

RELIGION

Contact Information

Religion

<https://reli.rice.edu/>
225 Humanities Building
713-348-5201

April D. DeConick
Department Chair
adeconick@rice.edu

The Religion department's undergraduate major is built to be as flexible as possible so that students may pursue individual interests and interdisciplinary goals. The major provides students with the opportunity to explore mainline religious traditions and marginal/repressed religious currents within multicultural and transnational contexts. Students will gain religious literacy while studying the historical, social, cultural, psychological, philosophical, and cognitive dynamics of religion and religious experience.

Bachelor's Program

- Bachelor of Arts (BA) Degree with a Major in Religion (ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/humanities/religion/religion-ba)

Master's Program

- Master of Arts (MA) Degree in the field of Religion (ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/humanities/religion/religion-ma)(thesis terminal masters degree)
- Master of Arts (MA) Degree in the field of Religion*

Doctoral Program

- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Degree in the field of Religion (ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/humanities/religion/religion-phd)

Certificate

- Certificate in Gnosticism, Esotericism and Mysticism (ga.rice.edu/programs-study/departments-programs/humanities/gnosticism-esotericism-mysticism/gnosticism-esotericism-mysticism-certificate)

* Although students are not normally admitted to a Master of Arts (MA) degree program, graduate students may earn the MA as they work towards the PhD.

Chair

April D. DeConick

Director of Undergraduate Studies

Niki Clements

Director of Graduate Studies (MA)

Brian Ogren

Director of Graduate Studies (PhD)

Jeffrey J. Kripal

Professors

Elias K. Bongmba
Marcia Brennan
David Cook
Matthias Henze
Anne C. Klein
Jeffrey J. Kripal
William B. Parsons
Anthony B. Pinn
John M. Stroup

Associate Professor

Claire Fanger

Assistant Professors

Niki Clements
Brian Ogren

For Rice University degree-granting programs:

To view the list of official course offerings, please see Rice's Course Catalog (https://courses.rice.edu/admweb/!SWKSCAT.cat?p_action=cata)

To view the most recent semester's course schedule, please see Rice's Course Schedule (<https://courses.rice.edu/admweb/!SWKSCAT.cat>)

Religion (RELI)

RELI 100 - ROMANCING RELIGION: NARRATIVES OF THE SACRED

Short Title: ROMANCING RELIGION

Department: Religion

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Distribution Group: Distribution Group I

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: This course examines links between religious experience and romance narrative taking the grail as a focal point. We start with grail legends in the middle ages, explore historical associations of the grail with medieval Christianity, and end with quest narratives and grail motifs in modern occultism, fiction and film. This course is limited to first-year students only, any others will be removed from this course. Cross-list: FSEM 100, MDEM 100.

RELI 101 - INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF RELIGION

Short Title: INTRO TO THE STUDY OF RELIGION

Department: Religion

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Lecture

Distribution Group: Distribution Group I

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: Comparative and interdisciplinary analysis of key elements (including scripture, religious experience, ideas of the divine, religious art and practices) of two Western and two non-Western religions, of the scholarly study of religion, and of the role of religion in the contemporary world.

RELI 104 - INTRODUCTION TO JEWISH MYSTICISM

Short Title: INTRO TO JEWISH MYSTICISM

Department: Religion

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Lecture

Distribution Group: Distribution Group I

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: Surveys the historical development and central themes of Jewish mysticism. From the bible to ancient mysticism to medieval Kabbalah to modern expressions, we will critically reflection the ideas such as divine presence in the world, the cultivation of insight and magical powers, contemplative and restorative practices, and charismatic authority. Cross-list: MDEM 103.

RELI 105 - INTRODUCTION TO MEDIEVAL CHRISTIAN THOUGHT

Short Title: MEDIEVAL CHRISTIAN THOUGHT

Department: Religion

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Lecture

Distribution Group: Distribution Group I

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: Survey of major medieval Christian thinkers. Primary focus on high and late middle ages (12th-15th century), with some attention to spiritual and apocalyptic writings and dissenting thought in this period. Cross-list: MDEM 105.

RELI 108 - INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM

Short Title: INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM

Department: Religion

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Lecture

Distribution Group: Distribution Group I

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: Survey of post-biblical Judaism as reflected in the literature of the classical rabbinic tradition, mysticism, medieval biblical commentary, legal codes and philosophy, and modern movements such as Hasidism, denominational Judaism, Zionism, and feminist Judaism. Jewish material culture such as synagogue architecture, illuminated manuscripts and ritual artifacts will be included. Students will not receive credit for both RELI 108 and RELI 209. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 108 and RELI 209.

RELI 109 - RELIGION AND LAW

Short Title: RELIGION AND LAW

Department: Religion

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Seminar

Distribution Group: Distribution Group I

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: Law and religion: origins, differentiation, relation to legitimacy and stability of basic institutions. Law school, professional life, quest for a fitting career in the search for meaning and authentic selfhood. Required: willingness to share the personal roots of your interest in law and your take on the Big Picture.

RELI 111 - INTRODUCTION TO AFRICAN RELIGIONS

Short Title: INTRO AFRICAN RELIGIONS

Department: Religion

Grade Mode: Standard Letter

Course Type: Lecture

Distribution Group: Distribution Group I

Credit Hours: 3

Restrictions: Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.

Course Level: Undergraduate Lower-Level

Description: Introduction to the structures of African religions through readings. Topics include community, cosmology, ritual, ethical values, magic, witchcraft, spirit possession, contribution to nationalism, social change, religion and art, and transplantation of African Religions in the Americas.

RELI 112 - COMPARING CHRISTIANITIES**Short Title:** COMPARING CHRISTIANITIES**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course maps the pluralistic nature of early Christianity from its grassroots beginnings in a commune in Jerusalem to Rome and the conversion of Emperor Constantine. Different Christian movements include the Apostolic Christians, Ebionites, Marcionites, Thomasians, Montanists, Monarchians, Modalists, Arians, and a variety of Gnostic Christians will be studied comparatively as well as historically.**RELI 113 - INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIANITY IN AFRICA****Short Title:** INTRO TO CHRISTIANITY AFRICA**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** An introductory reading course examining the dynamics of African Christianity from the early church to the present. Course will include studying the African church during the Patristic era, the Colonial period, Prophetic Movements, nationalism, racial tensions, the role of women, and the emergence of a distinct theological voice.**RELI 116 - MYSTICISM THROUGHOUT THE AGES****Short Title:** MYSTICISM THROUGHOUT THE AGES**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course examines the historical development of mysticism in Western thought, placing the Christian experiential traditions in comparison with Jewish developments. Through mystical texts, we will explore key concepts, such as visions of God and spiritual journeys, as developed during late antiquity, the middle-ages, and into the early modern period. Cross-list: MDEM 116.**RELI 122 - THE BIBLE AND ITS INTERPRETERS****Short Title:** THE BIBLE AND ITS INTERPRETERS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** An introduction to the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament. Compares modern-critical reading with early Jewish and Christian, often fanciful interpretations.**RELI 123 - INTRODUCTION TO WORLD CHRISTIANITY****Short Title:** INTRO TO WORLD CHRISTIANITY**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course is designed to introduce students to world Christianity from historical and thematic perspectives. Readings and lectures for the course will draw from interdisciplinary research and scholarship to situate world Christianity as a dynamic spiritual, intellectual, cultural, and communal tradition. This course will introduce students to Christianity in the Americas, Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Pacific using historical analysis to probe the history of the Christian movement, its global distribution, its sacred texts and practices, social engagement, and roles it has a place in a changing world. Interdisciplinary texts will be used to probe selected topics including but not limited to proselytization, leadership, the dynamic competitive relations between mainline churches, emerging Christian communities, and the social and political dimensions of world Christianity.**RELI 124 - RELIGION AND THE ART OF HAPPINESS****Short Title:** RELIGION & ART OF HAPPINESS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** Students at Rice University consistently self-report as "happiest" by rankings like the Princeton Review. Course analyzes what we mean when we talk about "happiness" in the study of religion, assessing the role of community, habits, meaning, and positive thinking in religious and psychological texts, as well as lived experience.**RELI 125 - INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL HEBREW I****Short Title:** INTRO TO BIBLICAL HEBREW I**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** An introduction to Biblical Hebrew with emphasis on grammar and vocabulary. Cross-list: HEBR 125. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 507. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 125 and RELI 507.

RELI 126 - INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL HEBREW II**Short Title:** INTRO TO BIBLICAL HEBREW II**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** Continuation of RELI 125. We will finish the grammar in the second half of this semester and then read selections from the Hebrew Bible. Cross-list: HEBR 126. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 511. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 126 and RELI 511.**RELI 127 - INTERMEDIATE BIBLICAL HEBREW III****Short Title:** INTERM BIBLICAL HEBREW III**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Prerequisite(s):** RELI 125 and RELI 126**Description:** Readings in the Hebrew Bible as well as in some unvocalized texts from the Dead Sea Scrolls. Review of grammar and vocabulary. Instructor Permission Required. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 512. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 127 and RELI 512.**RELI 157 - RELIGION AND HIP HOP CULTURE IN AMERICA****Short Title:** RELIGION AND HIP HOP**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** Hip Hop culture has changed how life is discussed and conducted. However, one of the under-explored dimensions of Hip Hop culture involves its religious sensibilities. Using lectures, discussions, films, and video presentations, this course explores Hip Hop culture's religious dimensions through its musical language-rap music. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 157 and RELI 311.**RELI 158 - LIBERATION THEOLOGIES****Short Title:** LIBERATION THEOLOGIES**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course seeks to acquaint students with examples of liberation theology, as they relate to the following issues: racism, sexism, classism, and environmental destruction. Attention is given to the context, construction, form, and aims of Latin American liberation theology, Black theology, Feminist theology, and Theology in the Intersections. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 548. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 158 and RELI 548.**RELI 171 - THE BODY AND THE COSMOS IN THE MIDDLE AGES****Short Title:** BODY & COSMOS IN MIDDLE AGES**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** What shaped medieval Christian notions of the body? How did common experiences of pain, sexuality, childbirth, and death refract the grasp of larger concepts - God, time, and the cosmos? This seminar will explore the issues connecting body to cosmos through close reading of medieval literary, mystical, and autobiographical texts. This course is limited to first-year students only, any others will be removed from this course. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 171 and FWIS 150.**RELI 203 - JUDAISM OF JESUS AND HILLEL****Short Title:** JUDAISM OF JESUS AND HILLEL**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course examines the history and culture of Judaism during the Second Temple period, which produced such great religious leaders as Jesus and Hillel. Topics include: canonization, colonization, diaspora, economic and political instability, eschatology, Hellenization, imperialism, messianism, Pharisees, priesthood, Sadducees, Scribes, scriptures, sectarianism, synagogue and temple worship. Cross-list: HIST 201.

