RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Major:

• Bachelor of Arts, Religious Studies (p. 1)

Minors:

• Religious Studies (p. 2)
• Religious Studies- Catechesis (p. 2)

The Department of Religious Studies sees itself as a community of scholars serving the University community and the local community by teaching, research, criticism, and action. The main concern of the department is an understanding and elucidation of the Judaeo-Christian religious experience as it is exemplified in the Roman Catholic tradition. This implies not only a deep investigation of the Roman Catholic position but also a dialogue with other Christian traditions and with other world religious.

Students majoring in religious studies ordinarily follow one of five tracks in the major:

• Students preparing for ministry in a Christian church (e.g., pastoral associates, youth ministry, parish religious educators) follow the "Ministry" track.
• Students preparing to teach religion in elementary or secondary schools follow the "Catholic Schools" track.
• Students preparing for graduate study in Christian theology, systematics, church history, ethics, etc., follow the "Graduate School Preparation" track.
• Students preparing for graduate study of religions other than Christianity and/or interested in world religions follow the "World Religions" track.
• Students wishing to study religion as a way of broadening their horizons or who are interested in religious studies as an undergraduate major follow the "General" track.

All religious studies majors must show basic practical communicative proficiency in one foreign language.

A minor in religious studies consists of 18 semester hours, which includes REL 103 or REL 198 or ASI 110. At least three semester hours are to be at the 400-level.

A minor in Catechesis consists of 19 semester hours, not including REL 103 or REL 198 or ASI 110.

Faculty
Daniel Speed Thompson, Chairperson
Professors Emeriti: Anderson, Barnes, Buby, Burns, Friedland, Hater, L'Heureux, Martin, Roberts, Thimmes
Professors: Bennett, Branick, Doyle, Groppe, Inglis (Philosophy), Kallenberg, Orji, Miller, Portier, Trollinger (History), Zukowski
Associate Professors: Bunta, DeAnda, Johnson, Johnston, Kozar, Moore, Salih, Smith, Thompson, Yocum
Assistant Professors: Atlas, Henning
Lecturer: Ryan

Bachelor of Arts, Religious Studies (REL) minimum 124 hours

Common Academic Program (CAP) 1

First-Year Humanities Commons 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HST 103</td>
<td>The West &amp; the World</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>REL 103</td>
<td>Introduction to Religious and Theological Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHL 103</td>
<td>Introduction to Philosophy</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENG 100</td>
<td>Writing Seminar I</td>
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<td>Second-Year Writing Seminar</td>
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<td>Oral Communication</td>
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CMM 100 Principles of Oral Communication

| Mathematics | 3 cr. hrs. |
| Social Science | 3 cr. hrs. |

| SSC 200 Social Science Integrated | 3 cr. hrs. |

Arts

| 3 cr. hrs. |

Natural Sciences 5

| 7 cr. hrs. |

Crossing Boundaries

| up to 12 cr. hrs. |

Faith Traditions

Practical Ethical Action

Inquiry

Integrative

Advanced Study

| Philosophy and/or Religious Studies | 6 cr. hrs. |
| Historical Studies | 3 cr. hrs. |

Diversity and Social Justice 7

| 3 cr. hrs. |

Major Capstone 8

| 0-6 cr. hrs. |

1 The credit hours listed reflect what is needed to complete each CAP component. However, they should not be viewed as a cumulative addition to a student's degree requirements because many CAP courses are designed to satisfy more than one CAP component (e.g., Crossing Boundaries and Advanced Studies) and may also satisfy requirements in the student's major.
May be completed with ASI 110 and ASI 120 through the Core Program.
2 May be completed with ENG 100A and ENG 100B, by placement.
3 May be completed with ENG 114 or ENG 198 or ASI 120.

4 Must include two different disciplines and at least one accompanying lab.
5 U.S. History AP credit will not satisfy this requirement.

6 May not double count with First-Year Humanities Commons, Second-Year Writing, Oral Communication, Social Science, Arts, or Natural Sciences CAP components, but may double count with courses taken to satisfy other CAP components and/or courses taken in the student’s major.

