

Minor in Religious Studies

The undergraduate minor in the Department of Religious Studies is a research, analysis, and writing intensive program that features close work with faculty in small classroom settings. It seeks to develop a foundational knowledge of the world's diversity of religious cultures and critical awareness of the ways in which religion shapes how we see and act toward ourselves, others, and the environment around us. Through the study of specific religious traditions and settings, students come away with a background that is invaluable to understanding and working with people of other cultures, whether in international business or simply as an informed global citizen.

Career Opportunities

Religious studies majors and minors develop expertise and skills that serve them well wherever life takes them. Our graduates have been successful in many different areas. Studying religion provides a solid foundation for work in fields as diverse as journalism, law, politics, nongovernmental organizations, ministry, and education. No matter what their intended careers, students benefit from the critical reading, writing, and analytical skills that the academic study of religion instills.

Religious Studies Minor

The Religious Studies minor consists of a required course, distribution requirements, and electives. The required introductory course focuses on theoretical and methodological issues in the study of religion. Distribution requirements encourage students to approach the study of religion from a variety of angles, from a focus on individual religions to the interaction between religions in specific regions to the exploration of comparative issues and themes. Electives allow students to tailor their course of study to their specific interests and pursue a depth of knowledge in particular aspects of the study of religion.

Religious Studies Minor Course Requirements

Students selecting this minor must complete a course in each of the following areas:

Code	Title	Hours
Introduction to Religious Studies		
Satisfied by one of the following:		3
REL 104	Introduction to Religious Studies	
Specific Religious Traditions		
Satisfied by 1 course (3 hours) chosen from the following:		3
REL 107	Jews, Christians, Muslims	
REL 124	Understanding the Bible	
REL 125	Understanding the Bible, Honors	
REL 325	Introduction to Judaism	
REL 326	The Talmud: Its Origins, Nature, and Evolution	
REL 330	Native American Religions	
REL 345	Christianity	
REL 350	Islam	
REL 360	The Buddhist Tradition in Asia	
REL 525	Jews and Christians	

REL 724	Magic and Myth in Ancient Egypt
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Religion in Specific Regions

Satisfied by 1 course (3 hours) chosen from the following:	3
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REL 106	Asian Religions
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REL 171	Religion in American Society
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REL 307	Religion in India
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REL 309	Religion in Japan
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REL 310	Religion in Korea
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REL 339	History of Religion in America
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REL 509	Religion in Japan
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Thematic Approaches to Religion

Satisfied by 1 course (3 hours) chosen from the following:	3
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REL 100	Introduction to Religious Ethics
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REL 102	Violence and Religious Ethics
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REL 137	Religious Ethics and Moral Decisions
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REL 138	Religion and Moral Decisions, Honors
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REL 327	Religious Zionisms
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REL 341	Mysticism
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REL 357	Women and Gender in Islam
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REL 362	Studies in Yoga & Meditation
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REL 370	Judaism and Sexuality
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REL 372	Religion and the Environment in the United States
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REL 374	Religious Perspectives on Selfhood and Sexuality
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REL 379	Prophets and Profits
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REL 381	Religions, Epidemics, & Pandemics
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REL 477	Gender and Religion
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REL 572	Judaism and Political Theology
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Religious Studies Minor Required Elective

Satisfied by completing 6 additional hours in REL courses at the 300 level or above.	6
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Total Hours	18
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Religious Studies Minor Hours & Minor GPA

While completing all required courses (above), minors must also meet each of the following hour and grade-point average minimum standards:

Minor Hours

Satisfied by 18 hours of major courses.

Minor Hours in Residence

Satisfied by a minimum of 9 junior/senior (300+) hours of KU resident credit in the minor.

Minor Junior/Senior (300+) Hours

Satisfied by a minimum of 12 hours from junior/senior courses (300+) in the minor.

Minor Graduation GPA

Satisfied by a minimum of a 2.0 KU GPA in all departmental courses in the minor. GPA calculations include courses in the field of study including F's and repeated courses. See the Semester/Cumulative GPA Calculator (<https://sis.ku.edu/gpa-calculator/>).