RELI 213 - THE PROPHET JEREMIAH: THE BIBLICAL BOOK AND ITS RECEPTION IN JUDAISM AND CHRISTIANITY**Short Title:** THE PROPHET JEREMIAH**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** A seminar on the book of Jeremiah and its reception. Topics to be explored: ancient Near Eastern prophecy and Israel's cultures of revelation; the composition, production, and transmission of a biblical book; the life of the prophet; the transformation of Jeremiah's message in later, post-biblical texts attributed to him.**RELI 215 - MYSTIC CINEMA: KABBALAH IN FILM****Short Title:** MYSTIC CINEMA**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course explores uses by the film industry of ideas drawn from Jewish mysticism. We will examine themes such as monsters, spirits, numerology and the paranormal, as portrayed in classic film and through to contemporary Hollywood. Emphasis will be placed on the medieval textual and folkloric traditions behind such portrayals. Cross-list: FILM 215. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 215 and FILM 114/FSEM 141/RELI 114.**RELI 216 - RELIGION AND BLACK LIVES MATTER****Short Title:** RELIGION & BLACK LIVES MATTER**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course explores the intersections of religion, politics, and social justice during the period of history marked by the emergence and activities of the Black Lives Matter Movement.**RELI 217 - SHI'ISM: ASSASSINS AND AYATULLAH****Short Title:** SHI'ISM: ASSASSINS & AYATULLAH**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** Ranging from the violent disputes at the beginnings of Islam to the mysterious and misunderstood Assassins, Shi'ism is more than about Iran and Iraq. Ayatullahs rule, Alawis in Syria fight ISIS, Islamism in London are at the cutting edge of Muslim modernity—Shi'ism is much more than you would expect.**RELI 219 - THE SUPERNATURAL AND RELIGION****Short Title:** THE SUPERNATURAL AND RELIGION**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course will treat the history of the supernatural from the biblical materials on the miraculous "sign," through the birth of the "supernatural" in medieval Christianity and the canonization of saints, to the mediating categories of the "preternatural" and the modern "paranormal." Comparative categories and materials in other cultural and religious complexes will also be treated. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 519. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 219 and RELI 519.**RELI 221 - THE LIFE OF THE PROPHET MUHAMMAD****Short Title:** LIFE OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course will examine the life of the Prophet Muhammad, focusing on its significance for Muslims and for non-Muslims. Readings in The Qur'an, Ibn Hisham, and Haykal. Cross-list: ASIA 221.**RELI 223 - QUR'AN AND COMMENTARY****Short Title:** QUR'AN AND COMMENTARY**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** Survey of the major themes of the Qur'an and selected types of commentary on it from the early Islamic period until the present day.**RELI 230 - ASIAN RELIGIONS IN AMERICA****Short Title:** ASIAN RELIGIONS IN AMERICA**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** A survey course on Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, and Jainism in America, from the colonial period to the present, with a special focus on American metaphysical religion, the counterculture, the New Age, and the history of Western colonialism, transcultural encounter, translation and immigration. Cross-list: ASIA 230.

RELI 231 - AMERICAN METAPHYSICAL RELIGION**Short Title:** AMERICAN METAPHYSICAL RELIGION**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** Beginning with a historical survey of the American metaphysical tradition, this course turns to a close study of the Esalen Institute in Big Sur, California, as a unique window into some of the different ways the tradition has appropriated Asian religions, psychological models of the unconscious, and contemporary scientific paradigms. Cross-list: ASIA 231. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 231 and RELI 505.**RELI 232 - RELIGIONS FROM INDIA****Short Title:** RELIGIONS FROM INDIA**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** This course will survey the religions of India, namely Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Christianity, Islam, and Sikhism. Emphasis will be placed on the study of scriptures of these traditions and their continuing global relevance, particularly in American history and culture. Cross-list: ASIA 232. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 500. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 232 and RELI 500.**RELI 233 - TIBETAN LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND CULTURE I****Short Title:** TIBETAN LANG LIT & CULTURE I**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** Introducing the Tibetan alphabet and basics of grammar through reading section of a classic Tibetan text. In addition, readings in English in Indian and Tibetan Buddhist materials, also on the art, history, geography and /or modern era in those areas. Final includes a paper drawn from readings and class discussion. Cross-list: TIBT 233. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 502. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 233 and RELI 502.**RELI 234 - TIBETAN LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND CULTURE II****Short Title:** TIBETAN LANG LIT & CULTURE II**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** Continued training in Tibetan language-extending vocabulary and facility with grammar. Final includes a paper drawn from readings and class discussion. Cross-list: TIBT 234. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 564. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 234 and RELI 564. Repeatable for Credit.**RELI 238 - SPECIAL TOPICS****Short Title:** SPECIAL TOPICS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture/Laboratory, Internship/Practicum, Lecture, Laboratory, Seminar**Credit Hours:** 1-4**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** Topics and credit hours may vary each semester. Contact department for current semester's topic(s). Repeatable for Credit.**RELI 243 - THE BOOK OF GENESIS****Short Title:** THE BOOK OF GENESIS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** A critical reading in English of the Book of Genesis with close attention to the narrative artistry and theological dimensions of the text. Compares pre-modern modes of interpretation and modern historical criticism.**RELI 270 - INTRODUCTION TO THE BLACK CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES****Short Title:** INTRO BLACK CHURCH IN THE US**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** Much of what has historically taken place within Black communities has been shaped by Black Christian churches. These churches are resources for those interested in understanding religious expression and activism within the Black community. This course provides an introduction into the history, thought, and worship of the major Black denominations.

RELI 271 - MEDIEVAL POPULAR CHRISTIANITY**Short Title:** MEDIEVAL POPULAR CHRISTIANITY**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** For much of the Middle Ages, literacy was a luxury that ordinary people could not afford. How could peasants participate in Christian traditions? Course surveys devotional practices engaged by the laity, including penance, pilgrimage, plays, charms and spells, as well as traditions of lay interaction with dead saints and ghosts. Cross-list: MDEM 271.**RELI 282 - INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIANITY****Short Title:** INTRO TO CHRISTIANITY**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** Multidisciplinary exploration of Christian religious experience, belief, and social reality with examples from Africa, the Americas, Asia, and Europe during the last two thousand years. Themes include search for lasting marks of identity amid change and diversity as well as the issue of Christianity's relation to processes of modernization and secularization. No prior background in religious studies required.**RELI 294 - RELIGION IN FICTION AND FILM****Short Title:** RELIGION IN FICTION AND FILM**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Lower-Level**Description:** The sacred in interreligious, international, and interdisciplinary encounter, approached via social sciences, theology, theories of literature and mythology. Authors and directors can include Waugh, Mishima, Mann, Proust, Hesse, Percy, Gardner, Updike, Gibson, Sterling, Coupland, Ray, Resnais, Fellini, Bergman, Anderson, Bunnell, and Nutley. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 514. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 294 and RELI 514.**RELI 300 - RELIGIONS IN AMERICA****Short Title:** RELIGIONS IN AMERICA**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Examines the religions and religious practices of America from colonial encounter with native peoples to the contemporary period with a special focus on the morphing natures and historical complexities of American Christianities, religious pluralism and secularism. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 504. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 300 and RELI 504.**RELI 301 - NIETZSCHE AND RELIGIOUS THOUGHT****Short Title:** NIETZSCHE & RELIGIOUS THOUGHT**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Nietzsche's thought and background: his impact on religious thinkers and cultural critics; his influence on understanding of God, faith, values, society; his connection with Schopenhauer, Wagner, Tillich, Mann, Barth, Buber, Freud, Jung, D.H. Lawrence, Heidegger, antibourgeois cultural criticism, environmentalism, feminism, and postmodernism. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 515. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 301 and RELI 515.**RELI 302 - PEOPLE OF THE BOOK: JUDAISM AND SCRIPTURE****Short Title:** PEOPLE OF THE BOOK**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Examines Judaism as a "People of the Book," recognizing Judaism's dominant religious preoccupation for millennia to be the reading, study and performance of Jewish scripture, particularly the Torah or the first 5 books of the Hebrew Bible Topics: book culture, act of reading, canonization, revelation, and rabbinic, philosophical, mystical interpretations. All readings are in English. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 526. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 302 and RELI 526.

RELI 304 - JESUS AND THE GOSPELS**Short Title:** JESUS AND THE GOSPELS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Explores the various portraits of Jesus in the New Testament and extra-canonical gospels (including the gospels of Thomas Philip, Mary and Judas) in order to reconstruct each gospel's Christological interpretation of Jesus as well as the "historical" Jesus himself.**RELI 305 - PAIN, ECSTASY AND EMBODIMENT IN RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE****Short Title:** PAIN, ECSTASY AND EMBODIMENT**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** From exorcism to other worldly visions, we experience religion as embodied human beings. This course explores embodied religion by focusing on connections between pain and transcendence, looking at medieval Christianity as well as contemporary and cross-cultural examples. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 305 and RELI 566.**RELI 307 - BASIC COPTIC 1****Short Title:** BASIC COPTIC 1**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** A first semester introduction to Coptic grammar and vocabulary. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 591. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 307 and RELI 591. Repeatable for Credit.**RELI 308 - BASIC COPTIC 2****Short Title:** BASIC COPTIC 2**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Prerequisite(s):** RELI 307**Description:** Second semester introduction to Coptic grammar and vocabulary, with selected readings from the Coptic New Testament, Nag Hammadi, and monastic literature. Prerequisite: Introduction to Coptic Language I. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 592. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 308 and RELI 592.**RELI 309 - BASIC COPTIC 3****Short Title:** BASIC COPTIC 3**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 1-3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Varied readings in original language to include the New Testament, Nag Hammadi, and monastic literature. Prerequisite: Coptic 1 and 2. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 593. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 309 and RELI 593. Repeatable for Credit.**RELI 311 - RELIGION AND HIP HOP CULTURE IN AMERICA****Short Title:** RELIGION AND HIP HOP**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Hip Hop culture has changed how life is discussed and conducted. However, one of the under-explored dimensions of Hip Hop culture involves its religious sensibilities. Using lectures, discussions, films, and video presentations, this course explores Hip Hop culture's religious dimensions through its musical language-rap music. RELI 311 requires additional work above the RELI 157 counterpart, including a term paper, etc. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 311 and RELI 157.**RELI 312 - THE RELIGIOUS THOUGHT OF MARTIN L. KING, JR. AND MALCOLM X****Short Title:** MLK AND MALCOLM X**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Although many figures played a prominent role during the Civil Rights Movement, Martin L. King, Jr. and Malcolm X made unique contributions. Their work sparked important conversation concerning the methods, goals, and consequences of struggle toward liberation. This course examines their religiosity, theological sensibilities, and the major themes which surface in their writings and public work. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 546. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 312 and RELI 546.