7 The course or experience is designed by faculty in each major; it may, or may not, be assigned credit hours.

Liberal Studies Curriculum

Creative and Performing Arts (May include CAP Arts) 3
L2 Proficiency (Proficiency in a language other than English) 0-11
Literature (May include CAP Components) 3
Mathematics, excluding MTH 205 (Satisfies CAP Mathematics) 3
Natural Sciences (Satisfies CAP Natural Science) 11
Social Sciences (Includes CAP Social Science) 12

Major Requirements 1, 2, 3 36

REL 103 Introduction to Religious and Theological Studies 3-7
or ASI 110 The Roots and Development of Western Culture in a Global Context
REL 490 Capstone Seminar (Satisfies CAP Major Capstone) 3

Select one track from:

Ministry 30
REL 315 The Gospels
REL 323 History of Early Christianity
or REL 324 History of Christianity II: Medieval
REL 360 Christian Ethics
REL 437 Significance of Jesus
REL 440 The Church
REL 443 The Sacraments
REL 485 Lay Ecclesial Ministry: Vision and Practice

Select one course in each: Old Testament, world religions, religion and culture

Catholic Schools 30
REL 323 History of Early Christianity
or REL 324 History of Christianity II: Medieval
REL 327 United States Religious Experience
or REL 328 United States Catholic Experience
or REL 329 African-American Religion
REL 360 Christian Ethics
REL 383 Philosophy of Religious Education
or REL 487 Religious Education - Theory & Practice

Select one course in each: Old Testament, New Testament, world religions, religion and culture; two courses in systematic theology

Graduate School Preparation 30
REL 323 History of Early Christianity
REL 324 History of Christianity II: Medieval

REL 437 Significance of Jesus
REL 440 The Church
or REL 443 The Sacraments
Select one course in each: Old Testament, New Testament, ethics, world religions, religion and culture, systematic theology

World Religions 30
REL 323 History of Early Christianity
or REL 324 History of Christianity II: Medieval
Select three courses from:
REL 304 Hinduism
REL 305 Eastern Orthodoxy
REL 306 Buddhism
REL 307 Judaism
REL 308 Islam

Select one course in each: Old Testament, New Testament, ethics, systematic theology, religion and culture
REL elective

General 30
Select one course in each: Old Testament, New Testament, world religions, church history, systematic theology, ethics, religion and culture
REL elective

Breadth
ASI 150 Introduction to the University Experience 1
Total Hours to total at least 124

1 Includes CAP Components.
2 Six semester hours in addition to REL 490 must be at the 400-level.
3 REL courses are not applicable to CAP Advanced Studies.

Minor in Religious Studies (REL)

Religious Studies
Select eighteen REL semester hours 1
Total Hours 18

1 At least three semester hours at the 400 level.

Minor in Religious Studies-Catechesis (CTE)

The Minor in Religious Studies - Catechesis (CTE) offers students an excellent opportunity to prepare to teach religion (catechesis) in Catholic schools, or parish ministry today. The minor is grounded in the official principles of catechesis required by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The minor incorporates the basic courses required by most dioceses across the country for achieving diocesan certification in content, methodology, and praxis experiences. It is open to all students who desire to engage in a religion teaching ministry either on a full-time professional or a volunteer basis following graduation.

Religious Studies - Catechesis
REL 328 United States Catholic Experience 2 3
Forum for Young Catechetical Leaders
REL 281 Forum for Catechetical Leaders I
REL 282 Forum for Catechetical Leaders II
REL 283 Forum for Catechetical Leaders III
REL 284 Forum for Catechetical Leaders IV

Select one Liturgy course from:
- REL 356 The Christian Tradition of Prayer
- REL 383 Philosophy of Religious Education
- REL 443 The Sacraments
- REL 446 Christian Liturgy
- REL 488 Spirituality & Religious Education

Select one Scripture course from:
- REL 310 The Pentateuch
- REL 311 The Prophets
- REL 315 The Gospels
- REL 318 Studies in Paul

