Religious Studies (REL) Major

Are you curious about what other people think? Do you want to know why people do what they do? Then come explore the history and diversity of Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Native American and other religious traditions. Studying religions reveals people's deepest desires and beliefs. Our courses explore how religious communities perform worship, shape moral norms and gender roles, wage war and make peace, influence what people eat, how they dress, and how they live and die. Studying religions is also personally meaningful as students and faculty reflect together on big ethical and philosophical questions.

Religious studies majors have gone into careers in a variety of fields that require critical thinking and problem-solving, excellent writing and communication skills, and an ability to work with people from different cultural backgrounds. Our graduates have found employment in counseling, social work, health care, teaching, higher education, ministry, nonprofits, fundraising, government, community organizing, publishing, and business. Many of our majors pursue graduate study, for example, in law, social work, counseling, philanthropy, medicine, religious studies, ministry, history, bioethics, linguistics, educational psychology, biology, software engineering, and more.

The Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Religious Studies (REL) requires satisfactory completion of the following:

- completion of general education and distribution requirements as indicated in the School of Liberal Arts section of the IUPUI bulletin that was current when the student declared a major in Religious Studies,
- completion of a total of 30 credit hours of Religious Studies courses, with a minimum grade of C in each course,
- at least 18 credits must be taken at the 300 level or above
- completion of a minimum of 15 credit hours in the Religious Studies Department at IUPUI (effective Fall 2015).

Major Requirements:

______ 15 credit hours selected from the category of Religious Traditions, chosen from:

- **Asian:**
  - R 300: Yoga Traditions
  - R 361: Hinduism and Buddhism

- **Biblical:**
  - R 103: The Bible and Culture
  - R 243: Introduction to the New Testament
  - R 315: Hebrew Bible

- **Christian:**
  - R 120: Images of Jesus
  - R 160: Introduction to Christianity
  - R 325: Paul and His Influence in Early Christianity
  - R 329: Early Christianity
  - R 344: Reformation of the Sixteenth Century

- **Islamic:**
  - R 257: Introduction to Islam
  - R 304: Islamic Beginnings
  - R 305: Islam and Modernity
  - R 370: Islam in America

- **Jewish:**
  - R 353: Judaism

- **The Americas:**
  - R 173: American Religion
  - R 312: Prophets, Captives, & Converts
  - R 328: Afro-Diasporic Religions
  - R 339: Varieties of American Religion
  - R 363: African-American Religions
  - R 367: American Indian Religions
  - R 383: Religions, Ethics, U.S. Society
  - R 397: Mormonism and American Culture

______ 12 credit hours selected from the category of Comparative and Thematic Studies, chosen from:

- R 101: Religion and Culture
- R 133: Introduction to Religion
- R 200: Studies in Religion
- R 212: Comparative Religions
- R 223: Religion and Imagination
- R 300: Studies in Religion- topics such as:
  - Cults and Sects in America
- R 301: Women and Religion
- R 309: Contemporary Middle East
- R 314: Religion and Racism
- R 323: Yuppie Yogis and Global Gurus
- R 328: Afro-Diasporic Religions
- R 343: Religion and Contemporary Thought
- R 348: Religion and Its Monsters
- R 368: Religion and Healing
- R 369: Love, Sex, & Justice
- R 373: Pilgrimage in World Religions
- R 375: Religion Behind Bars
- R 376: Religion and Revolution
- R 379: Religion and Philanthropy
- R 381: Religion and Violence
- R 384: Religion, Ethics and Health
- R 386: Consumption, Ethics, & the Good Life
- R 393: Comparative Religious Ethics
- R 394: Militant Religion
- R 396: Religion and Fantasy
- R 398: Women in American Indian Religions
- R 400: Studies in Religion

______ 3 credit hours in the departmental Senior Capstone, R 433: Theories of Religion (only offered fall semesters)

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