

RELIGIOUS STUDIES (RELU)

RELU 110 Religion and Values

This course is a thematic study of religious values as they come to expression within the Abrahamic traditions (Judaism, Christianity, and Islam). Students explore the basic beliefs and practices of these religions with a view to understanding how each tradition approaches key contemporary ethical issues: the ecological crisis, economic justice, war, capital punishment, abortion, euthanasia, gender, and sexual orientation. 3 credits.

RELU 327 Comparative Religious Cultures

The purpose of this course is to add a deeper understanding of the plurality of representative world religions to the student's evolving cultural literacy. From sectarian-based violence to seemingly innocuous public religious holiday celebrations, it will also map out notable exemplars of the many landmines that can detonate when religions encounter each other and secular entities both geo-politically and in the students' own communities. 3 credits.

RELU 329 Experimental Topics in Religious Studies

An examination of selected topics in religious studies relevant to evolving areas of importance to the field. Syllabi must be approved by the Dean and announced to the Curriculum and Academic Committee prior to being offered. May be repeated for credit provided the course content is different. 3 credits.

RELU 334 Philosophy of Religion

This course is a philosophical examination and intellectual reflection on the fundamental religious beliefs and concepts of Western theism, explored from a multicultural perspective. The course provides students with an understanding of some central themes and key debates in the philosophy of religion, such as the existence of God, religious and mystical experience, faith and reason, the problem of evil, and life after death. 3 credits.

RELU 499 Independent Study

Prerequisites: Instructor's approval and approval of petition.

Directed reading and/or research designed to meet specific needs of superior upper division students. 1-3 credits.