RELI 313 - INTRODUCTION TO SYRIAC**Short Title:** INTRODUCTION TO SYRIAC**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** An introduction to Syriac grammar and vocabulary. Graduate students are expected to write an exegetical paper on a Syriac text of their choice. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 313 and RELI 513.**RELI 315 - GENDER AND ISLAM****Short Title:** GENDER AND ISLAM**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Explores the lives of Muslim women in Asia, the Middle East, Europe, and North America; analyze constructions of gender in the Islamic world over time, the challenges faced from such diverse quarters as colonial administrators, Western feminists, and states, as well as movements and individuals within the Muslim world. Cross-list: ASIA 315, SWGS 315.**RELI 318 - THE BIBLE: A BRIEF INTELLECTUAL HISTORY****Short Title:** BIOGRAPHY OF THE BIBLE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** An investigation of how the perception of the Bible changed from antiquity to the 21st century. The course is structured chronologically. A close reading of the works of major thinkers from each period, together with specific examples of biblical exegesis. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 518. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 318 and RELI 518.**RELI 320 - THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE****Short Title:** LEGAL FRMWK RELI TOLERANCE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 2**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** The American Constitution embodies a complex experiment in religious tolerance, including the promise of "free exercise of religion" and the prohibition of laws "respecting an establishment of religion". In this class we will primarily seek a critical understanding of our tolerance-rich legal invocations of religious freedom and address fundamental issues such as how can we distinguish "religious" actions and commitments from other morally important beliefs and activities. Cross-list: POLI 320. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 596. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 320 and RELI 596.**RELI 322 - INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM****Short Title:** INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Buddhist ideas, art, and meditation. Exploration of the Buddhism in India, China, and Japan and their impact in the USA today. Readings include Buddhists classics and contemporary responses from mediators and scientists. Cross-list: ASIA 322. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 572. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 322 and RELI 572.**RELI 326 - ANGELS, POWERS, AND MONSTERS****Short Title:** ANGELS, POWERS, & MONSTERS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** "Every time a bell rings an angel gets its wings." Course examines the natures, roles, physical appearances, and functions ascribed to the intermediate beings (angels, powers, and monsters) in western thought from the Ancient Near East to the modern Period, in both academic and popular opinion. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 326 and RELI 508.

RELI 328 - RELIGION AND GLOBAL POVERTY**Short Title:** RELIGION & GLOBAL POVERTY**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Advanced study of religion and poverty in global context. Course materials will address religious, ethical anthropological theories of development, analyze specific themes economic and social development, examine the role of Faith Based Organizations and do specific case studies. Students will be graded on short reflections papers and a final term paper. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 528. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 328 and RELI 528.**RELI 329 - THE BIBLE IN POPULAR CULTURE****Short Title:** THE BIBLE IN POPULAR CULTURE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Even in today's seemingly secular pop culture landscape, the Bible is a strong artistic, social, and political influence. We will explore ways in which the Bible is used in contemporary pop culture by analyzing biblical references in music, film, art, and other media. We will show how pop culture shapes understandings of the Bible and vice versa. Grad students will write a 25-30 pp. research paper and lead at least one extended class discussion. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 329 and RELI 529.**RELI 332 - ADVANCED TIBETAN LANGUAGE & CULTURE****Short Title:** ADV TIBETAN LANGUAGE & CULTURE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Prerequisite(s):** RELI 132 or TIBT 132**Description:** This class builds on RELI 232 and 234, now including more challenging material in Tibetan, and continuing the trajectory of gaining familiarity with Buddhist philosophical systems as these touch on epistemology, ontology, and contemplative practice. Cross-list: TIBT 332. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 532. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 332 and RELI 532. Repeatable for Credit.**RELI 333 - KNOWING BODY/GLOWING MIND: BUDDHIST ARTS OF CONTEMPLATION AND ANALYSIS****Short Title:** KNOWING BODY/GLOWING MIND**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Buddhism is a performing art engaging both mind and body. Our course investigates Buddhist and other literature, epistemology and rituals with an eye to how they speak to contemplative practice. Contemplative practice itself, in class and out, supplements our exploration of the interplay between traditional Asian and contemporary Western perspectives. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 573. Recommended prerequisite(s): One course in Buddhism. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 333 and RELI 573. Repeatable for Credit.**RELI 334 - PSYCHOLOGY OF RELIGION****Short Title:** PSYCHOLOGY OF RELIGION**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** An overview of the basic approaches in the psychological understanding of religious belief and practice. Topics to be addressed in religious systems East and West include: sex, religious experience, ritual, myth, saintliness, guilt, God and meditation.**RELI 335 - MEDICINE AND THE MUSEUM: CLINICAL AESTHETICS AND THE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, HOUSTON****Short Title:** MEDICINE AND THE MUSEUM**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Through weekly visits to the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, this class develops key skills and engages relevant themes relating to medicine and caregiving, including observation and description, embodiment and motion, eros and suffering, vulnerable populations, grief and loss, human mortality and spiritual transcendence.

RELI 336 - RELIGION & THE SOCIAL SCIENCES**Short Title:** RELIGION & THE SOCIAL SCIENCES**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Designed to introduce the student to classic and contemporary texts in the social scientific study of religion. Topics include: mysticism, the social construction of gender, the guru-disciple relationship, secularization, healing traditions East and West, cross-cultural debates. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 336 and RELI 260/RELI 609.**RELI 337 - SHAMANS, SAINTS, & SAGES****Short Title:** SHAMANS, SAINTS, & SAGES**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Familiarize the student with diverse texts (secular and religious, East and West) found in mystical literature. Emphasis will be placed on psychological and comparative methods. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 337 and RELI 262.**RELI 338 - THE CHURCH OF AFRICA****Short Title:** THE CHURCH OF AFRICA**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** A reading course designed to examine Christianity in Africa. Course materials and readings will address the development of the church from the Patristic era to the present, paying attention to theological developments, missionization, colonialism, nationalism, prophetic movements, race relations, the role of women, and social issues. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 540. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 338 and RELI 540.**RELI 339 - APOCALYPSE THEN AND NOW****Short Title:** APOCALYPSE THEN AND NOW**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** A close reading of some early Jewish apocalypses and a discussion of the apocalyptic worldview. Texts include the Book of Daniel, 1 Enoch, the Dead Sea Scrolls, and the Book of Revelation. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 510. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 339 and RELI 510.**RELI 340 - THEOLOGY IN AFRICA****Short Title:** THEOLOGY IN AFRICA**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Introductory readings on theological thinking in Africa. Course will address methodological issues as well as constructive theological work on enculturation, social and economic justice, gender, health, and liberation. Read 5 major texts, write a major review, lead class discussions, discuss texts used, and write 20 page research paper. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 539. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 340 and RELI 539.**RELI 342 - NEW RELIGIOUS MOVEMENTS IN AFRICA****Short Title:** NEW RELIG MOVEMENTS IN AFRICA**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Discusses new religious movements and the religious, sociological, and political factors leading to their rise, also missionary and colonial reactions to them. Examines their relationship to indigenous religions, political praxis, and their focus on this-worldly salvation in the wake of political and economic marginality. Cross-list: ANTH 343.**RELI 343 - SEMINAR ON LOVE****Short Title:** SEMINAR ON LOVE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** This seminar explores the themes of love, sex, and spirit from the classical era through the postmodern age. We will examine literary, philosophical, and artistic expressions in painting, sculpture, cinema, novels, poetry, psychoanalysis, religion, and culture. Cross-list: HART 347.

RELI 344 - SEMINAR ON THE END OF LIFE**Short Title:** END OF LIFE SEMINAR**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 4**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** This course examines themes associated with death and dying from the historical through the contemporary periods. The class will adopt highly multidisciplinary approach that combines the critical perspectives of biomedicine, religious studies, art history, philosophy, anthropology, bioethics, and cultural studies as we consider life at the end of life.**RELI 348 - CHRISTIANITY AND ISLAM IN AFRICA****Short Title:** CHRISTIANITY & ISLAM IN AFRICA**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** This course will focus upon the history and conflict of Christianity and Islam in Africa, with emphasis placed upon indigenous African developments, cultural and artistic themes, and conversion narratives as well as exploring the co-existence and conflict of the two major faiths of the continent. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 536. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 348 and RELI 536.**RELI 350 - DEMONS, MENTAL ILLNESS AND MEDICINE****Short Title:** DEMONS/MENTAL ILLNESS/MEDICINE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Treats complex connections between religious beliefs/practices and formulation of human psychology in western tradition, through a historical reckoning with demonology. Consider the way demons are represented – from semi-corporeal beings to marks of mental illness – by looking at texts from the ancient world to modern psychiatry. Cross-list: MDEM 350. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 350 and RELI 605.**RELI 356 - MAJOR ISSUES IN CONTEMPORARY ISLAM****Short Title:** MAJ ISSUES CONTEMPORARY ISLAM**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** This course will focus on the major issues confronting contemporary Islam including Islamic unity, the place of the Qur'an and traditions, human rights, Islamic feminism, da'wa, education, science and Islam, globalization and medical ethics.**RELI 357 - WHAT'S RELIGIOUS ABOUT BLACK RELIGION?****Short Title:** IS BLACK RELIGION RELIGIOUS?**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** This course examines two questions: How is religion defined within the study of black religion? What constitutes the nature and meaning of blackness within black religion? These questions provide opportunity to explore how scholars explain what it has meant to be black and religious within the United States. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 547. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 357 and RELI 547.**RELI 359 - RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE IN THE CRUCIBLE OF GLOBALIZATION****Short Title:** RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Explores context and consequences of the concept of religious tolerance in the crucible of globalization politics. Background in settlement of Reformation-era religious wars; American attitudes; impetus for tolerance policies and their implementation, 1945 to present (including governmentality and surveillance); results for historically Christian populations, esp. in US and Europe. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 580. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 359 and RELI 580.

RELI 361 - THE HUMANITIES OF CARE & END OF LIFE**Short Title:** THE HUMANITIES OF CARE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Pairing the perspectives of medicine, bioethics, and the medical humanities with thematic case studies in art, literature, cinema, and visual culture, the class examines the humanities of care and the end of life. Cross-list: HURC 361.**RELI 362 - RELIGION AND SCIENCE****Short Title:** RELIGION AND SCIENCE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** This advanced seminar analyzes interdisciplinary efforts by scholars of religion to engage scientific research in the cognitive and neuro- sciences. We assess the possibilities for collaboration, as well as conflict, between humanistic and scientific disciplines, asking how the tools of interpretation and empiricism might enrich our understanding of religious phenomena. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 563. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 362 and RELI 563.**RELI 363 - JEWISH PHILOSOPHY: GREAT THINKERS AND THEMES IN JEWISH THOUGHT****Short Title:** JEWISH PHILOSOPHY**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** An introduction to the main figures and themes in Jewish philosophy. Topics to be discussed include reason vs faith and prophetic revelation; Israel's chosenness vs human universalism; creation vs eternity; divine providence and necessity vs free will; evil, justice, and divine omnipotence; prayer, contemplation, and divine and human perfection. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 567. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 363 and RELI 567.**RELI 365 - PAUL AND THE NEW TESTAMENT****Short Title:** PAUL & THE NEW TESTAMENT**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Examines the growth of Christianity from its origins as a Jewish group to a religion in the mid-second century that distinguished itself from Judaism. Includes discussion of Acts, Paul's letters, Johannine corpus, Gospel of Thomas, Pastorals, Catholic letters, Hebrews, and Revelation.**RELI 368 - RISE OF THE NONES: HUMANISMS AND HUMANITIES****Short Title:** RISE OF THE NONES**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** This course will look at the rise of the "nones," that is, individuals who affiliate with no religious tradition, through both a history of secular thought in the West and a close reading of key texts and figures. Atheism, humanism, secularism and the "spiritual but not religious" will all be treated as key categories. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 568. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 368 and RELI 568. Repeatable for Credit.**RELI 369 - READING WRIGHT: THEISM AND ATHEISM IN THE WRITINGS OF RICHARD WRIGHT****Short Title:** READING RICHARD WRIGHT**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Richard Wright's fiction and nonfiction are important resources for understanding the nature of radicalized life in the United States. This course explores his writings for what they tell us about the role of religion in the development of identity and life meaning, and we will juxtapose the role of religion with Wright's commentary on the nature and significance of atheism for countering injustice. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 606. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 369 and RELI 606.