Select one Morality or Ethics course from:
- REL 360 Christian Ethics
- REL 363 Faith & Justice
- REL 364 Current Moral Issues

Select one Ecclesiology or Church History course from:
- REL 323 History of Early Christianity
- REL 324 History of Christianity II: Medieval
- REL 440 The Church

Total Hours 19

1. These hours are in addition to REL 103 (or REL 198 or ASI 110), which is usually taken in the student's first year.

2. Or equivalent.

### Courses

**REL 103. Introduction to Religious and Theological Studies. 3 Hours**
This course introduces students to two academic disciplines: the study of religions as historical and embodied realities, and theology as faith seeking understanding. By learning about these two disciplines, students will gain a critical self-awareness of the ways in which the modern context shapes their engagement with religion. The course emphasizes learning how to read Scripture and other primary religious sources, and to learning how the Catholic intellectual tradition addresses the question of God, the meaning of human life, and the significance of human diversity.

**REL 198. Religious Studies Scholars' Seminar. 3 Hours**
Study and seminar discussion of major types of religions in history and some of their practices, values, beliefs, historical development, and theological reflection, including Catholic tradition; review of major theories on the nature, origin, and function of religion in human life. Open by permission only to first-year students in the Berry Scholars Program.

**REL 207. Faith Traditions: Judaism. 3 Hours**
Introduction to Judaism: religious thought, practice, mysticism, and history, from Biblical times to the present day. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent; CMM 100.

**REL 208. Faith Traditions: Islamic Religious Traditions. 3 Hours**
Historical and topical survey of the origins and development of Islam. Prerequisite(s): ASI 110 or REL 103 or equivalent.

**REL 210. Introduction to Scripture. 1 Hour**
An introductory overview of Christian scripture that is foundational for Old and New Testament online courses.

**REL 211. Introduction to the Old Testament. 1 Hour**
Study of contemporary Old Testament studies to learn how to read a biblical text in terms of its literary qualities and cultural influences on interpretations.
REL 212. Introduction to the New Testament. 1 Hour
Introduction to the New Testament with a focus on the text's cultural contexts, literary composition, theological themes, and pastoral applications.

REL 213. The New Testament and Related Ancient Literature. 3 Hours
Introduction to historical and literary study of the New Testament with emphasis on the Gospels, the Pauline letters, and the Book of Revelation with attention given also when pertinent to early Christian Apocrypha and Jewish intertestamental literature. An analysis of early Christian faith commitments in their diversity from each other and in their diversity from those of major Christian churches today. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 214. Magic, Medicine, or Miracles: Disability in the Ancient World, the Bible, and Today. 3 Hours
Exploration of ancient attitudes towards sickness and healing including the practices observed in Greek and Roman medical authors, ancient inscriptions, the Bible, and other ancient Jewish and Early Christian texts. Study of these ancient perspectives in relation to contemporary attitudes toward disability. Prerequisite(s): (ASI 110 or ASI 120 or equivalent) or (REL 103 or REL 198).

REL 227. Faith Traditions: Beliefs in Dialogue. 3 Hours
Exploration of selected beliefs of diverse religious systems and the ways such beliefs impact social justice. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent; CMM 100.

REL 228. Faith Traditions: Historical Encounters. 3 Hours
Comparative historical exploration of changes and continuities in distinct faith traditions including the impact on social justice. Prerequisite(s): (REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent); CMM 100.

REL 244. Faith Traditions: Celebrating and Living the Eucharist. 3 Hours
Exploration of the history, theology, ritual, and spirituality of the Eucharist (the Mass), in dialogue with other Christian traditions, and with attention to its impact on daily Christian living. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent; CMM 100.

REL 256. Faith Traditions: Prayer. 3 Hours
Exploration of the rationale for and practice of prayer in diverse faith traditions, with an emphasis on the connection between prayer and social justice. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent; CMM 100.

