

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