RELI 371 - CHRISTIANITY IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH**Short Title:** CHRISTIANITY IN GLOBAL SOUTH**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Readings on Christianity in the Global South analyzing historical developments, mission and colonial encounters, growth and expansion; diversity of expression, the development of local initiated Churches, Pentecostalism, and public role of the Church. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 561. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 371 and RELI 561.**RELI 375 - EPIPHANIES: SEEING IN A NEW LIGHT AND RECOGNIZING THE RADIANCE****Short Title:** EPIPHANIES**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Epiphanies are events or objects that can note a striking appearance or manifestation, just as an epiphanic experience contains a significant moment of revelation. This course examines expressions of epiphanies in modernist art, literature, film, sacred experience, and in the mundane details of life itself. Cross-list: HART 328.**RELI 378 - MIND AND ART, FILM AND LITERATURE IN BUDDHISM****Short Title:** BUDDHIST ART AND LITERATURE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** What is mind? What is self? What can a human being become? Drawing on a wealth of Buddhist-related art, film, and literature, this course introduces you to Tibetan and other Buddhist approaches to these crucial questions. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 578. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 378 and RELI 578.**RELI 381 - THE MESSIAH****Short Title:** THE MESSIAH**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Examines the historical origins of Messianism. The Hebrew Bible, the Dead Sea Scrolls, and other ancient texts reflect a surprising diversity of Messianic expectations in early Judaism. These form the background of early Christian depictions of Jesus of Nazareth.**RELI 382 - LOST JUDAISMS: THE APOCRYPHAL WRITINGS****Short Title:** LOST JUDAISMS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** After the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament canon was closed, Jews and Christians continued to compose texts and attributed them to the biblical figures of the past. Seminar offers a close reading of some of these apocryphal/pseudepigraphic little known texts. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 509. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 382 and RELI 509.**RELI 383 - THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS****Short Title:** THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** A survey of the Dead Sea Scrolls as a window into the Second Temple period. A close reading of the scrolls will lead to a discussion of the theological and historical issues of the time, a period pivotal for the formation of Rabbinic Judaism and Early Christianity. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 553. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 383 and RELI 553.**RELI 384 - PILGRIMAGE AND CRUSADE****Short Title:** PILGRIMAGE AND CRUSADE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Focus on the pilgrimage to Jerusalem and Mecca by Jews, Christians, and Muslims within the context of the crusade period. Also covers the historical religious events of the crusades (approximately 1000-1300) from both a Muslim and a Christian perspective. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 608. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 384 and RELI 608.

RELI 385 - GOD, TIME AND HISTORY**Short Title:** GOD, TIME AND HISTORY**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** How is the passage of time given meaning, and what role—if any—is assigned to divinity in shaping the direction of events? Course explores various forms of recording and interpreting events, drawing from ancient Mesopotamia, Israel, and the Greco-Roman world—the cultures in which modern ideas of history began. Cross-list: HIST 381. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 585. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 385 and RELI 585.**RELI 387 - WESTERN ESOTERICISM: METHOD AND THEORY****Short Title:** WESTERN ESOTERICISM**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** This course explores the relation between esoteric texts and the idea of "Western Esotericism." We will look at primary writings from Agrippa to Madame Blavatsky and consider the historical and methodological approaches emerging as Esotericism is constructed as an academic area. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 587. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 387 and RELI 587.**RELI 388 - THE PSALMS AND THEIR POETIC AFTERLIFE****Short Title:** PSALMS AND POETRY**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** A seminar on the biblical Psalms. This course will situate the Psalms in their ancient Near Eastern context, explore their original liturgical function in ancient Israel, and trace their afterlife in postbiblical poetry. All texts will be studied in translation. Counts for the Minor in Jewish Studies. RELI 612: Additional readings and longer paper. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 612. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 388 and RELI 612.**RELI 390 - SEARCH FOR GOD IN THE POSTMODERN WORLD****Short Title:** SEARCH FOR GOD**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Explore forms of theistic religious experience, concentrating on the Western Christian tradition; past and present cultural and philosophical challenges to traditional religious belief; the possibility of Christian faith and the struggle for justice and meaning. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 390 and RELI 280.**RELI 391 - THE REFORMATION & ITS RESULTS****Short Title:** THE REFORMATION & ITS RESULTS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Theology and church-state issues from 16th-century Reformation to 17th-century; medieval background; Luther and Calvin, the Catholic Reformation; religious wars; Protestant orthodoxy; Pietist spirituality; Puritanism; and calls for toleration. Cross-list: MDEM 391. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 391 and RELI 286.**RELI 392 - JERUSALEM: HOLY CITY IN TIME AND IMAGINATION****Short Title:** JERUSALEM**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3,4**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** A course on Jerusalem's past and present, its religious meanings in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, and its role in the modern conflict in the Middle East. Instructor Permission Required.**RELI 393 - MUTANTS AND MYSTICS: THE PARANORMAL AND POPULAR CULTURE****Short Title:** MUTANTS AND MYSTICS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Traces the "paranormal" from its elite origins around Cambridge and Harvard to its later pop-cultural expressions in pulp and science fiction, superhero comics, and film. Particular attention will be given to the role that the anomalous experiences of authors, artists, and scientists have played in this still emerging Super Story. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 589. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 393 and RELI 589.

RELI 395 - LOSING YOUR RELIGION IN FILM & FICTION & MUSIC**Short Title:** LOSING YOUR RELIGION IN FILM**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Doubt, sex, despair, obsession, ecstasy in directors, writers, musicians wanting spiritual reboot, 1890-2015: such as Allen Ginsberg, Oscar Wilde, D.H. Lawrence, T.S. Eliot, H.P. Lovecraft, John Updike, and Ingmar Bergman. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 503.**Mutually Exclusive:** Credit cannot be earned for RELI 395 and RELI 503.**RELI 396 - PENTECOSTALISM****Short Title:** PENTECOSTALISM**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** An introduction to Pentecostalism in a global context focusing historical developments, expansion in Europe, North America, Africa, Latin America and Asia. **Mutually Exclusive:** Credit cannot be earned for RELI 396 and RELI 595.**RELI 399 - CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICE****Short Title:** CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Activity Course**Credit Hour:** 1**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Literary and artistic creativity, religious experience, and textual interpretation often draw on focused states of consciousness made possible by contemplative practices. The practice will provide historical information about such practices and offer opportunities to participate in techniques ranging from meditation and observing breath to freeform writing and T'ai Chi. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 597. **Mutually Exclusive:** Credit cannot be earned for RELI 399 and RELI 597. Repeatable for Credit.**RELI 400 - SENIOR THESIS****Short Title:** SENIOR THESIS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Independent Study**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Consisting of the writing of a thesis of considerable length, depth, and research, this course will function as the capstone course on writing in the discipline. Required of all majors.**RELI 401 - INDEPENDENT STUDY****Short Title:** INDEPENDENT STUDY**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Independent Study**Credit Hours:** 1-6**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Multiple sections of this course are offered. Repeatable for Credit.**RELI 402 - INDEPENDENT STUDY****Short Title:** INDEPENDENT STUDY**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Independent Study**Credit Hours:** 1-6**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Multiple sections of this course are offered. Repeatable for Credit.**RELI 406 - CHRISTIANITY AND LATE ANTIQUITY****Short Title:** CHRISTIANITY & LATE ANTIQUITY**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** This advanced seminar treats the formation of Christianity as an institutional power in relation to the Roman Empire. Starting with the Edict of Milan in 313 CE, which put an end to persecution of Christians, and closing with the Council of Chalcedon in 451 CE, which established normative Christian doctrine, we will move through this development in seven roughly chronological units. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 506. **Mutually Exclusive:** Credit cannot be earned for RELI 406 and RELI 506.**RELI 407 - ARCHIVES OF THE IMPOSSIBLE****Short Title:** ARCHIVES OF THE IMPOSSIBLE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Research**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** After reading Prof. Kripal's *Authors of the Impossible* as a basic theoretical structure for the semester, this advanced archival research seminar will involve students engaging original historical documents contained in Rice University's archive on Paranormal Currents in American Culture toward the writing of a graduate or undergraduate thesis. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 607. **Mutually Exclusive:** Credit cannot be earned for RELI 407 and RELI 607.

RELI 415 - SECRET RELIGION**Short Title:** SECRET RELIGION**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Examines religious currents that operate in the margins of traditional religion: the gnostic, esoteric and mystical. Covers how these categories were theorized. Explores how they continue to identify contemporary religious currents that are considered transgressive and are rejected by conventional religious authorities. Class is grounded in antiquity and historical method. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 615. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 415 and RELI 615.**RELI 416 - NEW TESTAMENT / CHRISTIAN ORIGINS****Short Title:** NEW TESTAMENT/CHRISTIAN ORIG**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** How did Christianity emerge as a new religious movement in the Roman Empire? Covers the history and literature of the first generations of Christians, focusing on Post-Temple developments, issues of authority and leadership, rise of regional forms of Christianity, and formation of distinct Christian identities. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 616. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 416 and RELI 616.**RELI 417 - Gnostic AMERICA****Short Title:** Gnostic AMERICA**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Covers the rise of Gnostic spirituality in American religion and culture, from the Colonial period to the present. Explores the alpha conduits (Boehme, Blavatsky, Jung, academia). Examines the roles of revelatory experience, artifact migration, historical criticism, secularization, hybridity, heresy, and popularization. Case studies vary depending on students' research goals. 5000-word research paper. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 517. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 417 and RELI 517.**RELI 419 - MYSTERY RELIGIONS****Short Title:** MYSTERY RELIGIONS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Covers literature, practices, and archaeology of esoteric cults within the context of religion in Roman Empire (Demeter, the Great Gods, Cybele, Persephone, Dionysus, Isis, Mithras, Hermes, Qumran, Christianity, Gnostic groups). Case studies vary depending on students' research goals, including comparison with Renaissance and modern esoteric initiatory groups. 5000-word research paper; GRAD equivalent: 7500-word paper.**RELI 421 - FOUCAULT & THE HERMENEUTICS OF SELF****Short Title:** FOUCAULT & THE SELF**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Best known for analyzing domination and power, Michel Foucault shifts his attention to ethics and "technologies of the self" in 1976. In this advanced seminar, we study and critique Foucault's turn to western antiquity through his lectures and volumes of foregrounding resistance to power through religion, politics and ethics. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 569. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 421 and RELI 569.**RELI 423 - AFRICAN MYTHS AND RITUALS****Short Title:** AFRICAN MYTHS AND RITUALS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Explore and analyze specific myths and rituals which provide legitimation for community ceremonies and that serve as a basis for the negotiation of power and ideology for members within that community. Readings from classic theorists: Durkheim, Levi-Strauss, Edmond Leach, Gennap and Turner, and contemporary theorists: Werbner, Heusch, Comaroff, and Ray. Cross-list: ANTH 423. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 537. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 423 and RELI 537.

