

RELIGIOUS STUDIES (B.A.)

The Religious Studies major is designed to guide students in the study of religion as a social, cultural, and political force in today's world. Majors are required to enroll in four Core Courses in global traditions, approaches to the academic study of religion, and religious conflict and cooperation in the world today. Within this new set of Core requirements, students now have two capstone course options: a traditional research seminar or an engaged learning project.

Area Electives in the major allow students to explore foundational domains within the academic study of religion: specific faith traditions around the globe, sacred texts, approaches to the study of religion, and contemporary issues in religion.

120 credits of coursework is required for the baccalaureate degree with a minimum 2.0 overall GPA, and a minimum 2.0 major GPA.

Program Requirements Overview

| Code | Title | Credits |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|
| | New Student Seminar | 1 |
| | SEEDS General Education Requirements | 30-33 |
| | Major Requirements | 36 |
| | Free Electives ¹ | 53-50 |
| Total Credits | | 120 |

¹ Graduate Swing Courses will count toward free electives for students in combined (UG/GR) programs.

Major Requirements

| Code | Title | Credits |
|--------------------------|---|-----------|
| Core Requirements | | |
| RELG 100 | Religions of the World | 3 |
| RELG 101 | Understanding Religion | 3 |
| RELG 275 | Inter-religious Encounters | 3 |
| Area Electives | | |
| <i>Global Traditions</i> | | |
| | Complete two courses from the list below. | 6 |
| <i>Texts</i> | | |
| | Complete two courses from the list below. | 6 |
| <i>Approaches</i> | | |
| | Complete two courses from the list below. | 6 |
| <i>Issues</i> | | |
| | Complete two courses from the list below. | 6 |
| Seminar | | |
| RELG 400 | Seminar | 3 |
| | or RELG 405 Engaged Learning Project | |
| Total Credits | | 36 |

Area Electives

Global Traditions

| Code | Title | Credits |
|----------|--|---------|
| RELG 185 | The Arab World and Religion | |
| RELG 209 | Introduction to Greek and Roman Religion | |

| | |
|----------|------------------------------------|
| RELG 213 | Buddhism |
| RELG 215 | Hinduism |
| RELG 217 | Taoism |
| RELG 223 | Religion in the United States |
| RELG 240 | Asian Religions |
| RELG 246 | Islamic Religious Traditions |
| RELG 250 | African Religions |
| RELG 252 | Africana Religions in the Americas |
| RELG 254 | Native American Religion |
| RELG 256 | Religion in Latin America |
| RELG 280 | Study in World Religions |
| RELG 380 | Study in World Religions |

Texts

| Code | Title | Credits |
|----------|------------------------------------|---------|
| RELG 200 | Old Testament/Hebrew Scriptures | |
| RELG 204 | New Testament/Christian Scriptures | |
| RELG 207 | American Religious Texts | |
| RELG 208 | The Qur'an | |
| RELG 214 | Asian Texts | |
| RELG 282 | Study in Religious Texts | |
| RELG 382 | Special Topics in Religious Texts | |

Approaches

| Code | Title | Credits |
|----------|--------------------------------|---------|
| RELG 221 | Religion and Culture | |
| RELG 284 | Religion and Society | |
| RELG 304 | Feminist Views of Religion | |
| RELG 324 | Religious Experience | |
| RELG 332 | Myth, Meaning and Self | |
| RELG 362 | Philosophy of Religion | |
| RELG 363 | Psychology of Religion | |
| RELG 364 | Religion, Culture, and Society | |
| RELG 384 | Religion and Society | |

Issues

| Code | Title | Credits |
|----------|---|---------|
| RELG 102 | Religious Ethics | |
| RELG 218 | Death, Dying and Afterlife | |
| RELG 220 | Religion and Ethical Issues | |
| RELG 225 | Religion and Social Activism | |
| RELG 232 | Body and Soul | |
| RELG 267 | Women and Religion | |
| RELG 273 | The Holocaust: Religious Perspectives | |
| RELG 286 | Special Topics in Religious Issues | |
| RELG 301 | Spirituality and Mysticism | |
| RELG 322 | Religion and Peacemaking | |
| RELG 325 | Atheism | |
| RELG 328 | Jihad, Just War and the Prospect of Peace | |
| RELG 386 | Special Topics in Religious Issues | |

¹ Requirement may be fulfilled by RELG 240, RELG 246, RELG 250, RELG 254, or RELG 256 in the major.

