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.

**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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**Department of Religious Studies**

WINTER 2018

**RLST 201-001 ~ GHOSTS, MONSTERS and DEMONS**
MW 13:00 - 14:15 (Professor: W. Arnal & K. Bond)

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 203-L01 ~ HINDUISMS**
TR 14:30 - 15:45 (Professor: M. Folk)

This course situates 'Hinduism' in the context of the culture of South Asia and examines texts, beliefs and ritual practices of various traditions which fall under the 'Hindu' rubric. The perspective is historical and social. This course also explores the impact of colonialism upon contemporary religious practice in India.

Prerequisites: Completion of 12 credit hours or RLST 100.
RLST 209-001 ~ JAPANESE RELIGIONS
MW 14:30 - 15:45 (Professor: 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.

RLST 268-397 ~ CULTS & NEW RELIGIOUS MOVEMENTS
Online (Professor: 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 290AP-L-01 ~ SEX & SEXUALITIES IN RELIGION
M 11:30 - 14:15 (Professor: B. Anderson)

Religious teachings on sexual practices, desires and orientations have regulated social norms and notions of morality. Examining a number of religious traditions, historical moments and current religious, feminist and queer movements, this course invites students to discern tropes and potentiality within the larger discourse of personal agency and social power.

Prerequisites: Completion of 12 credit hours or RLST 100.

RLST 311-001 ~ CONFUCIANISM IN EAST ASIA
MWF 12:30 - 13:20 (Professor: V. Ren)

This course is an introduction to the basic ideas of Confucianism including its background and development; its concepts of the world, ethical values of its philosophy and its religious beliefs and practices. The impact of Confucianism on the East Asian societies in ancient and modern times is also covered.

Prerequisites: Completion of 24 credit hours or a 200 level RLST course.

RLST 322-C01 ~ ORIGINS OF MODERN ANTISEMITISM AND THE HOLOCAUST
MWF 10:30 - 11:20 (Prof: M. Wagner)

“Antisemitism,” strictly speaking, is a modern phenomenon: the word itself dates only to the nineteenth century. Yet it is obvious that hostility to Jews has existed for centuries. Is it possible, then, or fruitful, to distinguish between different historical stages of anti-Jewish animus? This course will offer a historical analysis of the emergence and development of antisemitism in Western civilization. The twentieth century will be examined as the stage on which such horrific tragedies as the Holocaust unfolded, focusing on key actors and agents, setting, and also the "theatrical property." Whatever our conclusions about a typology of Judeophobia and anti-Semitism, one thing is certain: the curtain has yet to fall on the sorry spectacle of xenophobia and demonizing "the other."

Prerequisites: Completion of 24 credit hours or a 200 level RLST course.

RLST 390BT-C01 THE HISTORY OF POPULAR RELIGION IN THE MIDDLE AGES (300-1400)
TR 13:00 - 14:15 (Professor: A. Fizzard)

This course will examine, from an historical perspective, the religious beliefs and practices of medieval Europeans. The emphasis will be on Christian beliefs, but those of other religions will be considered too. Topics include: heresy; the fate of the dead; skepticism; saints; signs and miracles; good and evil spirits; holidays.

Prerequisite: Completion of 24 credit hours or a 200 level RLST course or permission of Instructor.

RLST 390BY-C01 ~ THE PROPHET MUHAMMAD
TR 14:30 - 15:45 (Professor: S. Helewa)

The course deals in some depth with the life events of the Prophet in his context of Seventeenth Century Arabia as seen in Muslim writings: The Sira (biographical genre) and the Tradition. Some themes and films/documentaries about the Prophet will also be part of the discussion.

Prerequisite: Completion of 24 credit hours or a 200 level RLST course.