RELIGIOUS STUDIES (RLST)

RLST 10300 Hebrew Scriptures (LA)
This course treats the books of the Bible critically as literature, as religious and moral texts, and as a source of sociological knowledge. It surveys the biblical literature, acquaints the students with critical methods for the study of the Bible, situates the Bible within the literature and culture of the ancient Near East, and discusses the religion of ancient Israel. Deals with questions of history and archaeology, and with questions of meaning -- what the biblical text meant to its ancient readers, and what meanings it has today. Cross-listed with JWST 10300. Students may not receive credit for both RLST 10300 and JWST 10300. (F,Y)
Attributes: H, HM, INBG, TIDE, TMBS
3 Credits

RLST 10400 Introduction to the New Testament (LA)
A survey of the life and teaching of Jesus, and major themes in the Pauline Epistles and the Book of Revelation. (IRR)
Attributes: HM, INBG, TIDE, TIII
3 Credits

RLST 10500 Introduction to World Religions: Indigenous and Eastern (LA)
Examines methods in the study of religion and the meaning of ritual, myth, and symbols as applied to Native American and other indigenous religions, Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, and other Asian traditions. Compares ideas of divinity, methods of liberation, life after death, attitudes toward nature, ways of living in society, and world views. (F,Y)
Attributes: G, H, HM, INBG, NACI, TMBS
3 Credits

RLST 10600 Introduction to World Religions: Western and Modern (LA)
Introduces the academic study of religion through exploration of the historical development of the Jewish, Christian, and Muslim traditions. Emphasizes how religious beliefs and practices evolve in response to historic events and changing cultural contexts, including the challenges posed by modernity and postmodernity. (S,Y)
Attributes: G, H, HM, INBG, TIDE, TMBS
3 Credits

RLST 17500-17510 Selected Topics in Religion (LA)
Topics to be determined according to teacher and student interest. (IRR)
Attributes: HU
3 Credits

RLST 20100 Religion and Culture (LA)
Study of the mutual relations between religion and culture. The course explores the religious dimension of art, music, and other contemporary media, and considers the way religious symbols influence cultural and social movements. Students study both Western and non-Western examples, of the intersection between religion and culture in art, music, literature, ritual, film, and games. Prerequisites: One liberal arts course in any of the following departments: ANTH, ARTH, CMST, CLTC, CSCR, ECON, EDUC, ENGL, GERO, HIST, JWST, LGST, PHIL, POLT, PSYC, RLST, SOCI, WGST, WRTG. (Y)
Attributes: HM, INBG, TIII
3 Credits

RLST 20200 Religion and Society (LA)
Studies the social dimensions of religion and religion's influence on societies, on matters ranging from economics to ultimate concern. Major themes include the political mobilization of religions in social change movements, the social patterning of religious ideas and their relations with other ideologies, and the issue of religion as a topic in critical social theory. Cross-cultural with varying historical examples. Prerequisites: One liberal arts course in any of the following departments: ANTH, ARTH, CMST, CLTC, CSCR, ECON, EDUC, ENGL, GERO, HIST, JWST, LGST, PHIL, POLT, PSYC, RLST, SOCI, WGST, WRTG. (E)
Attributes: G, H, HM, INBG, TIDE
3 Credits

RLST 20300 Judaism (LA)
An introduction to Judaism, with a focus on theology, ethics, and ritual practice. Readings include selected texts from the biblical, rabbinic, medieval, and modern periods. Theological and ethical issues include God, good and evil, covenant, death and afterlife, justice, and social responsibility. The course examines how these Jewish understandings are lived out through practices associated with birth and death; marriage and commitment; sexuality; and the life of study, prayer, and devotion. Cross-listed with JWST 20300. Students may not receive credit for both RLST 20300 and JWST 20300. Prerequisites: Sophomore standing. (S,Y)
Attributes: G, H, HM, INBG
3 Credits

