

# MINOR IN RELIGION

## Program Learning Outcomes for the Minor in Religion

Upon completing the minor in Religion, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the critical toolkit used in the study of religion and religious traditions, including (inter)disciplinary methodologies and theories at a proficient level.  
(*Critical Skills for the Study of Religion: Theory, Method and (Inter)Disciplinary*)
2. Gain proficient objective knowledge of the beliefs, practices, and institutional histories of the world's religions.  
(*Religious Literacy*)

## Requirements for the Minor in Religion

Students pursuing the minor in Religion must complete:

- A minimum of 6 courses (18 credit hours) to satisfy minor requirements.
- A minimum of 3 courses (9 credit hours) taken at the 300-level or above.
- No courses from study abroad or transfer credit. For additional departmental guidelines regarding transfer credit, see the [Policies](#) (p. 2) tab.

The courses listed below satisfy the requirements for this minor. In certain instances, courses not on this official list may be substituted upon approval of the minor's academic advisor or, where applicable, the Program Director. (Course substitutions must be formally applied and entered into Degree Works by the minor's [Official Certifier](https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/degreeworks/officialcertifier/) (<https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/degreeworks/officialcertifier/>)). Students and their academic advisors should identify and clearly document the courses to be taken.

### Summary

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Total Credit Hours Required for the Minor in Religion		18

### Minor Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Core Requirements</b>		
Core Course		
RELI 101	INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF RELIGION	3
Religious Traditions		6
<i>Select 1 course from each of the following categories (see course lists below):</i>		
Judaism/Christianity/Islam/African-American Religions		
Indigenous African Religions/American Religions/Buddhism/Hinduism		
<b>Elective Requirements</b>		
<i>Select 3 courses from departmental (RELI) course offerings.</i>		9
<b>Total Credit Hours</b>		<b>18</b>

## Course Lists to Satisfy Requirements

**Please Note:** The following list of courses can be used to satisfy the requirements of the minor. Specific course offerings may vary from semester to semester. As noted above with minor requirements, in certain instances, courses not on the official list may be substituted upon approval of the minor's Director of Undergraduate Studies. Students and their academic advisors should identify and clearly document the courses to be taken.

### Judaism/Christianity/Islam/African-American Religions

Select a minimum of 1 course (3 credit hours) from the Judaism/Christianity/Islam/African-American Religions course options.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Judaism/Christianity/Islam/African-American Religions</b>		
RELI 104 / MDEM 103		3
RELI 108	INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM	3
RELI 112	INTRODUCTION TO EARLY CHRISTIANITY	3
RELI 124	RELIGION AND THE ART OF HAPPINESS	3
RELI 126 / HEBR 126 II	INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL HEBREW II	3
RELI 127	INTERMEDIATE BIBLICAL HEBREW III	3
RELI 157	RELIGION AND HIP HOP CULTURE IN AMERICA	3
RELI 158	LIBERATION THEOLOGIES	3
RELI 203 / HIST 201	JUDAISM OF JESUS AND HILLEL	3
RELI 215 / FILM 215	MYSTIC CINEMA: KABBALAH IN FILM	3
RELI 221 / ASIA 221	THE LIFE OF THE PROPHET MUHAMMAD	3
RELI 223	QUR'AN AND COMMENTARY	3
RELI 243	THE BOOK OF GENESIS	3
RELI 270	INTRODUCTION TO THE BLACK CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES	3
RELI 271 / MDEM 271	MEDIEVAL POPULAR CHRISTIANITY	3
RELI 282	INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIANITY	3
RELI 294	RELIGION IN FICTION AND FILM	3
RELI 301	NIETZSCHE AND RELIGIOUS THOUGHT	3
RELI 304	THE GOSPELS AND SECRET GOSPELS	3
RELI 343 / HART 347	SEMINAR ON LOVE	3
RELI 348	CHRISTIANITY AND ISLAM IN AFRICA	3
RELI 350 / MDEM 350	DEMONS, MENTAL ILLNESS AND MEDICINE	3
RELI 356	MAJOR ISSUES IN CONTEMPORARY ISLAM	3
RELI 357	WHAT'S RELIGIOUS ABOUT BLACK RELIGION?	3
RELI 359	RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE IN THE CRUCIBLE OF GLOBALIZATION	3
RELI 365	PAUL AND THE FIRST CHRISTIANS	3
RELI 382	LOST JUDAISMS: THE APOCRYPHAL WRITINGS	3

RELI 383	THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS	3
RELI 384	CRUSADES	3
RELI 385 / HIST 381	GOD, TIME AND HISTORY	3
RELI 388	THE PSALMS	3
RELI 395	LOSING YOUR RELIGION IN FILM & FICTION & MUSIC	3
RELI 406	CHRISTIANITY AND LATE ANTIQUITY	3
RELI 416	NEW TESTAMENT / CHRISTIAN ORIGINS	3
RELI 424	RELIGION AND POLITICS IN AFRICA	3
RELI 426	RELIGION AND LITERATURE IN AFRICA	3
RELI 430	RELIGION, PSYCHOLOGY & CULTURE	3
RELI 442	CLASSICAL AND CONTEMPORARY ARABIC TEXTS	3
RELI 449	SECOND CENTURY CHRISTIANITIES	3
RELI 458	MYSTICISM: THEORIES AND METHODS	3
RELI 472	KABBALAH SEMINAR	3
RELI 476 / FREN 324 / POLI 324	FROM DECOLONIZATION TO GLOBALIZATION	3
RELI 481	GNOSTICISM SEMINAR	3
RELI 488	THE HISTORY OF RELIGIONS SCHOOLS	3
RELI 359	RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE IN THE CRUCIBLE OF GLOBALIZATION	3
RELI 378	MIND AND ART, FILM AND LITERATURE IN BUDDHISM	3
RELI 393	MUTANTS AND MYSTICS: RACE, SEXUALITY, AND THE FUTURE OF THE HUMANITIES	3
RELI 417	GNOSTIC AMERICA	3
RELI 424	RELIGION AND POLITICS IN AFRICA	3
RELI 426	RELIGION AND LITERATURE IN AFRICA	3
RELI 458	MYSTICISM: THEORIES AND METHODS	3
RELI 470	BUDDHIST WISDOM TEXTS	3

