

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Religious Studies

Minor in Religious Studies

Program Leader

Sara Jaye Hart

Religious Studies Department

Founders Hall 201

707-826-4126, fax 826-3205

www.humboldt.edu/religiousstudies

The Program

Students will demonstrate religious literacy, recognizing and understanding diverse cultural expressions as they appear in contexts of religious traditions, sacred texts, international and domestic politics, the arts, and their own interpersonal relationships.

Students will practice authentic self-reflection and decision-making as they determine for themselves matters concerning belief, practice, values, meaning, and purpose in their lives.

Students will master phenomenological approaches to the understanding of religious and cultural variation, enabling them to engage diversity directly, with both generosity and justice.

Through their work in classes, but also in extra-curricular activities, students will manifest sound professionalism in such matters as time management, attendance, fulfillment of responsibilities, the ability to follow directions, comportment, and courtesy.

The objectives of the religious studies major are best attained in the context of a liberal arts education. The curriculum lets students develop an awareness of the capacity for scholarship, and disciplined and objective thought on the subject of religion.

The program avoids dogmatism as well as unquestioning faith or belief, approaching this area of human inquiry with the same objectivity achieved elsewhere in the humanities: requiring fairness with regard to the evidence, respect for reasonable differences in points of view and the avoidance of any attempts to proselytize.

With differing world cultures coming into contact ever more frequently in every field of endeavor, a religious studies undergraduate degree proves highly relevant. It allows students to discover, examine and gain

insight into and sensitivity toward the socio-politico-religious similarities and differences in world cultures.

The religious studies major at Humboldt State University is unique in its exploratory nature. Courses cover a variety of subjects, offering the opportunity to understand the meaning of religion as it has been developed both culturally and personally.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR

For a description of degree requirements to be fulfilled in addition to those listed below for the major, please see "The Bachelor's Degree" section of the catalog, pp. 61-77.

Introduction

- RS 105 (3) World Religions
- RS 120 (3) Exploring Religion

Religion In Tradition

Five courses from the following:

- RS 301 (3) Religion in America
- RS 320 (3) Sacred Texts: Hebrew Bible
- RS 321 (3) Sacred Texts: New Testament
- RS 322 (4) Sacred Texts: Buddhist Texts
- RS 323 (4) Sacred Texts: Hindu Texts
- RS 330 (3) Introduction to Judaism
- RS 331 (3) Introduction to Christianity
- RS 332 (3) Introduction to Islam
- RS 340 (3) Zen, Dharma & Tao
- RS 341 (3) Spiritual Traditions of India
- RS 342 (3) Buddhism in India & Tibet
- RS 345 (3) T'ai Chi Ch'üan (Taijiquan)
- RS 351 (3) Shamanism and Prophecy
- RS 391 (3) Religion in Tradition: Special Topics
- RS 392 (3) Sacred Literature: Special Topics

Religion In Myth, Culture & Experience

Take nine units from the courses listed below, including at least one experiential workshop. No more than three units from experiential workshops.

- RS 300 (3) Living Myths
- RS 361 (3) Consumerism & (Eco)Spirituality
- RS 362 (3) Wisdom & Craft
- RS 364 (3) Cinema & the Sacred
- RS 393 (3) Religion in Myth, Culture & Experience: Special Topics

- RS 394 (1-3) Religious Studies Workshop
- RS 394 (1-3) Sufi Mysticism Weekend
- RS 394 (1-3) Jewish Spirituality Weekend
- RS 394 (1-3) Eastern Orthodox Christianity Weekend
- RS 394 (1-3) City of 10,000 Buddhas Weekend
- RS 394 (1-3) Evangelical Christianity Experiential Weekend
- RS 394 (1-3) Tibetan Buddhism Weekend
- RS 394 (1-3) Finding Meaning on an Endangered Planet
- RS 394 (1-3) Zen Experiential Weekend
- RS 394 (1-3) Wiyot
- NAS 302 (3) Oral Literature & Oral Tradition

Senior Seminar

- RS 395 (3) Senior Seminar

27 units must be completed in the major prior to enrollment in Senior Seminar.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MINOR

18 units, drawn from courses for the major.

Introduction

- RS 105 (3) World Religions
- RS 120 (3) Exploring Religion

Religion In Tradition

Three courses from Religion in Tradition courses, listed under the major requirements.

Religion In Myth, Culture & Experience

Three units from Religion in Myth, Culture & Experience courses, listed under the major requirements.