REL 260A. Catholic Social Teaching I. 1 Hour
The first of two courses that provide background on Catholic social teaching as articulated in the Catechism of the Catholic Church and Episcopal documents.

REL 260B. Catholic Social Teaching II. 1 Hour
The second of two courses that provide background on Catholic social teaching as articulated in the Catechism of the Catholic Church and Episcopal documents. Prerequisite(s): REL 260A.

REL 261. Faith Traditions: Human Rights. 3 Hours
Exploration of diverse faith traditions in dialogue on theory of and activism for human rights. Compares and contrasts elements of the international human rights movement with major sources from other philosophical and religious traditions, with attention to historical development and to spiritual practices for enduring, challenging, and rebuilding after suffering and injustice. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent; CMM 100.

REL 266. Faith Traditions: Moral Reasoning. 3 Hours
Exploration of diverse moral perspectives regarding social justice within religious traditions, emphasizing the cultivation of skills for dialogue about those differences. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent; CMM 100.

REL 267. Holocaust. 3 Hours
Study of the holocaust and its effects upon contemporary religion, art, theology, and philosophy. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 270. Popular Culture, American Religions. 3 Hours
Exploration of major themes, issues and practices of modern American popular culture as historical context for religious peoples, communities and expressions in America. Examines the role of popular culture in the production, circulation and reception of religious identities in American cultural history. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 277. Faith Traditions: Women and Gender. 3 Hours
Examination of gender and women in at least two major faith traditions. Survey of both traditional and contemporary thought, practice, and attitudes toward women and gender. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent; CMM 100.

REL 281. Forum for Catechetical Leaders I. 1 Hour
Study of key themes of The National Directory for Catechesis regarding 'The Tasks of Catechesis and Faith Formation'. Themes include (a) Introduction to the Catechetical Ministry of the Church, (b) The Vocation of the Catechist, (c) Faith Formation, and (d) Fundamentals for Designing Catechetical Plans. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 282. Forum for Catechetical Leaders II. 1 Hour
Study of key themes of The National Directory for Catechesis regarding 'The Art of Communicating Faith: Scripture and Tradition'. Themes include (a) Effective Catechesis, (b) Four Pillars of Our Catholic Faith, (c) Integrating Scripture in Catechetical Ministry, and (d) Integrating Liturgy and Liturgical Experiences in Catechetical Ministry. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 283. Forum for Catechetical Leaders III. 1 Hour
Study of key themes of The National Directory for Catechesis regarding: 'Liturgy, Popular Devotions, Literature and the Religious Imagination. Themes include (a) Storytelling, (b) Popular Devotions and Faith Experiences, (c) Role of Mary in Catechesis, and (d) Diverse Religious Traditions and the Quest for God. Prerequisite(s):REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 284. Forum for Catechetical Leaders IV. 1 Hour
Study of key themes of The National Directory for Catechesis regarding: 'Discipleship (Catholic Moral Life), Catholic Social Teachings and Catechetical Planning'. Themes include (a) Developing a Pastoral Catechetical Plan, (b) Call and Challenge of Discipleship, (c) Catholic Social Teachings, and (d) Communications Technology and Catechesis. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 300. Rel of the East. 3 Hours
Course description is currently unavailable.

REL 304. Hinduism. 3 Hours
Study of the world’s oldest living religion. Examines the historical development of major Hindu teachings, texts, practices and paths from ancient times to present, including forms of Hinduism taking root in the West today. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 305. Eastern Orthodoxy. 3 Hours
Exploration of the history and theology of the Eastern Orthodox Church, from the Apostles to Byzantium to Russia and the United States. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.
REL 306. Buddhism. 3 Hours
Exploration of the 2,500-year-old Buddhist tradition - the life of its founder, development of its teachings, rituals, and meditation techniques. Survey of the spread of Buddhism to the West in the twentieth century. Parallels and contrasts with the Christian tradition. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 307. Judaism. 3 Hours
Basic introduction to Judaism: its history, its faith, its worship. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 308. Islam. 3 Hours
Exploration of the Islamic religious traditions: the life of Islam's founder, the development of its teaching and ritual, its spread from North Africa into Europe, Asia, Oceania, its influence on culture and its contemporary resurgence. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 309. Afro-Latin Religions. 3 Hours
The study of Voudou, Santeria and other religions which arose when the religious traditions of West Africa were transplanted to the Americas and the Caribbean where practitioners encountered Christianity. These religious' historical and contemporary forms as well as issues of syncretism and church-state relations are considered. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 310. The Pentateuch. 3 Hours
Examination of the first five books of the Hebrew Bible, focusing on the historical and literary traditions that relate primeval beginnings, ancestral history, the exodus, wilderness wanderings, and the legal codes. A reconstruction of the history of the text. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent and any Crossing Boundaries-Faith Traditions course.

