



WINTER 2019

RLST 100 ~ INTRODUCTION TO RELIGIOUS STUDIES

An introduction to the academic study of religion; a survey of the thought and practices of major world religions; the impact of religion on society and culture.

RLST 100-001	MWF	15:30-16:20	(K.Bond)
RLST 100-002	TR	08:30-09:20	(Y.Ren)
RLST 100-0A1	M	1:30-4:15	(F. Folk)
RLST 100-L01	MWF	09:30-10:20	(M. Folk)
RLST 100-L02	TR	10:00-11:15	(M. Folk)

PROGRAMS

The Department of Religious Studies at the University of Regina offers programs of study at both the undergraduate and graduate level. We offer the following options:

- Bachelor of Arts Major in Religious Studies
- Bachelor of Arts Honours in Religious Studies
- Bachelor of Arts Minor in Religious Studies
- Master of Arts in Religious Studies

You can learn more about our undergraduate program requirements by visiting the Religious Studies program section of the Undergraduate Calendar, and about our graduate program requirements by visiting the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research website.

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The Department of Religious Studies offers courses on a variety of religious traditions, on topics that range across different religious traditions, on current religious issues, and on academic approaches to religious phenomena. The essential goal of these courses is to offer the student the opportunity to examine critically the realm of the religious in its varied manifestations, and to accurately describe and analyze religious phenomena as part of the human experience.

RLST courses are not designed to foster personal religious commitment or to evaluate to that end the relative merits of various religious practices, traditions, and points of view. The student of religious studies at the University of Regina not only learns to think and read critically but also acquires research skills that facilitate the study and appreciation of diverse cultures.



RLST 201-001 ~ GHOSTS, MONSTERS and DEMONS

MWF 09:30 - 10:20
 (K. Bond & W. Arnal)

This class explores cross-cultural practices, representations, and beliefs concerning various kinds of monsters, ghosts, and demons. Focus will be on what these different entities have in common (as well as where they differ), with a view to sketching out shared human perspectives on the monstrous, the fearful, and the uncanny.



RLST 209-001 ~ JAPANESE RELIGIONS
 MWF 14:30 - 1520 (K. Bond)

The course provides an overview of the major religious traditions of Japan from earliest times to the modern era: Shinto, Buddhism, Confucianism, Christianity and the New Religions. Topics to be explored include religion and the state, Buddhist-Shinto interaction, "this worldly" material benefits, pilgrimage and popular culture.

*Prerequisites: Completion of 12 credit hours or RLST 100.

Department of Religious Studies

RLST 227-C01 ~ JESUS THE CHRIST
TR 10:00-11:15 (S. Helewa)

This course examines the centrality of Jesus the Christ for Christian practice and belief. Topics covered include the background to early belief in Jesus, his presentation in Christian scriptures, the development of Christian claims about him, as well as past and contemporary representations of him in ritual, theology and/or art.

Prerequisites: Completion of 12 credit hours or RLST 100

RLST 228-L01 ~ CHRISTIANITY
TR 14:30-15:45 (M. Wagner)

An introduction to the foundations of Christianity dealing with topics such as the centrality of the story of Jesus, its roots in Judaism, its sources of authority, characteristic practices, historical and theological development, major denominational families. Some contemporary issues may also be briefly outlined.

Prerequisites: Completion of 12 credit hours or RLST 100

RLST 268-397 ~ CULTS OR NEW RELIGIOUS MOVEMENTS
ONLINE (L. Anderson)

This course examines beliefs and practices of some emerging new religions including New Age, Wicca, Neo-paganism, Scientology, Unification Church, UFO groups, Solar Temple, Transcendental Meditation and Soka Gakai. The emphasis will be upon the historical roots and teachings of new religions, and issues related to their popularity and interpretation.

*Prerequisites: Completion of 12 credit hours or RLST 100.

RLST 290AL-001 ~ MONKS AND MERCHANTS: RELIGIOUS EXCHANGE ALONG THE SILK ROAD
TR 11:30-12:45 (Y. Ren)

The "Silk Road" was an important tie for the international trade from Changan (China) to the west; and at that same time, it was more than a route for business, the areas along this important route were the place where East met West, and the places where various religious traditions interacted and syncretised. For this course, with the cultural and historical background, we are going to exam how religions, such as Buddhism, Daoism, Manicheanism, Christianity, Islam, and local beliefs and so forth, how they influenced each other and the significance of the religious syncretism. Prerequisites: Completion of 12 credit hours or RLST 100.

RLST 300-001~ THEORY & METHODOLOGY FOR THE STUDY OF RELIGION
MWF 11:30-12:20 (W. Arnal)

This course will focus on fundamental theoretical and methodological issues pertaining to the academic study of religion. It includes an examination of selected theories of the origin, character, and function of religion as a human phenomenon. Students will be encouraged to apply class material to their particular areas of specialization. Prerequisites: Completion of 24 credit hours or a 200 level RLST course.

RLST 390AM-L01 ~ WOMEN IN ISLAM
W 14:30-17:15 (B. Anderson)

This course will examine the diverse experiences of Muslim women, with specific reference to scripture, historical contexts and selected contemporary concerns. Emphasis will be placed on the debates between traditionalists and modernists and liberals, fundamentalists and feminists. Prerequisites: Completion of 24 credit hours or a 200 level RLST course.

RLST 390BD-001~ RELIGION & ANIMALS
MW 13:00-14:15 (D. Juschka)

This course is an intra-historical and cross-cultural examination of non-human animals and their signification, use, and value within differing systems of belief and practice. Topics covered include, but are not limited to, animals in ritual, animals in folktale and myth, in the cosmos, as messengers, tricksters, and helpers, animals as deities and demons, and relations between non-human animals and human animals. Prerequisites: Completion of 24 credit hours or a 200 level RLST course.

RLST 390BX-L01~ MULTICULTURALISM AND RELIGIOUS LITERACY
M 14:30-17:15 (B. Anderson)

The notion of religious literacy within the constructs of Canadian secularism and multiculturalism is examined historically and with comprehensive conversations regarding models of interreligious dialogue, advocacy and atheism, feminist responses, and covering the most current topics, e.g. accommodation principles, educational responsibilities, the rise of Islamophobia, public space and prayer, and more. Prerequisite: Completion of 24 credit hours or a 200 level RLST course.

RLST 390BZ-001~ VICTORIAN GODS
MWF 12:30-13:20 (S. Johnston)

Once known as "the age of faith and doubt" and later as a flashpoint for the rise of the scientific understanding and secularization, the 19th century is under scrutiny by critics who no longer take for granted religion's modern decline. This course examines the robust debates in Victorian culture and literature over religion, modernization, and secularization, as well as the internecine conflicts in Christianity itself. Prerequisites: Completion of 24 credit hours or a 200 level RLST course.