3
- REL 2210  Hebrew Scriptures
- REL 2240  New Testament
- REL 3213  Hebrew Bible as Literature
- REL 3249  The Christian Gospels
- REL 3252  Acts, Paul, and Early Christianity
- REL 3291  Gender and the Hebrew Bible
- REL 4221  The Pentateuch

**Religion and Ethics in Contemporary Society**
Select one: 3
- REL 2071  Sustainability and Religion
- REL 3076  Cults and New Religious Movements
- REL 3082  Global Ethics
- REL 3099  Spirituality and Health Care
- REL 3108  Religion and Food
- REL 3148  Religion and Violence
- REL 3171  Ethics in America
- REL 3492  Religion Ethics and Nature
- REL 4092  Ethics, Utopias and Dystopias
- REL 3931  Junior Seminar (during the junior year)

4000-level courses, one of which must be the following: 6
- REL 4933  The Comparative Study of Religion

**Additional Religion courses**

**Total credits** 12

- Majors cannot count more than three introductory courses (2000-level, 9 credits) toward the 30 credits.
- No more than three courses (9 credits) can be in approved cognate courses from other departments.
- No more than four courses (12 credits) can be transferred from another institution.
- Every two semesters all majors must consult the undergraduate advisor.

There are no prerequisites for 2000-level courses. Detailed descriptions of current and prospective courses are available in 107 Anderson Hall and from faculty members before registration.

**Overseas Studies**
The department encourages study abroad. Overseas Studies, within the UF International Center (UFIC), offers the opportunity to study in a wide range of academic and cultural settings. The office coordinates 32 semester and yearlong programs and 28 summer programs in 24 countries. Study abroad programs satisfy the general education international and diversity requirements and also may fulfill requirements for a major or minor, as well as basic distribution area requirements and UF summer residency. Interested students should contact the UF International Center in 170 Hub or the undergraduate coordinator.

More Info [here](http://www.ufic.ufl.edu/)

**Critical Tracking**
Critical Tracking records each student's progress in courses that are required for progress toward each major. Please note the critical-tracking requirements below on a per-semester basis.

Equivalent critical-tracking courses as determined by the State of Florida Common Course Prerequisites [here](http://www.flvc.org/cpp/displayRecord.jsp?cip=380201&track=01) may be used for transfer students.

**Semester 1**
- 2.0 UF GPA required

**Semester 2**
- 2.0 UF GPA required
Semester 3
• Complete 1 religion course
• 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 4
• Complete 1 additional religion course with a 2.5 critical-tracking GPA
• 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 5
• Complete 1 additional religion course with a 2.5 critical-tracking GPA
• 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 6
• Completed 2 of the remaining REL 3XXX/4XXX required courses
• 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 7
• Completed 2 of the remaining REL 3XXX/4XXX required courses
• 2.0 UF GPA required

Semester 8
• Completed all remaining REL 3XXX/4XXX required courses
• 2.0 UF GPA required

Model Semester Plan

Students are expected to complete the writing requirement while in the process of taking the courses below. Students are also expected to complete the general education international (GE-N) and diversity (GE-D) requirements concurrently with another general education requirement (typically, GE-C, H, or S).

To remain on track, students must complete the appropriate critical-tracking courses, which appear in bold. These courses must be completed by the terms as listed above in the Critical Tracking criteria.

This semester plan represents an example progression through the major. Actual courses and course order may be different depending on the student's academic record and scheduling availability of courses. Prerequisites still apply.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Semester One</td>
<td>Quest 1 (Gen Ed Humanities)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MGF 1106 Mathematics for Liberal Arts Majors 1 (recommended; or other State Core Gen Ed Mathematics course)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>State Core Gen Ed Composition (<a href="http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext">http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext</a>); Writing Requirement</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Foreign language</td>
<td>4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credits</td>
<td></td>
<td>13-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester Two</td>
<td>One course in Asian religions, Jewish or Christian Scripture, Islam, or Religion and Ethics in Contemporary Society (Critical Tracking; Gen Ed Humanities)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>State Core Gen Ed Biological or Physical Sciences (<a href="http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext">http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>State Core Gen Ed Social and Behavioral Sciences (<a href="http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext">http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gen Ed Mathematics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Foreign language</td>
<td>3-5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Credits</td>
<td></td>
<td>15-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester Three</td>
<td>One course in Asian religions, Jewish or Christian Scripture, Islam, or Religion and Ethics in Contemporary Society (Critical Tracking; Gen Ed Humanities)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>State Core Gen Ed Humanities (<a href="http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext">http://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-programs/general-education/#genedcoursestext</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Academic Learning Compact

The major in religion examines religion as a significant and pervasive element in human culture. Through study of a variety of religious traditions, students learn about the history, beliefs and practices of the world’s religions. Emphasis on method and theory and religion’s comparative dimensions enables students to read and analyze current literature. Students will be able to locate and use reference tools and demonstrate the ability to communicate independent, critical perspectives.

Before Graduating Students Must

- Achieve satisfactory evaluation of assignment from REL 3931.
- Achieve satisfactory evaluation of assignment from REL 4933.
- Complete requirements for the baccalaureate degree, as determined by faculty.

Students in the Major Will Learn to

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

Content
1. Identify, describe and explain religion as a significant and pervasive element in human culture.

Critical Thinking
2. Read and analyze current literature on method and theory in a study of religion.
3. Read and analyze current literature on comparative religion.
Communication
4. Effectively communicate, in speech and in writing, and disseminate the results of research in a coherent and organized manner.

Curriculum Map
I = Introduced; R = Reinforced; A = Assessed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Courses</th>
<th>SLO 1</th>
<th>SLO 2</th>
<th>SLO 3</th>
<th>SLO 4</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Asian Religions</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REL 2317, REL 2341, REL 3330 or REL 3336</td>
<td>I, R</td>
<td></td>
<td>I, R</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Islamic Religions</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>REL 2362, REL 3317, REL 3366 or REL 3367</td>
<td>I, R</td>
<td></td>
<td>I, R</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Jewish or Christian Scripture</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>REL 2210, REL 2240, REL 3249 or REL 3252</td>
<td>I, R</td>
<td></td>
<td>I, R</td>
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<tr>
<td>REL 3931</td>
<td>A</td>
<td></td>
<td>I, R, A</td>
<td>I, R, A</td>
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<tr>
<td>REL 4933</td>
<td>A</td>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
<td>I, R, A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assessment Types
- Papers
- Additional assessment include the department’s senior survey