REL 311. The Prophets. 3 Hours
Study of the prophetic texts of the Old Testament as reformulations of ancient religious traditions to meet new historical situations and study of the relevance of the prophets to contemporary life. Requires REL 103 and any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course as prerequisites. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 312. The Psalms & the Wisdom Literature. 3 Hours
Critical examination of the biblical books of Psalms, Proverbs, Job, Ecclesiastes, and Ben Sira and of related literature within the historical context in which they arose. The contemporary relevance of this literature. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 315. The Gospels. 3 Hours
Introduction to the cultural heritage of the early Christian movement and its place in both the Jewish and Greco-Roman world. Traditional historical-critical study of the texts of gospels in the Christian tradition that will serve as a background for contemporary narrative and scholarly approaches. Prerequisite: any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 316. New Testament Theologies. 3 Hours
Survey of New Testament writings with a focus on the religious ideas specific to each; special attention to authors' christology, eschatology, and soteriology; exploration of relevance of the New Testament message to Christian faith today. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 318. Studies in Paul. 3 Hours
Detailed examination of the letters of Paul, stressing the historical circumstances affecting their composition as well as the main religious ideas of Paul that govern their content. Requires REL 103 and any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course as prerequisites. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 319. The Book of Revelation. 3 Hours
Detailed critical analysis of various biblical apocalyptic texts as found in Judaism and early Christianity. Focus on the Book of Revelation against the background of other biblical and intertestamental apocalyptic texts. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 320. History of Early Christianity. 3 Hours
Examination of different movements within the history of Christianity from the first century C.E. to the fourth century C.E., comparing the continuities and discontinuities between the people who have called themselves Christian in different times and places. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent, and any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course.

REL 322. Latino/Latina Religious Experiences. 3 Hours
Study of the historical variables involved in Christianity's rise from an obscure first century religious movement to a respected world religion. Examination of different movements within the History of Christianity from the first century C.E. to the fourth century C.E., comparing the continuities and discontinuities between the people who have called themselves Christian in different times and places. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent, and any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course.

REL 323. History of Christianity II. 3 Hours
Study of important events, movements, ideas, and people in the development of Christianity from 1100 to the present, including the separation of the Churches of the East and West, rise of the mendicant orders, Scholasticism, key themes and figures of the Reformation, Vatican I, Modernist crisis, ecumenism, and Vatican II. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 324. History of Christianity III. 3 Hours
Study of the variety of religious traditions in their engagement with and influence within the U.S. social and cultural context including the effects of pluralism, religious liberty, secularization, and consumer capitalism. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 325. United States Catholic Experience. 3 Hours
Survey of the growth and development of Catholic Christianity in the U.S.; its interaction with America, its culture, and its people. Prerequisite: Any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 329. African-American Religion. 3 Hours
Study of the role religious beliefs, institutions, leaders and commitments have played in the lives of people of African descent in the United States of America from the 16th century to the present. Pre-requisite: any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 330. Faith of Immigrants. 3 Hours
This course will examine the faith traditions of all those people who came to the United States, either voluntarily or involuntarily, and the changes that they made upon those who were there before them, the changes in their own faith, and the effect upon other faith traditions. Prerequisites: REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.
REL 344. Christian Marriage. 3 Hours
Analysis of the sanctifying dignity of Christian marriage as a sacrament and commitment to share in the divine creative plan. Prerequisite(s): (ASI 110, 120 or equivalent) or (REL 103 or REL 198).

