Religion is the activity by which people interpret and order their lives, both individually and collectively, according to patterns of transcendent reality. Religion directly shapes, judges, liberates, enlightens, inspires, terrifies, creates and destroys—all in order to bring human life to ultimate fulfillment.

— David Weddle
RELIGIOUS STUDIES MINORS
The minor in religious studies provides students with a coherent and nuanced framework for achieving greater insights into the scope and complexity of global challenges facing the contemporary world.

ISLAMIC STUDIES MINOR
Required courses selected from
REL 100 Introduction to Religion
REL 150 World Religious Traditions
REL 101 Introduction to Islam
REL 321 Islamic Ethics
REL 331 Islam in the Modern World
REL 422 Islam in America
REL 300 Special Topics course in Islamic Studies

One of the following field-related courses
AH 104 Arts of Asia and the Islamic World
HST 356 The Modern Middle East
HST 357 The Arab-Israeli Conflict
IS 270 Perspectives on the Middle East
PHL 205 Medieval Philosophy

One of the following applications
ARB 114 Introduction to Arabic Language and Culture I
REL 450 Religious Community Project Internship
REL 490 Directed Readings in Religious Studies
Approved study abroad course in a Middle Eastern country

JUDAIC STUDIES MINOR
Required courses selected from
REL 100 Introduction to Religion
REL 150 World Religious Traditions
REL 102 Introduction to Judaism

Two core studies courses selected from
PHL 205 Medieval Philosophy
REL 307 Jewish History
REL 317 The Book of Genesis
REL 318 Written Traditions of Judaism
REL 319 Concepts of God and Man in Judaism
REL 353 The Bible as Literature or ENG 305 (same name)
REL 420 The Jewish Experience in American Life
REL 421 The Holocaust
Any REL 300 Special Topics course in Judaic Studies

One of the following applications
Hebrew language course
REL 450 Religious Community Project Internship
REL 490 Directed Readings in Religious Studies
Approved study abroad course in Israel

CHRISTIANITY STUDIES MINOR
Required courses selected from
REL 100 Introduction to Religion
REL 150 World Religious Traditions
REL 103 Introduction to Christianity

Two core courses selected from
AH 322 Early Medieval, Byzantine, and Romanesque Art
AH 326 Gothic Art
HST 326 The Italian Renaissance
HST 327 The Reformation
PHL 205 Medieval Philosophy
REL 323 Christian Ethics
REL 349 Early Christian Spirituality
REL 353 The Bible as Literature or ENG 305 (same name)
REL 300 Special Topics in Religious Studies when relevant to Christian studies

One of the following applications
REL 450 Religious Community Project Internship
REL 490 Directed Readings in Religious Studies

INDEPENDENT MAJOR IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES
To arrange an independent major in Religious Studies, contact the program director.

CONCENTRATION IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES
Required course selected from
REL 100 Introduction to Religion
REL 150 World Religious Traditions

CORE STUDIES
Two of the following
REL 201 Basic Religious Writings
REL 303 American Religious Experience
REL 351 Religion in the Modern World
REL 355 Science and Religion

FIELD-RELATED STUDIES
Four courses selected from at least three of the following five fields
Art
AH 104 Arts of Asia and the Islamic World
AH 310 Art of the Ancient Near East
AH 322 Early Medieval, Byzantine and Romanesque Art
AH 326 Gothic Art

History
HST 303 History of Religions in the U.S.
HST 325 Medieval Europe
HST 327 The Reformation
HST 327 The Arab-Israeli Conflict
REL 300 Special Topics in Religious Studies

Literature
REL 353 The Bible as Literature or ENG 305 (same name)
ENG 312 Classical Mythology

Philosophy
PHL 205 Medieval Philosophy
REL 325 Philosophy of Religion or PHL 325 (same name)
REL 359 Philosophies and Religions of Asia or PHL 350 (same name)

Social Science
PSY 445 Seminar in Individual Differences and Personality Psychology, only when special topic is religion
REL 271 Magic, Witchcraft and Religion or AN 271 (same name)
REL 305 The Sociology of Religion or SOC 305 (same name)

We begin with lived experience and search for answers given from time immemorial for the meaning of life.

We read texts together dialoging among ourselves, examining new ideas, analyzing ethics, history and cultures.

We examine our own embedded belief systems and challenge one another to grow into ethical responsibility for the emerging global village, rather than forcing our own way of believing and thinking on others.

We prepare one another for deeper, richer careers in such areas as business, counseling, teaching, engineering, government, law, ministry, medicine, social work, writing and journalism.

We develop among ourselves a global awareness that fashions a strong consciousness of the realities of modern cultural diversity.

Religion is not only a part of education, an element of humanity, but the center of everything else, always the first and the ultimate, the absolutely original.

- Friedrich Von Schlegel