RELI 424 - RELIGION AND POLITICS IN AFRICA**Short Title:** RELIGION & POLITICS IN AFRICA**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Course explores interdisciplinary perspectives on religion and politics in Africa focusing on indigenous religious, Christianity, and Islam. Readings will reflect theoretical perspectives, historical developments, regional angles, and contemporary issues such as sharia, gender, and reconciliation as political options. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 534. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 424 and RELI 534. Repeatable for Credit.**RELI 426 - RELIGION AND LITERATURE IN AFRICA****Short Title:** RELI AND LITERATURE IN AFRICA**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Analysis of the religious imagination and gender issues in postcolonial literature in Africa focusing on Islam, Christianity, indigenous religions and African Initiated Churches. Religious and gender issues addressed include identity crises, power, class of cultures, modernity, cosmology, community, and socio-religious conflicts in a postcolonial world. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 426 and RELI 538.**RELI 427 - HISTORY AND METHODS: NINETEETH CENTURY****Short Title:** HISTORY AND METHODS: 19TH CENT**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Focused discussion of the history and methods of the study of religion via close readings of classical texts and narratives of the field from 1800-1900. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 527. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 427 and RELI 527.**RELI 428 - HISTORY AND METHODS: TWENTIETH CENTURY****Short Title:** HISTORY AND METHODS: 20TH CENT**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Focused discussion of the history and methods of the study of religion via close readings of classical texts and narratives of the field from 1900-present. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 559. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 428 and RELI 559.**RELI 430 - RELIGION, PSYCHOLOGY & CULTURE****Short Title:** RELIGION, PSYCHOLOGY & CULTURE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** A survey of the historical development of the psychology of religion and its conversation with theology, comparative studies, gender studies, sociology, and anthropology. Topics include: mysticism, eroticism, conversion, feminism, psychobiography. Examples drawn from a variety of religious traditions. Readings include: Freud, Jung, Tillich, Erikson, Kristeva, Kakar. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 584. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 430 and RELI 584.**RELI 431 - RELIGION AND COGNITIVE SCIENCE****Short Title:** RELIGION AND COGNITIVE SCIENCE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Interdisciplinary approach founded on biological, cross-cultural, evolutionary, neurological and cognitive studies of religion. Explores extreme religious experiences, ritualized behaviors, shamanism and religious therapy, religious community, universality of religion, and transmission of religious ideas and practices. 5000 word research paper. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 531. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 431 and RELI 531.**RELI 433 - TIBETAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE****Short Title:** TIBETAN LANGUAGE & CULTURE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Readings in Tibetan texts -- debates, philosophical treatises of various kinds, meditation texts for contemplative practice -- accompanied by supportive readings in English and discussion of the thematic issues raised by the material, with an emphasis on cultural awareness. Repeatable for Credit.**RELI 440 - ISLAM'S MYSTICAL AND ESOTERIC TRADITION****Short Title:** ISLAM'S MYSTICAL TRADITION**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Explores the ascetic and Sufi aspects of Islam from the middle Islamic period until the present day. Readings from al-Ghazali, Ibn al-Arabi, Sa'di, Hafiz and Rumi. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 522. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 440 and RELI 522.

RELI 441 - MAGIC AND POPULAR RELIGION**Short Title:** MAGIC & POPULAR RELIGION**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** This course will examine the popular religion in the Middle East from Late Antiquity until the 19th century, focusing on healing practices, astrology, protection, amulets, seasoned/life-cycle rituals, and other popular beliefs common to Islam, Judaism and Christianity. Cross-list: ASIA 441. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 525. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 441 and RELI 525.**RELI 442 - CLASSICAL AND CONTEMPORARY ARABIC TEXTS****Short Title:** ARABIC TEXTS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Study and read classical Arabic texts with the goal of learning the material as well as the syntax and grammar of Arabic. Repeatable for Credit.**RELI 443 - MAIMONIDES "GUIDE FOR THE PERPLEXED"****Short Title:** MAIMONIDES GUIDE PERPLEXED**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** This course will closely read the classic text of Judeo-Muslim thought, Maimonides Guide for the Perplexed, in its historical philosophical and literary context. It will draw upon additional Jewish and Muslim sources as well. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 443 and RELI 565.**RELI 444 - VISIONS AND VISIONARY PRACTICES: MEDIEVAL TO MODERN****Short Title:** VISIONS & VISIONARY PRACTICES**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** This course examines accounts of visions, comparing medieval and modern visionary techniques and processes and relating visionary writings to cultural and personal contexts. Includes some Christian theology along with other theoretical frameworks, but emphasis on praxis. Cross-list: MDEM 444. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 644. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 444 and RELI 644.**RELI 449 - EARLY CHRISTIAN CONTROVERSIES****Short Title:** EARLY CHRISTIAN CONTROVERSIES**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Seminar examines controversies and debates among the early Christians as catholic Christianity emerged from a diversity of Christian movements. Literature reviewed will vary. Students will select to focus on one controversy and write a research paper (undergraduates, 5000 words; graduate students, 7500 words). Oral discussion and presentations will be required. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 549. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 449 and RELI 549. Repeatable for Credit.**RELI 458 - MYSTICISM: THEORIES AND METHODS****Short Title:** MYSTICISM**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** A history of the development of the modern category of "mysticism" from the seventeenth century to today, with side studies of cognate terms like "spirituality," "metaphysical religion," and the "paranormal," as these forms of extreme religious experience are by social-scientific and humanistic methods. RELI 558: Additional readings and writing. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 558. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 458 and RELI 558.**RELI 462 - ENGLISH SPIRITUALITY AFTER HENRY VIII: PROTESTANT, CATHOLIC, OR ANGLICAN?****Short Title:** ENGLISH SPIRITUALITY**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Reformation's aftermath explored through key topics, texts in spiritual practice, e.g.: ecclesiastical discipline; secularization; stylized and free-form intersections of English time with Christian eternity; King James Bible; Book of Common Prayer; "saintly revolution;" Thomas Cranmer; William Laud; William Shakespeare; Lancelot Andrewes; John Donne; J.H. Newman; hymnody; C.S. Lewis; T.S. Eliot. Cross-list: MDEM 462. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 462 and RELI 543.

RELI 470 - BUDDHIST WISDOM TEXTS**Short Title:** BUDDHIST WISDOM TEXTS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Indo-Tibetan analyses of the mind and its functions, especially differing views on the role of reasoning and the nature of the "ultimate" in major philosophical schools of Tibet and India. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 570. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 470 and RELI 570. Repeatable for Credit.**RELI 472 - KABBALAH SEMINAR****Short Title:** KABBALAH SEMINAR**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** This seminar will delve into literature known as "kabbalah" through close readings of first-hand accounts of thinkers and mystics known as "kabbalists," will explore themes like secrecy and mystery, the nature of the divine, and religious ecstasy. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 472 and RELI 582.**RELI 476 - FROM DECOLONIZATION TO GLOBALIZATION****Short Title:** FROM DECOLONIZATION TO GLOBALIZATION**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Taught in English. Novels, and films, from North and West Africa, and the immigrant population in France, from 1960 to 2010. Emphasis on the tensions between narratives of political emancipation, modernity, secularism, and religious fundamentalism and mysticism. Extra reading for graduate students in theories of colonialism, postcolonialism, globalization. Cross-list: FREN 324, POLI 324. Recommended Prerequisite(s): Any 200 level course or above in English or French, or HUMA 101 or HUMA 102, or a FWIS course. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 476 and RELI 604.**RELI 477 - SPECIAL TOPICS****Short Title:** SPECIAL TOPICS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar, Lecture, Laboratory, Internship/Practicum**Credit Hours:** 1-4**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Topics and credit hours may vary each semester. Contact department for current semester's topic(s). Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 477 and RELI 353. Repeatable for Credit.**RELI 481 - GNOSTICISM SEMINAR****Short Title:** GNOSTICISM SEMINAR**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** In depth examination of one (or more) Gnostic texts within its literary, social, historical, and religious landscapes. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 581. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 481 and RELI 581.**RELI 488 - THE HISTORY OF RELIGIONS SCHOOLS****Short Title:** HISTORY OF RELIGIONS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** An historical survey of the History of Religions School that emerged in the 1960s and 70s at the University of Chicago and came to play such an important role in the comparative study of religion. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 588. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 488 and RELI 588.**RELI 490 - AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE AND RELIGION****Short Title:** AF/AM LITERATURE & RELIGION**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Distribution Group:** Distribution Group I**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** In this seminar students will read and analyze African American literature in order to explore the various ways in which African Americans have understood and articulated the nature and meaning of African American religious experience and practice. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 590. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 490 and RELI 590.**RELI 499 - INTERNSHIP IN RELIGION****Short Title:** INTERNSHIP IN RELIGION**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Internship/Practicum**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Undergraduate, Undergraduate Professional or Visiting Undergraduate level students.**Course Level:** Undergraduate Upper-Level**Description:** Student collaborates with a faculty member in the department and a pre-approved local institution, completing original research to be presented in a public setting at the end of the internship and/or working on an outreach initiative. Projects must focus on applying the study of religion to areas of public life and interest. Department Permission Required. Repeatable for Credit.

RELI 500 - RELIGIONS FROM INDIA**Short Title:** RELIGIONS FROM INDIA**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 232. Mutually

Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 500 and RELI 232.

RELI 502 - TIBETAN LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND CULTURE I**Short Title:** TIBETAN LANG LIT & CULTURE I**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Introducing the Tibetan alphabet and basics of grammar and Tibetan literary genres. Topics vary; Buddhist literature and art, personal narrative, core cultural characteristics. Readings in English and Tibetan. RELI 531: write a paper approximately one-third longer than the undergraduate equivalent (RELI 233) and complete a more substantial presentation. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 233. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 502 and RELI 233.**RELI 503 - LOSING YOUR RELIGION IN FILM & FICTION & MUSIC****Short Title:** LOSING YOUR RELIGION IN FILM**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Doubt, sex, despair, obsession, ecstasy in directors, writers, musicians wanting spiritual reboot, 1890-2015: such as Allen Ginsberg, Oscar Wilde, D.H. Lawrence, T.S. Eliot, H.P. Lovecraft, John Updike, and Ingmar Bergman. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 395. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 503 and RELI 395.**RELI 504 - RELIGIONS IN AMERICA****Short Title:** RELIGIONS IN AMERICA**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Examines the religions and religious practices of America from colonial encounter with native peoples to the contemporary period with a special focus on the morphing natures and historical complexities of American Christianities, religious pluralism and secularism. Graduate students will be required to read a standard and well-known two-volume, 1,200-page collection of primary historical sources. They will also write a research paper (25-30 pages) that is approximately twice as long as the undergraduate paper. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 300. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 504 and RELI 300.**RELI 506 - CHRISTIANITY AND LATE ANTIQUITY****Short Title:** CHRISTIANITY & LATE ANTIQUITY**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** This advanced seminar treats the formation of Christianity as an institutional power in relation to the Roman Empire. Starting with the Edict of Milan in 313 CE, which put an end to persecution of Christians, and closing with the Council of Chalcedon in 451 CE, which established normative Christian doctrine, we will move through this development in seven roughly chronological units. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 406. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 506 and RELI 406.**RELI 507 - INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL HEBREW I****Short Title:** INTRO TO BIBLICAL HEBREW I**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** An introduction to Biblical Hebrew with emphasis on grammar and vocabulary. Write an exegetical paper on a Hebrew text of your choice. Instructor Permission Required. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 125. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 507 and RELI 125.**RELI 508 - ANGELS, POWERS, AND MONSTERS****Short Title:** ANGELS, POWERS, & MONSTERS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** "Every time a bell rings an angel gets its wings." Course examines the natures, roles, physical appearances, and functions ascribed to the intermediate beings (angels, powers, and monsters) in western thought from the Ancient Near East to the modern Period, in both academic and popular opinion. Additional readings, research, and additional paper required in RELI 508. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 508 and RELI 326.**RELI 509 - LOST JUDAISMS: THE APOCRYPHAL WRITINGS****Short Title:** LOST JUDAISMS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** After the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament canon was closed, Jews and Christians continued to compose texts and attributed them to the biblical figures of the past. Seminar offers a close reading of some of these apocryphal/pseudepigraphic little known texts. Students in RELI 509 will additionally conduct a research project. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 382. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 509 and RELI 382.