REL 352. Understanding Sacred Music & Worship in the Local Church. 3 Hours
Study of the important relationship between music and worship in the life of the individual and in the life of the corporate Christian church with an emphasis on developments in recent decades. Studies the distinction and interconnectedness of the local church (congregation) and the Institutional Church. An historical overview of music and worship with Biblical foundations is provided. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 356. The Christian Tradition of Prayer. 3 Hours
Study of several types and forms of Christian prayer from various periods in Church history. The meaning of the act of faith expressed in prayer and its relationship to belief. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 357. Peacebuilding. 3 Hours
Exploration of theories and practice of peacebuilding, including cultivation of skills in addressing violence on multiple levels. Prerequisite: any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 358. Liberation Theologies. 3 Hours
Study of the theology of liberation and its specific expression among theologians of the Third World, particularly Latin America. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent; any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course. Jr. standing or higher.

REL 359. The Road to Hell: The Apocalypse in Classical and Contemporary Forms. 3 Hours
Study of depictions of the apocalypse in classical and contemporary literature, film and speech with special attention to the rhetorical dimensions of those messages.

REL 360. Christian Ethics. 3 Hours
Introduction to the reflection upon Christian morality; discussion of various approaches in Christian ethics, the elements of ethical judgments, and some specific ethical issues. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 361. Christian Ethics and Meaningful Marketing. 3 Hours
Interdisciplinary survey of basic marketing principles alongside Catholic social teaching and major ideas in Christian ethics. Students reflect on historical and contemporary questions about marketing and Christian ethics, and analyze marketing strategies with respect to diversity (i.e., gender, class, race,) and social justice. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent; sophomore level.

REL 362. Christian Family Values & Television. 3 Hours
Comparative study of the criteria and rationale for family life in various Christian pronouncements with present values and practices in society as reflected in and promoted by current television programming. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 363. Faith & Justice. 3 Hours
Exploration of the theory and practices of Catholic social tradition in the contemporary context, with particular attention to questions of economic justice. Pre-requisite: any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 364. Current Moral Issues. 3 Hours
An examination of one or more issues (individual and/or social) in contemporary reflection on Christian moral life. May be repeated when topic changes. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 365. Christian Ethics & the Environment. 3 Hours
Christian ethic of relationality and responsibility. Explores various approaches and related values found in society; elements of ethical judgments; and specific ethical issues resulting from ecofeminist, technological, and ecological awareness. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 366. The Holocaust: Theological & Religious Responses. 3 Hours
Examination of the religious and theological literature of the Holocaust, focusing especially on Jewish and Christian responses. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 367. Christian Ethics & Health Care Issues. 3 Hours
Study in Christian ethics related to contemporary practices of health care. Community engaged learning is a required component of the course. Prerequisite(s): ASI 110 or REL 103 or equivalent; Junior standing or higher; Any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course.

REL 368. Christian Ethics & the Business World. 3 Hours
Study in Christian ethics related to contemporary practices of business. Course prerequisites: (ASI 110 or REL 103 or equivalent); any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions Course. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 369. Christian Ethics and Engineering. 3 Hours
Study in theological virtue ethics using engineering design as the paradigm for practical reasoning in both technology and everyday life. Intended for junior- or senior-level standing engineering students. Is in keeping with ABET standards which require ethics instruction for students enrolled in accredited engineering programs. Practice in formulating proper ethical arguments using standard notions of (claim, reasons, warrants and backing) culminating in the construction of proper ethical argument over some contemporary engineering artifact, process or issue. Prerequisite: any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent; junior standing.

REL 372. Religion & Film. 3 Hours
Study of the meaning-making process of film production, with a focus on religious, spiritual and ethical values woven into the story line. Prerequisites: REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent; any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent; any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course.