RLST 20400 Christianity (LA)
A survey of the Gospel accounts of Jesus and the historical development of Christianity, including major theological themes and issues. Prerequisites: One liberal arts course in any of the following departments: ANTH, ARTH, CMST, CLTC, CSCR, ECON, EDUC, ENGL, GERO, HIST, JWST, LGST, PHIL, POLT, PSYC, RLST, SOCI, WGST, WRTG. (O)
Attributes: G, H, HU, INBG
3 Credits

RLST 20500 Islam (LA)
Introduces the origins, historical development, major institutions, and central beliefs and practices of Islamic tradition. Particular attention is given to contemporary debates in Islamic studies that shape our understanding of Islam and to Islamic responses to modern challenges of pluralism, feminism, and violence. Prerequisites: One liberal arts course in any of the following departments: ANTH, ARTH, CMST, CLTC, CSCR, ECON, EDUC, ENGL, GERO, HIST, JWST, LGST, PHIL, POLT, PSYC, RLST, SOCI, WGST, WRTG. (F,Y)
Attributes: DV, G, H, HM, INBG, TIDE
3 Credits

RLST 20700 Death and Immortality (LA)
Introduces eastern and western world religions through a thematic exploration of religious beliefs and practices associated with death, both in traditional and contemporary contexts. Prerequisites: One liberal arts course in any of the following departments: ANTH, ARTH, CMST, CLTC, CSCR, ECON, EDUC, ENGL, GERO, HIST, JWST, LGST, PHIL, POLT, PSYC, RLST, SOCI, WGST, WRTG. (Y)
Attributes: 1, H, HM, HU, TMBS
3 Credits
RLST 22100 Religion and Depth Psychology (LA)
Studies Freudian, Jungian, humanistic, and transpersonal psychologies with respect to issues in religion including dream theory, the individuation process, psychological types, self-actualization, peak and plateau experiences, death, psychological aspects of worship, values, the psychology of meditation, and levels of consciousness. Prerequisites: One liberal arts course in any of the following departments: ANTH, ARTH, CMST, CLTC, CSCR, ECON, EDUC, ENGL, GER0, HIST, JWST, LGST, PHIL, POLT, PSYC, RLST, SOCI, WGST, WRTG. (O)
Attributes: 1, HU
3 Credits

RLST 23500 Religion and Nature (LA)
Explores interrelationships between aspects of the natural world and the beliefs and practices of diverse world religions. Topics may include sacred space and time, natural symbols, animals and animality, and religious environmentalism. Students cannot receive credit for this course and ENV 23500. Prerequisites: One liberal arts course in any of the following departments: ANTH, ARTH, CMST, CLTC, CSCR, ECON, EDUC, ENGL, GER0, HIST, JWST, LGST, PHIL, POLT, PSYC, RLST, SOCI, WGST, WRTG. (E)
Attributes: ABSS, HM, TMBS, TQSF
3 Credits

RLST 25200 Introduction to Mysticism (LA)
Drawing from the mysticism of world religions, this course focuses on the mystical process (i.e., what happens to the mystic on his or her journey to "deepest reality") and the ways to reach this goal. Topics include stages of the mystical path; voices and visions; love or bridal mysticism; meditation and contemplation; and mysticism in the world of action, science, and the occult. Prerequisites: One liberal arts course in any of the following departments: ANTH, ARTH, CMST, CLTC, CSCR, ECON, EDUC, ENGL, GER0, HIST, JWST, LGST, PHIL, POLT, PSYC, RLST, SOCI, WGST, WRTG. (E)
Attributes: HU
3 Credits

RLST 25500 Religions in America (LA)
A sociohistorical survey of the varieties of religions in North America, including Christianity, Judaism, Islam, new religious movements, and religions of various ethnic groups, such as Native American religions and African American religions. Emphasizes the role religion plays in the political and ethical spheres of American life. Prerequisites: One liberal arts course in any of the following departments: ANTH, ARTH, CMST, CLTC, CSCR, ECON, EDUC, ENGL, GER0, HIST, JWST, LGST, PHIL, POLT, PSYC, RLST, SOCI, WGST, WRTG. (IRR)
Attributes: HU
3 Credits