RELI 510 - APOCALYPSE THEN AND NOW**Short Title:** APOCALYPSE THEN AND NOW**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** A close reading of some early Jewish apocalypses and a discussion of the apocalyptic worldview. Texts include the Book of Daniel, 1 Enoch, the Dead Sea Scrolls, and the Book of Revelation. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 339. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 510 and RELI 339.**RELI 511 - INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL HEBREW II****Short Title:** INTRO TO BIBLICAL HEBREW II**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Continuation of RELI 507. We will finish the grammar in the second half of this semester and then read selections from the Hebrew bible. Write an exegetical paper on a Hebrew text of your choice. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 126. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 511 and RELI 126.**RELI 512 - INTERMEDIATE BIBLICAL HEBREW III****Short Title:** INTERM BIBLICAL HEBREW III**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Prerequisite(s):** RELI 125 and RELI 126**Description:** Readings in the Hebrew Bible as well as some unvocalized texts from the Dead Sea Scrolls. Review of grammar and vocabulary. Write an exegetical paper on a Hebrew text. UG/GR Equivalent: RELI 127. Instructor Permission Required. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 127. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 512 and RELI 127.**RELI 513 - INTRODUCTION TO SYRIAC****Short Title:** INTRODUCTION TO SYRIAC**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** An introduction to Syriac Grammar and vocabulary. Graduate students are expected to write an exegetical paper on a Syriac text of their choice. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 513 and RELI 313.**RELI 514 - RELIGION IN FICTION AND FILM****Short Title:** RELIGION IN FICTION AND FILM**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** The sacred in interreligious, international, and interdisciplinary encounter, approached via social sciences, theology, theories of literature and mythology. Authors and directors can include Waugh, Mishima, Mann, Proust, Hesse, Percy, Gardner, Updike, Gibson, Sterling, Coupland, Ray, Resnais, Fellini, Bergman, Anderson, Bunnell, and Nutley. Term paper twice as long as undergraduate requirement. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 294. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 514 and RELI 294.**RELI 515 - NIETZSCHE AND RELIGIOUS THOUGHT****Short Title:** NIETZSCHE & RELIGIOUS THOUGHT**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 301. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 515 and RELI 301.**RELI 517 - GNOSTIC AMERICA****Short Title:** GNOSTIC AMERICA**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Covers the rise of Gnostic spirituality in American religion and culture, from the Colonial period to the present. Explores the alpha conduits (Boehme, Blavatsky, Jung, academia). Examines the roles of revelatory experience, artifact migration, historical criticism, secularization, hybridity, heresy, and popularization. Case studies vary depending on students' research goals. 7500-word research paper. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 417. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 517 and RELI 417.**RELI 518 - THE BIBLE: A BRIEF INTELLECTUAL HISTORY****Short Title:** BIOGRAPHY OF THE BIBLE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** An investigation of how the perception of the Bible changed from antiquity to the 21st century. The course is structured chronologically. A close reading of the works of major thinkers from each period, together with specific examples of biblical exegesis. Graduate students will have one extra reading assignment per week and complete a 14-15 page paper. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 318. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 518 and RELI 318.

RELI 519 - THE SUPERNATURAL AND RELIGION**Short Title:** THE SUPERNATURAL AND RELIGION**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This course will treat the history of the supernatural from the biblical materials on the miraculous "sign," through the birth of the "supernatural" in medieval Christianity and the canonization of saints, to the mediating categories of the "preternatural" and the modern "paranormal." Comparative categories and materials in other cultural and religious complexes will also be treated. Graduate students will be required to read the entirety of SUPER RELIGION, which is vol. 9 of THE MACMILLAN HANDBOOK SERIES ON RELIGION. This volume represents a cutting edge of the revisioning of the category of the supernatural. They will also be required to write a research paper approximately twice in length of the undergraduates. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 219. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 519 and RELI 219.

RELI 521 - ADVANCED STUDY OF ISLAM**Short Title:** ADVANCED STUDY OF ISLAM**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: The purpose of this course will be to give graduate students a working knowledge of Islam historically and religiously.

RELI 522 - ISLAM'S MYSTICAL AND ESOTERIC TRADITION**Short Title:** ISLAM'S MYSTICAL TRADITION**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 440. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 522 and RELI 440.

RELI 523 - INDEPENDENT STUDY**Short Title:** INDEPENDENT STUDY**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Independent Study**Credit Hours:** 1-15**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Multiple sections of this course are offered. Repeatable for Credit.

RELI 524 - INDEPENDENT STUDY**Short Title:** INDEPENDENT STUDY**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Independent Study**Credit Hours:** 1-9**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Multiple sections of this course are offered. Repeatable for Credit.

RELI 525 - MAGIC AND POPULAR RELIGION**Short Title:** MAGIC & POPULAR RELIGION**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This course will examine the popular religion in the Middle East from Late Antiquity until the 19th century, focusing on healing practices, astrology, protection, amulets, seasoned/life-cycle rituals, and other popular beliefs common to Islam, Judaism and Christianity. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 441. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 525 and RELI 441.

RELI 526 - PEOPLE OF THE BOOK: JUDAISM AND SCRIPTURE**Short Title:** PEOPLE OF THE BOOK**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Examines Judaism as a "People of the Book," recognizing Judaism's dominant religious preoccupation for millennia to be the reading, study and performance of Jewish scripture, particularly the Torah or the first 5 books of the Hebrew Bible Topics: book culture, act of reading, canonization, revelation, and rabbinic, philosophical, mystical interpretations. All readings are in English. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 302. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 526 and RELI 302.

RELI 527 - HISTORY AND METHODS: 19TH CENTURY**Short Title:** HISTORY AND METHODS: 19TH CENT**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Focused discussion of the history and methods of the study of religion via close readings of classical texts and narratives of the field from 1800-1900. Graduate course will require reading of more books and a longer paper to write. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 427. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 527 and RELI 427.

RELI 528 - RELIGION AND GLOBAL POVERTY**Short Title:** RELIGION & GLOBAL POVERTY**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Advanced study of religion and poverty in global context. Course materials will address religious, ethical anthropological theories of development, analyze specific themes economic and social development, examine the role of Faith Based Organizations and do specific case studies. Students will be graded on short reflections papers and a final term paper. Graduate students taking the course will be assigned 4 additional texts, do a major review of one of the texts, and do two class presentations on one of the texts. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 328. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 528 and RELI 328.

RELI 529 - THE BIBLE IN POPULAR CULTURE**Short Title:** THE BIBLE IN POPULAR CULTURE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Even in today's seemingly secular pop culture landscape, the Bible is a strong artistic, social, and political influence. We will explore ways in which the Bible is used in contemporary pop culture by analyzing biblical references in music, film, art, and other media. We will show how pop culture shapes understandings of the Bible and vice versa. Grad students will write a 25-30 pp. research paper and lead at least one extended class discussion. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 529 and RELI 329.

RELI 530 - PEDAGOGY PRACTICUM**Short Title:** PEDAGOGY PRACTICUM**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Internship/Practicum**Credit Hours:** 2**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: As an integral part of the department's apprenticeship program, this is a semester-long practicum through which a graduate student apprentices with a faculty member teaching an undergraduate course in order to be trained in all aspects of course design, lecturing, advising, and grading. Required of all graduate students. Repeatable for Credit.

RELI 531 - RELIGION AND COGNITIVE SCIENCE**Short Title:** RELIGION AND COGNITIVE SCIENCE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Interdisciplinary approach founded on biological, cross-cultural, evolutionary, neurological and cognitive studies of religion. Explores extreme religious experiences, ritualized behaviors, shamanism and religious therapy, religious community, universality of religion, and transmission of religious ideas and practices. GR: seminar leadership, 7500 word research paper. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 431. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 531 and RELI 431.

RELI 532 - ADVANCED TIBETAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE**Short Title:** ADV TIBETAN LANGUAGE & CULTURE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment limited to students with a class of Graduate. Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Prerequisite(s):** RELI 131

Description: This class builds on RELI 500 and 564, now including more challenging material in Tibetan, and continuing the trajectory of gaining familiarity with Buddhist philosophical systems as these touch on epistemology, ontology, and contemplative practice. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 332. Recommended Prerequisite(s): Basic reading ability in Tibetan. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 532 and RELI 132/RELI 332. Repeatable for Credit.

RELI 534 - RELIGION AND POLITICS IN AFRICA**Short Title:** RELIGION & POLITICS IN AFRICA**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Course explores interdisciplinary perspectives on religion and politics in Africa focusing on indigenous religious, Christianity, and Islam. Readings will reflect theoretical perspectives, historical developments, regional angles, and contemporary issues such as sharia, gender, and reconciliation as political options. RELI 534 requires additional reading, review a book on the subject, and write a 25 page research paper. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 424. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 534 and RELI 424.

RELI 536 - CHRISTIANITY AND ISLAM IN AFRICA**Short Title:** CHRISTIANITY & ISLAM IN AFRICA**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** This course will focus upon the history and conflict of Christianity and Islam in Africa, with emphasis placed upon indigenous African developments, cultural and artistic themes, and conversion narratives as well as exploring the co-existence and conflict of the two major faiths of the continent. RELI 536: Write longer (20-25 page) paper, teach/lead class discussions and read additional literature. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 348. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 536 and RELI 348.**RELI 537 - AFRICAN MYTHS AND RITUALS****Short Title:** AFRICAN MYTHS AND RITUALS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** . Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 423. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 537 and RELI 423.**RELI 539 - THEOLOGY IN AFRICA****Short Title:** THEOLOGY IN AFRICA**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Introductory readings on theological thinking in Africa. Course will address methodological issues as well as constructive theological work on enculturation, social and economic justice, gender, health, and liberation. RELI 539: read 5 major texts, write a major review, lead class discussions, discuss texts used. and write 20 page research paper. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 340. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 539 and RELI 340.**RELI 540 - THE CHURCH OF AFRICA****Short Title:** THE CHURCH OF AFRICA**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** . Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 338. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 540 and RELI 338.**RELI 542 - AMERICAN JUDAISM: RELIGION AND THOUGHT****Short Title:** AMERICAN JUDAISM**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** This course will examine the distinct character of Jewish religion and thought as it has taken shape in America, including its incorporation within secret societies and the occult. Topics to be examined are American Jewish denominationalism, interfaith relations, pluralism and individualism, and developments in American Jewish spirituality. Grad students will write a 25-30pp research paper. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 542 and RELI 341.**RELI 543 - ENGLISH SPIRITUALITY AFTER HENRY VIII: PROTESTANT, CATHOLIC, OR ANGLICAN?****Short Title:** ENGLISH SPIRITUALITY**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Reformation's aftermath explored through key topics, texts in spiritual practice, e.g.: ecclesiastical discipline; secularization; stylized and free-form intersections of English time with Christian eternity; King James Bible; Book of Common Prayer; "saintly revolution;" Thomas Cranmer; William Laud; William Shakespeare; Lancelot Andrewes; John Donne; J.H. Newman; hymnody; C.S. Lewis; T.S. Eliot. RELI 543: additional presentations required. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 543 and RELI 462.**RELI 546 - THE RELIGIOUS THOUGHT OF MARTIN L. KING, JR. AND MALCOLM X****Short Title:** MLK AND MALCOLM X**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** . Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 312. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 546 and RELI 312.**RELI 547 - WHAT'S RELIGIOUS ABOUT BLACK RELIGION?****Short Title:** IS BLACK RELIGION RELIGIOUS?**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** This course examines two questions: How is religion defined within the study of black religion? What constitutes the nature and meaning of blackness within black religion? These questions provide opportunity to explore how scholars explain what it has meant to be black and religious within the United States. Additional requirements for RELI 547: Write 5 reflection papers; lead at least two class discussions; complete a 30-page research paper; and complete additional readings. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 357. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 547 and RELI 357.