REL 373. Religion & Literature. 3 Hours
Joint study of literature and religion, seeking the sacred in the secular, discussing the doctrines of humans and of God in major modern writings, especially those of current collegiate interest. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 374. Visual and Material Cultures of Religion. 3 Hours
Study of the multiple intersections between religions and visual and material cultures including art, architecture, material expressions and visual practices. Prerequisite: Any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.
REL 375. Religion & Science. 3 Hours  
Survey of the ways science has affected religion on specific doctrines, methods of knowing what is true, and general world views; study of religious response to these. Pre-requisite: any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 376. Theology & the Social Sciences. 3 Hours  
Exploration of developments in Christian theology that have paralleled or responded to the rise of the human sciences, including history, anthropology, sociology, and psychology, concerning such topics as the origin and nature of religion, belief in God, religious community, and modern secularity. Pre-requisite: any Crossing Boundaries Faith Traditions course. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 377. The Inner Journey in Myth, Bible & Literature. 3 Hours  
Study of stories of heroic figures in the Bible and in other literature as patterns of personal and spiritual development. Throughout, efforts to relate the material to the needs of contemporary persons. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 378. Religion, Society and Global Cinema. 3 Hours  
Interdisciplinary survey of the post-World War II film movement of Italian neorealism and its influence in global cinema. Major films, directors and critical debates involving neorealism will be examined. Topics include cinema and society, religion and movies, and culture and Catholicism. (REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent) and any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110.

REL 379. Sustaining Art and Faith. 3 Hours  
Exploration of the interrelated nature of faith traditions and the art connected to those traditions in terms of how they inform and sustain each other. Pre-requisite: a Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110.

REL 380. The Masters of Suspicion: Marx, Nietzsche, and Freud on Religion. 3 Hours  
Analysis of Marx, Nietzsche, and Freud's critical systems, and study of the religious, theological, and philosophical responses to them. Special focus will be paid to the effect these systems continue to have on public discourse. Prerequisite: Any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 and PHL 103; or ASI 110 and ASI 120; or equivalent.

REL 383. Philosophy of Religious Education. 3 Hours  
An attempt to construct a philosophy of religious education, various contemporary theoretical models, dimensions of teaching religion in a pluralistic society, the polarization generated. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 399. Readings in Religious Studies. 1-3 Hours  
Directed readings in a specific area of interest under the supervision of a staff member. May be taken more than once. By permission only. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 405. Ecclesiastical Latin. 3 Hours  
Development of a basic reading knowledge of Latin as manifested in the documents of western Christianity (ca. 300 through the present). Students will learn fundamentals of Latin grammar and core vocabulary, and will read selected texts from the Vulgate and Church documents.

REL 408. Islam in the Modern World. 3 Hours  
Historical and topical survey of the development of Islamic thought in the last two centuries. Prerequisite: any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 425. Augustine. 3 Hours  
Examination of the life and work of Augustine of Hippo (354-430), a major theologian of Western Christianity, including Augustine's major works. The course also considers his influences on Protestant and Catholic traditions in several areas, including sexual ethics, church-state relations, and Trinitarian and sacramental theology. Pre-requisite: any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course, in addition to pre-requisites listed by course number. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 and HST 103 and PHL 103, or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 429. Modern Catholicism. 3 Hours  
An examination of Modern Catholicism based on a close study of the context, process, decisions, implementation, and challenges of Vatican II in the Roman Catholic Church. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 437. Significance of Jesus. 3 Hours  
Emphasis on the identity of Jesus and on the significance that his ministry, death, and resurrection have for the salvation of humankind. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 440. The Church. 3 Hours  
A Catholic and ecumenical study of the meaning of the Church which explores key documents of the Second Vatican Council, the meaning of vocation, and the mission of the Church in the world of today. Prerequisite(s): (REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent) and any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course.