New Student Seminar

| Code | Title | Credits |
|--|---|---------|
| Students in the Adult Learner program must take GNED 100. | | |
| Complete one course from the following. Some courses may be restricted by major. Consult with an academic advisor. | | 1 |
| ADVS 198 | Pathways to Success | |
| CHEM 190 | Freshman Seminar in Chemistry | |
| FYS 100 | First Year Seminar | |
| GNED 100 | Adult Academic Success Seminar | |
| GNED 199 | New Student Seminar | |
| HPEM 199 | Freshman Seminar in Health and Physical Education | |
| IDS 155 | Pathways to Adult Learning | |
| JUST 199 | New Student Seminar | |
| MATH 102 | New Student Experience for Mathematical Sciences | |
| MUGN 199 | Freshman Seminar for Music Majors | |
| NURS 199 | Introduction to Nursing | |
| POLS 199 | Freshman Seminar in Political Science and Law | |

SEEDS General Education Requirements

Click here for a listing of courses that fulfill the SEEDS requirements. (<http://catalog.montclair.edu/programs/seeds-general-education-requirements/>)

| Code | Title | Credits |
|--|-------|--------------|
| Foundations | | |
| <i>Effective Writing I</i> | | |
| Complete one Effective Writing I course. | | 3 |
| <i>Effective Writing II</i> | | |
| Complete one Effective Writing II course. | | 3 |
| <i>Interactive Communication</i> | | |
| Complete one Interactive Communication course. | | 3 |
| <i>Quantitative Reasoning</i> | | |
| Complete one Quantitative Reasoning course. | | 3 |
| <i>Political and Civic Life</i> | | |
| Complete one Political and Civic Life course. | | 3 |
| <i>World Languages</i> | | |
| Complete two sequential classes in one World Language when starting at the Beginner I or Beginner II level. Complete one class when starting at the Intermediate/Advanced Level. | | 3-6 |
| Exploration | | |
| Complete one course from four different Exploration categories. | | 12 |
| <i>Analyzing Cultures and Societies</i> | | |
| <i>Creative Expression</i> | | |
| <i>Ethical Inquiry</i> | | |
| <i>Historical Thinking</i> | | |
| <i>Literary and Artistic Analysis</i> | | |
| <i>Scientific Reasoning</i> | | |
| Total Credits | | 30-33 |

Recommended Roadmap to Degree Completion

This recommended degree plan is provided as an outline for students to follow in order to complete their degree requirements within four years and 120 credits. This plan is a recommendation and MUST be used in consultation with their academic advisor. Important note: Students should be aware this plan assumes no pre-requisite coursework is required. If pre-requisite coursework is needed, students may have additional requirements to fulfill which do not appear on the plan.

First Year

| Fall | Credits | Spring | Credits |
|-------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| New Student Seminar | | 1 SEEDS: Effective Writing II | 3 |
| SEEDS: Effective Writing I | | 3 SEEDS: Exploration 2 | 3 |
| SEEDS: Quantitative Reasoning | | 3 SEEDS: Exploration 3 | 3 |
| SEEDS: Exploration 1 | | 3 SEEDS: Political and Civic Life | 3 |
| RELG 100 or 101 | | 3 RELG 101 or 100 | 3 |
| Free Elective | | 2 | |
| | | 15 | 15 |

Second Year

| Fall | Credits | Spring | Credits |
|----------------------------------|---------|--|-----------|
| SEEDS: Interactive Communication | | 3 SEEDS: World Language 2 or Free Elective | 3 |
| SEEDS: Exploration 4 | | 3 Major Elective - Texts | 3 |
| SEEDS: World Language 1 | | 3 Free Elective | 3 |
| Major Elective - Texts | | 3 Free Elective | 3 |
| Free Elective | | 3 Free Elective | 3 |
| | | 15 | 15 |

Third Year

| Fall | Credits | Spring | Credits |
|---------------------------------------|---------|---|-----------|
| Major Elective - Approaches or Issues | | 3 Major Elective - Approaches or Issues | 3 |
| Major Elective - Issues or Approaches | | 3 Major Elective - Issues or Approaches | 3 |
| Free Elective | | 3 Free Elective | 3 |
| Free Elective | | 3 Free Elective | 3 |
| Free Elective | | 3 Free Elective | 3 |
| | | 15 | 15 |

Fourth Year

| Fall | Credits | Spring | Credits |
|---------------|---------|-------------------|-----------|
| RELG 275 | | 3 RELG 400 or 405 | 3 |
| Free Elective | | 3 Free Elective | 3 |
| Free Elective | | 3 Free Elective | 3 |
| Free Elective | | 3 Free Elective | 3 |
| Free Elective | | 3 Free Elective | 3 |
| | | 15 | 15 |

Total Credits 120