RLST 27500-27510 Selected Topics in Religion (LA)
Topics to be determined according to teacher and student interest. Prerequisites: One liberal arts course in any of the following departments: ANTH, ARTH, CMST, CLTC, CSCR, ECON, EDUC, ENGL, GER0, HIST, JWST, LGST, PHIL, POLT, PSYC, RLST, SOCI, WGST, WRTG. (IRR)
Attributes: HU
3 Credits

RLST 28100 Hinduism (LA)
A historical survey of the development of Hinduism from its origin in the Vedic religion to the modern Vedantism. Reading and discussion on the Upanishads, the Bhagavad-Gita, and the Yoga Sutra. Prerequisites: One liberal arts course in any of the following departments: ANTH, ARTH, CMST, CLTC, CSCR, ECON, EDUC, ENGL, GER0, HIST, JWST, LGST, PHIL, POLT, PSYC, RLST, SOCI, WGST, WRTG. (O)
Attributes: DV, G, HM, INBG, TMBS
3 Credits

RLST 28300 Introduction to Buddhism (LA)
Study of the life and teachings of the historical Buddha, development of Theravada, Mahayana, and Vajrayana traditions in Asia and their globalization in the contemporary world, utilizing both classic and contemporary texts. Students may not receive credit for this course and PHIL 28300. Prerequisites: One liberal arts course in any of the following departments: ANTH, ARTH, CMST, CLTC, CSCR, ECON, EDUC, ENGL, GER0, HIST, JWST, LGST, PHIL, POLT, PSYC, RLST, SOCI, WGST, WRTG. (E)
Attributes: G, H, HU, INBG
3 Credits

RLST 30500 Comparative Study of Religions (LA)
Examines major issues in various religious traditions and applies typological and phenomenological analysis to common themes, such as the concept of god(s), the nature of man, the problem of evil, ways of salvation, patterns of rituals, and types of religious organization. Prerequisites: one 200-level RLST course. (E)
Attributes: HU, INBG
3 Credits

RLST 31100 Philosophy of Religion (LA)
Study and discussion of a broad range of issues in the philosophy of religion, such as religious epistemology, the ontological argument, the cosmological argument, the teleological argument, religion and science, and the problem of evil. Primary source readings. Prerequisites: One 20000-level PHIL course. (E)
Attributes: HU
3 Credits

RLST 32000 Anthropology of Religion (LA)
The religious experience from the standpoint of ethnographic field studies and from various theoretical approaches. Examines the relationships among religion, culture, and society. Explores the evolution of the anthropological study of religion. This course satisfies the cultural anthropology and theory requirements for Anthropology majors. This course is cross-listed with ANTH 32000; students cannot take both ANTH 32000 and RLST 32000 for credit. Prerequisites: ANTH 10400; sophomore standing. (Y)
Attributes: HU
3 Credits

RLST 32300 Anthropology of Religion (LA)
The religious experience from the standpoint of ethnographic field studies and from various theoretical approaches. Examines the relationships among religion, culture, and society. Explores the evolution of the anthropological study of religion. This course satisfies the cultural anthropology and theory requirements for Anthropology majors. This course is cross-listed with ANTH 32000; students cannot take both ANTH 32000 and RLST 32000 for credit. Prerequisites: ANTH 10400; sophomore standing. (Y)
Attributes: HU
3 Credits