REL 441. Theology of Mary. 3 Hours  
Using the sources of Scripture and Sacred Tradition, and with particular reference to the documents of the Second Vatican Council (1962-65), this course is dedicated to theological reflection on the person of Mary, the Mother of God, in the context of the other central truths of the Catholic faith. The course requires two prerequisites: Either (ASI 110, 120 or equivalent) or (REL 103 or REL 198), and any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 444. God & Atheism. 3 Hours  
Study of some recent contributions made by theology, philosophy, psychology, and the humanities to the current discussion of God's existence, nature, and relationship to humanity. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 445. The Sacraments. 3 Hours  
Study of the meaning of sacramentality. The sacraments in the context of Christ as the sacrament of the human encounter with God and in the context of the Church as the sacrament of Christ. Personal, ecclesial, and ethical dimensions of sacraments. Theological and Ritual Studies methodologies. Prerequisite: any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 444. God in Christian Tradition. 3 Hours  
Review of theologies of God in Christian tradition, from biblical through contemporary sources, especially as these theologies have affected overall Catholic thought and spirituality. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 446. Christian Liturgy. 3 Hours  
Study of the basic principles of liturgy, the development of some of the basic forms of liturgy, and applications of the principles within current rites. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 447. Selected Catholic Doctrines. 3-4 Hours  
Detailed study of several important current theological questions primarily from a Catholic systematic and historical perspective. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.
REL 449. Aquinas. 3 Hours
Theology of Aquinas including: Trinity, human nature, providence, grace, virtue, Christ, and sacraments. Some attention given to historical context and contemporary interpretation, but the main focus will be reading and understanding the Summa. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 457. Living as Marianist Student Communities. 3 Hours
Study of Marianist founders and charism through the disciplines of history and theology as well as interdisciplinary fields such as Marianist studies, peace and justice studies, and human rights studies; only for those living in a Marianist Student Community. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent; any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions Course; Permission only.

REL 471. Women & Religion. 3 Hours
Examination of the impact of the women's movement on Judaism, Christianity, and other major world religions. Survey of traditional religious attitudes toward women. Relevance of feminist approaches to scripture, ethics, spirituality, and ministry in understanding contemporary global issues. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 472. Ecology & Religion. 3 Hours
Examination of the relationship between religion and ecology; bridges the contributions of traditional theological inquiry and modern scientific insights and offers an enlarged vision of ecological concerns. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 474. Women & the Global Church. 3 Hours
An exploration of the intersection between faith communities, traditional and non-traditional, and particular cultures in the lives of contemporary women. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 475. Theology of Inculturation. 3 Hours
Interdisciplinary examination of the Christian understanding of the relationship between the local and universal Church, with an emphasis on the incarnation of Christian faith in local cultures; examination of inculturation in the context of the shift of worldwide Christianity to the Global South (Latin America, Africa, Asia). Prerequisite: any Crossing Boundaries: Faith Traditions course. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 477. Honors Thesis Project. 3 Hours
First of two courses leading to the selection, design, investigation, and completion of an independent, original Honors Thesis project under the guidance of a faculty research advisor. Restricted to students in the University Honors Program with permission of the program director and department chairperson. Students pursuing an interdisciplinary thesis topic may register for three semester hours each in two separate disciplines in consultation with the department chairpersons. Prerequisite(s): Approval of University Honors Program.

REL 487. Religious Education- Theory & Practice. 3 Hours
Study of theory and practice of religious education for those who will be teaching religion in the school and parish. Various models and methods. Emphasis on process and religious education as developmental. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 488. Spirituality & Religious Education. 3 Hours
Exploration of impact of liturgy and spirituality on contemporary models of religious education; study of interrelationship between faith experience and religious content; basic principles for developing practical programs. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.

REL 490. Capstone Seminar. 3 Hours
Integrative academic experience focused on student-produced research and scholarship in various fields of religious/theological studies. Required of all REL majors, open to REL minors. Must have 24 credits including one 400 level course.

REL 492. Special Topics. 1-3 Hours
Concentrated study of issues and subjects pertinent to religion. May be repeated when topic changes. Prerequisite(s): REL 103 or ASI 110 or equivalent.