

Religion Major

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION AND THEOLOGY

The Department of Religion and Theology seeks to graduate students who are knowledgeable in the scriptures and develop students who pursue and embrace a vocation of ministry and learning for the common good. The Department provides two majors, Religion and Theology. The Religion major is designed to prepare students for further academic studies in graduate and/or professional schools. The Theology major combines practical experience with professional and academic courses to prepare students for entry into a ministry vocation immediately upon graduation. In addition to the two majors, the department also provides a minor in religion, a minor in theology, and a certificate in theology.

RELIGION MAJOR

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the Religion major, students will be able to demonstrate the following:

1. Mastery of biblical literature and interpretive tools. (Content and Critical thinking)
2. Understanding of the history of Christianity. (Content)
3. Comprehension of the complexity of religious phenomena and theories. (Critical Thinking)
4. Critical thinking about religious and ethical questions of meaning and purpose. (Critical Thinking)
5. Proficiency in using technology as a tool for research and communication. (Communication)

Program Outcomes

As a result of successful completion of the Religion Program, graduates will be able to do the following:

1. Pursue advanced study at a graduate or professional school.
2. Enter careers in church ministry.
3. Enter careers in other areas of service consistent with a degree in Religion.

Degree Type

Bachelor of Arts

Major in Religion

Required courses for the major in Religion

The Religion major consists of a minimum of 39 hours. Required courses are:

| Item # | Title | Credits |
|---------|--|---------|
| REL 230 | Introductory Theologies | 3 |
| REL 232 | Biblical Studies Since the Enlightenment | 3 |
| REL 235 | World Religions | 3 |
| REL 237 | History of Christianity | 3 |
| REL 239 | Ethics | 3 |
| REL 336 | Basic Christian Beliefs | 3 |
| REL 330 | The Synoptic Gospels | 3 |
| | 300-level Religion | 3 |
| REL 433 | The Reformation | 3 |
| REL 436 | Special Topics in Biblical Studies | 3 |
| REL 438 | Contemporary Theology | 3 |
| REL 400 | Senior Seminar | 3 |
| | 400-level Religion or Theology | 3 |

Minor in Religion

Required courses for the minor in Religion

Students earning a minor in Religion will complete a total of twenty-one (21) hours in addition to REL 131 and REL 132. These credits will consist of the fifteen (15) hours of foundational and intermediate coursework, a 300 level course in biblical studies, plus six (6) hours in upper level courses at the 300 or 400 level as advised by a member of the faculty in the Department of Religion and Theology.

| Item # | Title | Credits |
|---------|--|---------|
| REL 232 | Biblical Studies Since the Enlightenment | 3 |
| REL 235 | World Religions | 3 |
| REL 239 | Ethics | 3 |
| REL 336 | Basic Christian Beliefs | 3 |
| | 300-level Biblical Studies | 3 |
| | 300/400-level Religion | 3 |
| | 300/400-level Religion | 3 |
| | Total Credits | 60 |

Major in Religion FRESHMAN YEAR Fall Semester

| Item # | Title | Credits |
|---------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| REL 131 | Introduction to the Old Testament | 3 |
| ENG 131 | English Composition I | 3 |
| HIS 131 | Foundations of World Civilization | 3 |
| MAT 131 | Algebra | 3 |
| STI 111 | Orientation | 1 |
| BIO 131 | Life Science | 3 |

FRESHMAN YEAR Spring Semester

| Item # | Title | Credits |
|---------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| REL 132 | Introduction to the New Testament | 3 |
| ENG 132 | English Composition II | 3 |
| HPR 121 | Lifetime Wellness | 2 |
| HUM 130 | African American Heritage | 3 |
| PHY 131 | Physical Science | 3 |
| STI 114 | Orientation II | 1 |

SOPHOMORE YEAR Fall Semester

| Item # | Title | Credits |
|---------|----------------------------------|---------|
| REL 237 | History of Christianity | 3 |
| SPE 231 | Voice and Diction | 3 |
| REL 235 | World Religions | 3 |
| CSC 121 | Critical Thinking in Digital Age | 2 |
| BUS 210 | Financial Literacy | 1 |
| REL 239 | Ethics | 3 |

SOPHOMORE YEAR Spring Semester

| Item # | Title | Credits |
|---------|--|---------|
| REL 230 | Introductory Theologies | 3 |
| SPE 232 | Public Speaking | 3 |
| REL 232 | Biblical Studies Since the Enlightenment | 3 |
| | General Elective (3 credits) | 3 |
| PSY 230 | Introduction to Psychology | 3 |

JUNIOR YEAR Fall Semester

| Item # | Title | Credits |
|---------|------------------------------|---------|
| LOG 330 | Logic | 3 |
| ENG 231 | American Literature I | 3 |
| REL 330 | The Synoptic Gospels | 3 |
| REL 336 | Basic Christian Beliefs | 3 |
| | General Elective (2 credits) | 2 |

JUNIOR YEAR Spring Semester

| Item # | Title | Credits |
|---------|------------------------|---------|
| REL 433 | The Reformation | 3 |
| REL 438 | Contemporary Theology | 3 |
| EDU 310 | Test Taking Strategies | 1 |
| | 300-level Religion | 3 |
| ENG 333 | Writing Argument | 3 |

SENIOR YEAR Fall Semester

| Item # | Title | Credits |
|---------|---|---------|
| REL 400 | Senior Seminar | 3 |
| PSY 335 | Social Psychology | 3 |
| HIS 337 | African American History I | 3 |
| REL 436 | Special Topics in Biblical Studies | 3 |
| REL 437 | The Rise of Christian Denominationalism | 3 |

SENIOR YEAR Spring Semester

| Item # | Title | Credits |
|---------|--------------------------------|---------|
| REL 430 | Sociology of Religion | 3 |
| | 400-level Religion or Theology | 3 |
| | General Elective (3 credits) | 3 |
| | General Elective (3 credits) | 3 |
| | General Elective (3 credits) | 3 |