RLST 32300 Gender and Sexuality in Judaism (LA)
Exploration of what it means to be a Jewish man or woman. The course addresses how Jewish gender roles have changed throughout history, as well as how contemporary Jews deal with changes in women's roles and demands for gender equality. Topics covered include what is "gender" and how to study it; traditional roles of men and women in Judaism; the gendered Jewish body; family and sexuality; homosexuality; Jewish feminism; the gender of God; and changing women's religious roles. Cross-listed with JWST 32300. Students may not receive credit for both RLST 32300 and JWST 32300. Prerequisites: Junior standing. (Y)
Attributes: 1, HU
3 Credits
RLST 33300 Jewish Mysticism (LA)
This course traces the history of Jewish mysticism. After a brief overview of early Jewish mysticism from the biblical and rabbinic periods, students will concentrate on the medieval flowering of Kabbalah, and its further development in the 16th-century Kabbalah of Safed and Israel and 18th-century Eastern European Hasidism. The emphasis will be on understanding both the theoretical and experiential aspects of Jewish mysticism, and on examining some of the key texts of Jewish mysticism. Cross-listed with JWST 33300. Students may not receive credit for both RLST 33300 and JWST 33300. Prerequisites: Junior standing. (Y) Attributes: HU
3 Credits

RLST 35300 Twentieth-Century Mysticism (LA)
Study of the major trends in 20th-century mysticism through the writings of key mystics. Topics include earth and esoteric spiritualistics, the influence of Eastern spiritualistics on the West, and current Jewish, Christian, and Sufi ideas. The writings of Teilhard de Chardin, Thomas Merton, and Yogananda, as well as works from the Native American and Sufi traditions, are studied. Prerequisites: RLST 25200. (E) Attributes: HU
3 Credits

RLST 37500-37513 Selected Topics in Religion (LA)
Topics to be determined according to teacher and student interest. Prerequisites: One 20000-level RLST course. (IRR) Attributes: HU
3 Credits

RLST 37700 Women and Religion (LA)
A study of the emerging issues regarding women and religion, including the psychology of women's spiritual journey, the importance of the feminine or yin dimension of reality, the role of women in ancient and traditional religions, and new forms of feminine spirituality. Prerequisites: One 20000-level RLST course. (O) Attributes: HU, WGS, WGS3
3 Credits

RLST 39100-39101 Independent Study: Religion (LA)
Study or research project(s) of the student's own devising. Minimal consultation with professor; final project(s) evaluated by professor. Offered on demand only. May be repeated for credit for different projects. Prerequisites: One 20000-level RLST course and permission of instructor. (IRR) Attributes: UND
1-4 Credits

RLST 41000 Religious Studies Capstone (LA)
Serves as the capstone for philosophy/religious studies majors and religious studies minors. Synthesizes the student's experience in the program by drawing on key themes, issues, and movements in contemporary, global religious practice at an advanced level. Facilitates student reflection on achievements in both the major/minor and the Integrative Core Curriculum, and how these relate to personal intellectual formation while at Ithaca College. Prerequisites: WRTG 10600 or ICSM 108xx or ICSM 118xx; at least three courses in religious studies with at least one course at the 300 or 400 level; senior standing. (S,Y) Attributes: CP, HU, WI
3 Credits

RLST 49100-49101 Independent Study: Religion (LA)
Study or research project(s) of the student's own devising. Minimal consultation with professor; final project(s) evaluated by professor. Offered on demand only. May be repeated for credit for different projects. Prerequisites: One 30000-level RLST course and permission of instructor. (IRR) Attributes: UND
1-4 Credits

RLST 49400 Tutorial: Religion (LA)
Work by student and teacher together on a problem or project of interest to both. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisites: Permission of instructor; one course in religion; two additional courses in the humanities and/or social sciences. depending on instructor and student interest. (IRR) Attributes: UND
1-4 Credits

RLST 49600 Seminar: Religion (LA)
Small group study of a topic not offered otherwise in the curriculum or not offered at the same level. May be repeated for credit. Prerequisites: One course in religion; two courses in the humanities and/or social sciences; permission of instructor. (IRR) Attributes: HU
3 Credits