RELI 548 - LIBERATION THEOLOGIES**Short Title:** LIBERATION THEOLOGIES**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** . Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 158. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 548 and RELI 158.**RELI 549 - EARLY CHRISTIAN CONTROVERSIES****Short Title:** EARLY CHRISTIAN CONTROVERSIES**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Seminar examines controversies and debates among the early Christians as catholic Christianity emerged from a diversity of Christian movements. Literature reviewed will vary. Students will select to focus on one controversy and write a research paper (undergraduates, 5000 words; graduate students, 7500 words). Oral discussion and presentations will be required. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 449. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 549 and RELI 449. Repeatable for Credit.**RELI 553 - THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS****Short Title:** THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** . Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 383. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 553 and RELI 383.**RELI 555 - HISTORICAL ANTHROPOLOGIES OF RELIGION****Short Title:** HISTORICAL ANTHROPOLOGIES**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** This course will address the study of the religious past through conjunctions of anthropology and history. Readings will include books and selections by Max Weber, Marshall Sahlins, Victor Turner, Jacques Le Goff, Aron Gurevich, and others. Cross-list: ANTH 550.**RELI 558 - MYSTICISM: THEORIES AND METHODS****Short Title:** MYSTICISM**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** A history of the development of the modern category of "mysticism" from the seventeenth century to today, with side studies of cognate terms like "spirituality," "metaphysical religion," and the "paranormal," as these forms of extreme religious experience are by social-scientific and humanistic methods. RELI 558: Additional readings and writing. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 458. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 558 and RELI 458.**RELI 559 - HISTORY AND METHODS: TWENTIETH CENTURY****Short Title:** HISTORY AND METHODS: 20TH CENT**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Focused discussion of the history and methods of the study of religion via close readings of classical texts and narratives of the field from 1900-present. Graduate course will require reading of more books and a longer paper to write. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 428. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 559 and RELI 428.**RELI 560 - ADVANCED READINGS IN TIBETAN TEXTS****Short Title:** READING TIBETAN TEXTS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 1-4**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** This course is to accommodate Grad students' requests to read more widely in Tibetan texts and genres. Our focus is reading and disciplined discussion of the texts. Repeatable for Credit.**RELI 561 - CHRISTIANITY IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH****Short Title:** CHRISTIANITY IN GLOBAL SOUTH**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Readings on Christianity in the Global South analyzing historical developments, mission and colonial encounters, growth and expansion; diversity of expression, the development of local initiated Churches, Pentecostalism, and public role of the Church. Graduate students will lead class on a church in a country of their choice. Each graduate student will prepare and lead a seminar on one aspect of the region or country. Each graduate student will also present in class an in-depth study of a selected theme. Graduate students will read additional books selected from a list of texts discussed with instructor. They will also write a 25 page research paper on any topic in Global Christianity. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 371. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 561 and RELI 371.

RELI 563 - RELIGION AND SCIENCE**Short Title:** RELIGION AND SCIENCE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This advanced seminar analyzes interdisciplinary efforts by scholars of religion to engage scientific research in the cognitive and neuro- sciences. We assess the possibilities for collaboration, as well as conflict, between humanistic and scientific disciplines, asking how the tools of interpretation and empiricism might enrich our understanding of religious phenomena. Graduate students will lecture one course session and will engage additional secondary literature throughout the semester. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 362. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 563 and RELI 362.

RELI 564 - TIBETAN LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND CULTURE II**Short Title:** TIBETAN LANG LIT & CULTURE II**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Continued training in Tibetan language-extending vocabulary and facility with grammar. Final includes a paper drawn from readings and class discussion. RELI 564: Write a paper approximately one-third longer and complete a more substantial oral presentation. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 234. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 564 and RELI 234. Repeatable for Credit.

RELI 565 - MAIMONIDES "GUIDE FOR THE PERPLEXED"**Short Title:** MAIMONIDES GUIDE PERPLEXED**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This course will closely read the classic text of Judeo-Muslim thought, Maimonides Guide for the Perplexed, in its historical philosophical and literary context. It will draw upon additional Jewish and Muslim sources as well. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 565 and RELI 443.

RELI 566 - PAIN, ECSTASY AND EMBODIMENT IN RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE**Short Title:** PAIN, ECSTASY AND EMBODIMENT**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: From exorcism to other worldly visions, we experience religion as embodied human beings. This course explores embodied religion by focusing on connections between pain and transcendence, looking at medieval Christianity as well as contemporary and cross-cultural examples. Graduate students will do additional presentation, extra reading, and longer final essay. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 566 and RELI 305.

RELI 567 - JEWISH PHILOSOPHY: GREAT THINKERS AND THEMES IN JEWISH THOUGHT**Short Title:** JEWISH PHILOSOPHY**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: An introduction to the main figures and themes in Jewish philosophy. Topics to be discussed include reason vs faith and prophetic revelation; Israel's chosenness vs human universalism; creation vs eternity; divine providence and necessity vs free will; evil, justice, and divine omnipotence; prayer, contemplation, and divine and human perfection. Graduate students are required to write a research paper (25-30 pp.) and to prepare and lead at least one class. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 363. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 567 and RELI 363.

RELI 568 - RISE OF THE NONES: HUMANISMS AND HUMANITIES**Short Title:** RISE OF THE NONES**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This course will look at the rise of the "nones," that is, individuals who affiliate with no religious tradition, through both a history of secular thought in the West and a close reading of key texts and figures. Atheism, humanism, secularism and the "spiritual but not religious" will all be treated as key categories. RELI 568 will require additional readings, 3 additional papers plus a longer research paper, leading discussions and teaching. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 368. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 568 and RELI 368. Repeatable for Credit.

RELI 569 - FOUCAULT & THE HERMENEUTICS OF SELF**Short Title:** FOUCAULT & THE SELF**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Best known for analyzing domination and power, Michel Foucault shifts his attention to ethics and "technologies of the self" in 1976. In this advanced seminar, we study and critique Foucault's turn to western antiquity through his lectures and volumes of foregrounding resistance to power through religion, politics and ethics. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 421. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 569 and RELI 421.

RELI 570 - BUDDHIST WISDOM TEXTS**Short Title:** BUDDHIST WISDOM TEXTS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Indo-Tibetan analyses of the mind and its functions, especially differing views on the role of reasoning and the nature of the "ultimate" in major philosophical schools of Tibet and India. RELI 570: More difficult readings and two longer papers required. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 470. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 570 and RELI 470. Repeatable for Credit.

RELI 572 - INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM: ARTS FOR LIFE**Short Title:** INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Buddhist ideas, art, and meditation. Exploration of the Buddhism in India, China, and Japan and their impact in the USA today. Readings include Buddhists classics and contemporary responses from mediators and scientists. Additional readings, more writing. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 322. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 572 and RELI 322.

RELI 573 - KNOWING BODY/GLOWING MIND: BUDDHIST ARTS OF CONTEMPLATION AND ANALYSIS**Short Title:** KNOWING BODY/GLOWING MIND**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Buddhism is a performing art engaging both mind and body. Our course investigates Buddhist and other literature, epistemology and rituals with an eye to how they speak to contemplative practice. Contemplative practice itself, in class and out, supplements our exploration of the interplay between traditional Asian and contemporary Western perspectives. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 333. Recommended prerequisite(s): One course in Buddhism. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 573 and RELI 333. Repeatable for Credit.

RELI 578 - MIND AND ART, FILM AND LITERATURE IN BUDDHISM**Short Title:** BUDDHIST ART AND LITERATURE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: What is mind? What is self? What can a human being become? Drawing on a wealth of Buddhist-related art, film, and literature, this course introduces you to Tibetan and other Buddhist approaches to these crucial questions. RELI 578 requires additional readings and research papers. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 378. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 578 and RELI 378.

RELI 580 - RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE IN THE CRUCIBLE OF GLOBALIZATION**Short Title:** RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Explores context and consequences of the concept of religious tolerance in the crucible of globalization politics. Background in settlement of Reformation-era religious wars; American attitudes; impetus for tolerance policies and their implementation, 1945 to present (including governmentality and surveillance); results for historically Christian populations, esp. in US and Europe. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 359. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 580 and RELI 359.

RELI 581 - GNOSTICISM SEMINAR**Short Title:** GNOSTICISM SEMINAR**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment limited to students with a class of Graduate.

Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.

Course Level: Graduate

Description: In depth examination of one (or more) Gnostic texts within its literary, social, historical, and religious landscapes. RELI 581 requires preparation and delivery of public presentations. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 481. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 581 and RELI 481.

RELI 584 - RELIGION, PSYCHOLOGY, AND CULTURE**Short Title:** RELIGION, PSYCHOLOGY & CULTURE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: . Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 430. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 584 and RELI 430.

RELI 585 - GOD, TIME AND HISTORY**Short Title:** GOD, TIME AND HISTORY**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: . Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 385. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 585 and RELI 385.

RELI 587 - WESTERN ESOTERICISM: METHOD AND THEORY**Short Title:** WESTERN ESOTERICISM**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This course explores the relation between esoteric texts and the idea of "Western Esotericism." We will look at primary writings from Agrippa to Madame Blavatsky and consider the historical and methodological approaches emerging as Esotericism is constructed as an academic area. Extra readings and writing a longer essay is required in RELI 587. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 387. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 587 and RELI 387.

RELI 588 - THE HISTORY OF RELIGIONS SCHOOL**Short Title:** HISTORY OF RELIGIONS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: An historical survey of the History of Religions School that emerged in the 1960s and 70s at the University of Chicago and came to play such an important role in the comparative study of religion. Graduate Students will have twice the reading and will require a longer paper. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 488. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 588 and RELI 488.

RELI 589 - MUTANTS AND MYSTICS: THE PARANORMAL AND POPULAR CULTURE**Short Title:** MUTANTS AND MYSTICS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Traces the "paranormal" from its elite origins around Cambridge and Harvard to its later pop-cultural expressions in pulp and science fiction, superhero comics, and film. Particular attention will be given to the role that the anomalous experiences of authors, artists, and scientists have played in this still emerging Super Story. RELI 589 requires: Double the reading and a 30-page paper. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 393. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 589 and RELI 393.