## Policies for the Minor in Religion

### Program Restrictions and Exclusions

Students pursuing the minor in Religion should be aware of the following program restriction:

- As noted in [Majors, Minors, and Certificates \(https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-opportunities/majors-minors-certificates/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-opportunities/majors-minors-certificates/), i.) students may declare their intent to pursue a minor only after they have first declared a major, and ii.) students may not major and minor in the same subject.

### Transfer Credit

For Rice University's policy regarding transfer credit, see [Transfer Credit \(https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/transfer-credit/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/transfer-credit/). Some departments and programs have additional restrictions on transfer credit. Requests for transfer credit must be approved for Rice equivalency by the designated transfer credit advisor for the appropriate academic department offering the Rice equivalent course (corresponding to the subject code of the course content). The Office of Academic Advising maintains the university's official list of [transfer credit advisors \(https://oaa.rice.edu/advising-network/transfer-credit-advisors/\)](https://oaa.rice.edu/advising-network/transfer-credit-advisors/) on their website: <https://oaa.rice.edu>. Students are encouraged to meet with the applicable transfer credit advisor as well as their academic program director when considering transfer credit possibilities.

### Departmental Transfer Credit Guidelines

Students pursuing the minor in Religion should be aware of the following departmental transfer credit guidelines:

- Transfer credit coursework cannot be applied or used to meet any of the minor's course requirements.

### Distribution Credit Information

The determination of distribution credit eligibility is done initially as part of the [new course creation process \(https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/courseprocess/\)](https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/courseprocess/). Additionally, as part of an [annual roll call \(https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/distribution\\_credit/\)](https://registrar.rice.edu/facstaff/distribution_credit/) coordinated each Spring by the Office of the Registrar, course distribution credit eligibility is routinely reviewed and reaffirmed by the Dean's Offices of each of the academic schools.

Faculty and leadership in the academic schools are responsible for ensuring that the courses identified as distribution-credit-eligible meet the criteria as set in the [General Announcements \(https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/#text\)](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/#text). Students are responsible for ensuring that they

### Indigenous African Religions/American Religions/Buddhism/Hinduism

Select a minimum of 1 course (3 credit hours) from the Indigenous African Religions/American Religions/Buddhism/Hinduism course options.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Indigenous African Religions/American Religions/Buddhism/Hinduism</b>		
RELI 111	INTRODUCTION TO AFRICAN RELIGIONS	3
RELI 157	RELIGION AND HIP HOP CULTURE IN AMERICA	3
RELI 231 / ASIA 231	AMERICAN METAPHYSICAL RELIGION	3
RELI 233 / TIBT 233	INTRODUCTION TO TIBETAN LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND CULTURE	3
RELI 234 / TIBT 234	INTERMEDIATE TIBETAN LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND CULTURE	3
RELI 270	INTRODUCTION TO THE BLACK CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES	3
RELI 311	RELIGION AND HIP HOP CULTURE IN AMERICA	3
RELI 322 / ASIA 322	INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM	3
RELI 332 / TIBT 332	ADVANCED TIBETAN LANGUAGE & CULTURE	3
RELI 333	KNOWING BODY/GLOWING MIND: BUDDHIST ARTS OF CONTEMPLATION AND ANALYSIS	3
RELI 337	SHAMANS, SAINTS, & SAGES	3
RELI 357	WHAT'S RELIGIOUS ABOUT BLACK RELIGION?	3

meet graduation requirements (<https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/graduation-requirements/#text>) by completing coursework designated as distribution-credit-eligible at the time of course registration.

Distribution courses from Religion (RELI) are broad-based, accessible to non-majors, and provide a foundation that enables students to integrate knowledge from multiple perspectives.

### **Additional Information**

For additional information, please see the Religion website: <https://reli.rice.edu/>.

## **Opportunities for the Minor in Religion**

### **Academic Honors**

The university recognizes academic excellence achieved over an undergraduate's academic history at Rice. For information on university honors, please see [Latin Honors \(https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university/) (*summa cum laude*, *magna cum laude*, and *cum laude*) and [Distinction in Research and Creative Work \(https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university/\)](https://ga.rice.edu/undergraduate-students/honors-distinctions/university/). Some departments have department-specific Honors awards or designations.

### **Saba Prize**

The Saba Prize is the most prestigious award bestowed by the Department of Religion. It carries with it a substantial financial gift, and designates the student(s) who has demonstrated the highest form of academic excellence and contribution to the department over a four-year period. The Department of Religion will award yearly awards to both majors and to minors (one for each category) irrespective of the graduation status of the candidate, to be nominated and voted upon by the faculty. These awards will recognize academic excellence, leadership in the classroom, exemplary participation in the Department of Religion, and other significant contributions by undergraduates to the Department of Religion.

### **Additional Information**

For additional information, please see the Religion website: <https://reli.rice.edu/>.