RELI 590 - AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE AND RELIGION**Short Title:** AF/AM LITERATURE & RELIGION**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: In this seminar students will read and analyze African American literature in order to explore the various ways in which African Americans have understood and articulated the nature and meaning of African American religious experience and practice. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 490. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 590 and RELI 490.

RELI 591 - BASIC COPTIC 1**Short Title:** BASIC COPTIC 1**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: A first semester introduction to Coptic grammar and vocabulary. Select a Coptic text, read in its original language, and prepare a commentary or an exegesis on that text (5,000 words). Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 307. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 591 and RELI 307.

RELI 592 - BASIC COPTIC 2**Short Title:** BASIC COPTIC 2**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Prerequisite(s):** RELI 307

Description: Second semester introduction to Coptic grammar and vocabulary, with selected readings from the Coptic New Testament, nag Hammadi, and monastic literature. Pre-requisite: Introduction to Coptic Language I RELI 592: Select a Coptic text, read in its original language, and prepare a commentary or an exegesis on that text (5,000 words). Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 308. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 592 and RELI 308.

RELI 593 - BASIC COPTIC 3**Short Title:** BASIC COPTIC 3**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 1-3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Varied readings in original language to include the New Testament, Nag Hammadi, and monastic literature. Pre-requisite: Coptic 1 and 2. RELI 593: Students will select a Coptic text, and in addition to reading it in its original language, prepare a commentary or an exegesis on that text (5,000 words). Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 309. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 593 and RELI 309. Repeatable for Credit.

RELI 595 - PENTECOSTALISM**Short Title:** PENTECOSTALISM**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Graduate stud and analysis of introduction to Pentecostalism in a global context focusing historical developments, expansion in Europe, North America, Africa, Latin America and Asia. Graduate students will read 4 additional texts one from East, Central, West, and Southern Africa. Graduate students will write weekly reflections on the reading to the braded satisfactory or unsatisfactory. They will do two presentations during the semester. Each student will write a research paper that will be at least 25 double spaced pages. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 595 and RELI 396.

RELI 596 - THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE**Short Title:** LEGAL FRMWK RELI TOLERANCE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: The American Constitution embodies a complex experiment in religious tolerance, including the promise of "free exercise of religion" and the prohibition of laws "respecting an establishment of religion". In this class we will primarily seek a critical understanding of our tolerance-rich legal invocations of religious freedom and address fundamental issues such as how can we distinguish "religious" actions and commitments from other morally important beliefs and activities. RELI 596: Write additional paper and more readings. Graduate/ Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 320. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 596 and RELI 320.

RELI 597 - CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICE**Short Title:** CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Activity Course**Credit Hour:** 1**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Literary and artistic creativity, religious experience, and textual interpretation often draw on focused states of consciousness made possible by contemplative practices. The practice will provide historical information about such practices and offer opportunities to participate in techniques ranging from meditation and observing breath to freeform writing and T'ai Chi. Graduate students would be expected to write a longer paper and/or to include a segment on contemplative practice in connection with whatever course they are taking. In either case this will involve readings and issues beyond what the undergraduates are responsible for, and which will be developed with each graduate student on an individual basis. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 399. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 597 and RELI 399. Repeatable for Credit.

RELI 600 - GEM RESEARCH FORUM**Short Title:** GEM RESEARCH FORUM**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory**Course Type:** Research**Credit Hour:** 1**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: The GEM Research Forum meets regularly throughout the academic year to share and engage the ongoing research of the GEM faculty and students. The annual capstone experience of the Forum features an invited speaker. Evaluation is based on student participation, research and presentations. Repeatable for Credit.

RELI 604 - FROM DECOLONIZATION TO GLOBALIZATION**Short Title:** FROM DECOLONI TO GLOBALIZATION**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Taught in English. Novels, and films, from North and West Africa, and the immigrant population in France, from 1960 to 2010. Emphasis on the tensions between narratives of political emancipation, modernity, secularism, and religious fundamentalism and mysticism. Extra reading for graduate students in theories of colonialism, postcolonialism, globalization. Recommended Prerequisite(s): Any 200 level course or above in English or French, or HUMA 101 or HUMA 102, or a FWIS course. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 604 and FREN 324/RELI 476.

RELI 606 - READING WRIGHT: THEISM AND ATHEISM IN THE WRITINGS OF RICHARD WRIGHT**Short Title:** READING RICHARD WRIGHT**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Richard Wright's fiction and nonfiction are important resources for understanding the nature of radicalized life in the United States. This course explores his writings for what they tell us about the role of religion in the development of identity and life meaning, and we will juxtapose the role of religion with Wright's commentary on the nature and significance of atheism for countering injustice. RELI 606 requires additional reflection papers, longer research paper and class presentations. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 369. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 606 and RELI 369.

RELI 607 - ARCHIVES OF THE IMPOSSIBLE**Short Title:** ARCHIVES OF THE IMPOSSIBLE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Research**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: After reading Prof. Kripal's *Authors of the Impossible* as a basic theoretical structure for the semester, this advanced archival research seminar will involve students engaging original historical documents contained in Rice University's archive on Paranormal Currents in American Culture toward the writing of a graduate or undergraduate thesis. Graduate students will be responsible for a much more extensive engagement with Whitley Strieber's corpus. They will be required to read examples of Strieber's nonfiction (particularly *COMMUNION* and *THE AFTERLIFE REVOLUTION*) and fiction, including *WOLFEN*, *THE GRAYS*, and *THE HYBRIDS*. Each of these books bears directly or indirectly on the content of the Anne and Whitley Strieber Collection. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 407. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 607 and RELI 407.

RELI 608 - PILGRIMAGE AND CRUSADE**Short Title:** PILGRIMAGE AND CRUSADE**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Lecture**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Focus on the pilgrimage to Jerusalem and Mecca by Jews, Christians, and Muslims within the context of the crusade period. Also covers the historical religious events of the crusades (approximately 1000-1300) from both a Muslim and a Christian perspective. RELI 608 requires additional readings, lengthy paper, and oral presentations. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 384. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 608 and RELI 384.

RELI 611 - READINGS IN MEDIEVAL LATIN**Short Title:** READINGS IN MEDIEVAL LATIN**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Guided readings in Latin from a range of medieval genres, including medicine, theology, visionary literature. Repeatable for Credit.

RELI 612 - THE PSALMS AND THEIR POETIC AFTERLIFE**Short Title:** PSALMS AND POETRY**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: A seminar on the biblical Psalms. This course will situate the Psalms in their ancient Near Eastern context, explore their original liturgical function in ancient Israel, and trace their afterlife in postbiblical poetry. All texts will be studied in translation. Counts for the Minor in Jewish Studies. RELI 612: Additional readings and longer paper. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 388. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 612 and RELI 388.

RELI 614 - THE RICE/LEIPZIG SEMINAR ON EARLY JUDAISM AND CHRISTIAN ORIGINS**Short Title:** THE RICE/LEIPZIG SEMINAR**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Graduate seminar on Early Judaism and Christian Origins taught jointly by Dr. Matthias Henze (Rice) and Dr. Jens Herzer (University of Leipzig, Germany). Participation is by invitation only. Instructor Permission Required.

RELI 615 - SECRET RELIGION**Short Title:** SECRET RELIGION**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Examines religious currents that operate in the margins of traditional religion: the gnostic, esoteric and mystical. Covers how these categories were theorized. Explores how they continue to identify contemporary religious currents that are considered transgressive and are rejected by conventional religious authorities. Class is grounded in antiquity and historical method. RELI 615: Write 7,500-10,000 word research paper. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 415. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 615 and RELI 415.

RELI 616 - NEW TESTAMENT / CHRISTIAN ORIGINS**Short Title:** NEW TESTAMENT/CHRISTIAN ORIGINS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: How did Christianity emerge as a new religious movement in the Roman Empire? Covers the history and literature of the first generations of Christians, focusing on Post-Temple developments, issues of authority and leadership, rise of regional forms of Christianity, and formation of distinct Christian identities. Graduate requirements: additional writings and presentations. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 416. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 616 and RELI 416.

RELI 619 - MYSTERY RELIGIONS**Short Title:** MYSTERY RELIGIONS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Covers literature, practices, and archaeology of esoteric cults within the context of religion in Roman Empire (Demeter, the Great Gods, Cybele, Persephone, Dionysus, Isis, Mithras, Hermes, Qumran, Christianity, Gnostic groups). Case studies vary depending on students' research goals, including comparison with Renaissance and modern esoteric initiatory groups. 7500-word research paper; UG equivalent 5000-word research paper.

RELI 644 - VISIONS AND VISIONARY PRACTICES: MEDIEVAL TO MODERN**Short Title:** VISIONS & VISIONARY PRACTICES**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar**Credit Hours:** 3**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: This course examines accounts of visions, comparing medieval and modern visionary techniques and processes and relating visionary writings to cultural and personal contexts. Includes some Christian theology along with other theoretical frameworks, but emphasis on praxis. Graduate work includes 10 additional readings (~200 pp), double the pages to be written, 30 more minutes presentation time. Graduate/Undergraduate Equivalency: RELI 444. Mutually Exclusive: Credit cannot be earned for RELI 644 and RELI 444.

RELI 677 - SPECIAL TOPICS**Short Title:** SPECIAL TOPICS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Standard Letter**Course Type:** Seminar, Lecture, Laboratory, Internship/Practicum**Credit Hours:** 1-4**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate or Visiting Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Topics and credit hours vary each semester. Contact department for current semester's topic(s). Repeatable for Credit.

RELI 700 - RESEARCH FOR COMPREHENSIVE EXAMS**Short Title:** RESEARCH FOR COMP EXAMS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory**Course Type:** Research**Credit Hours:** 1-12**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Repeatable for Credit.**RELI 800 - RESEARCH FOR DISSERTATION****Short Title:** RESEARCH FOR DISSERTATION**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory**Course Type:** Research**Credit Hours:** 9**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate**Description:** Repeatable for Credit.**RELI 801 - RESEARCH FOR M.A. THESIS****Short Title:** RESEARCH FOR MA THESIS**Department:** Religion**Grade Mode:** Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory**Course Type:** Research**Credit Hours:** 3-9**Restrictions:** Enrollment is limited to Graduate level students.**Course Level:** Graduate

Description: Students work independently researching and writing their thesis.

Description and Code Legend

Note: Internally, the university uses the following descriptions, codes, and abbreviations for this academic program. The following is a quick reference:

Course Catalog/Schedule

- Course offerings/subject code: RELI

Department Description and Code

- Religion: RELI

Undergraduate Degree Description and Code

- Bachelor of Arts degree: BA

Undergraduate Major Description and Code

- Major in Religion: RELI

Graduate Degree Descriptions and Codes

- Master of Arts degree: MA
- Doctor of Philosophy degree: PhD

Graduate Degree Program Description and Code

- Degree Program in Religion: RELI

Graduate Certificate Description and Code

- Certificate in Gnosticism, Esotericism and Mysticism: GEM

CIP Code and Description ¹

- **RELI** Major/Program: CIP Code/Title: 38.0201 - Religion/Religious Studies
- **GEM** Certificate: CIP Code/Title: 38.0299 - Religion/Religious Studies, Other

¹ Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) 2010 Codes and Descriptions from the National Center for Education Statistics: <https://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/>