



FALL 2021

Religion Studies Course Offerings

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- REL 005** **SPIRITUAL EXERCISES IN RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS (4)**
44728 **PROF. MICHAEL RAPOSA & PROF. ROBERT ROZEHNAL**
Explores a variety of religious disciplines developed in various traditions, ranging from the practice of yoga and the martial arts to various forms of prayer, meditation, and asceticism. (HU)
➤ **ON CAMPUS – TR 3:00-4:15**
- REL 011** **INTRODUCTION TO WORLD RELIGIONS (4)**
44729 **PROF. KHURRAM HUSSAIN & PROF. HARTLEY LACHTER**
GS 011 (44758) **(XLIST WA)**
Living and working in a globalizing 21st century requires an understanding of diverse religious and cultural identities. In this course, students will be introduced to the history, ideas, and practices from a wide variety of the world's religious traditions. (HU, BUG)
➤ **ON CAMPUS – MW 1:35-2:50**
- REL 090-010** **FYS - UFO RELIGION IN THE AMERICAS (4)**
44749 **PROF. CHRISTOPHER DRISCOLL**
This First-Year-Seminar introduces students to the interdisciplinary academic study of religion through an exploration of UFO and alien phenomena in the Americas. Students will learn research strategies, methods, and best practices for exploring both mundane and extraordinary experiences, as well as the philosophical underpinnings of knowledge production. The class also introduces students to the contemporary disclosure movement, using it (and its potential implications) to consider how recognition of intelligent alien life will impact understandings of religion and who we are as humans. (HU)
➤ **ON CAMPUS – MW 12:10-1:25**
- REL 090-011** **FYS - BEYOND BAGELS – JEWS AND FOOD (4)**
44750 **PROF. JODI EICHLER-LEVINE** **(XLIST WB)**
JST 090-011 (44759)
What does Crisco have to do with Jewish history? What is eco-kashrut? And why do so many Jews eat Chinese food on Christmas? This course explores Jewish life through the diverse history of Jewish foods. From New York deli to matzah ball gumbo, we will dig into a rich stew of diverse Jewish practices, regions, genders, ethics, and rituals. (HU)
➤ **ON CAMPUS – TR 1:35-2:50**

REL 090-012 FYS - JEWISH HERETICS – A SECRET HISTORY (4)
44751 PROF. HARTLEY LACHTER (XLIST WL)
JST 090-012 (44954)

Radical thinkers have played an important role in Jewish life. Sometimes loved, other times feared, these renegades have shaped Jewish thought and history in important ways. In this class we will explore examples of such "heretics" ranging from false messiahs to modern Jewish rebels in order to better understand the complicated relationship between human creativity and the charge of religious deviance. (HU)

➤ **ON CAMPUS – MW 3:00-4:15**

REL 090-014 FYS - BUDDHISM, PSYCHOLOGY, MEDICINE (4)
43666 PROF. ANNABELLA PITKIN (XLIST WC)
ASIA 090-14 (43736) – ETH 090-14 (43738) – HMS 090-14 (43737)

How have neuroscientists, Buddhists, and medical practitioners described what meditation does to the brain, mind and emotions? How have Buddhists described what enlightenment does to the mind and body? What are the historical relationships between Buddhism, medical practice, and psychology, in the US and in Asia? Students in this course explore these questions, by examining Buddhist philosophy, psychology, memoir, and art, together with recent research on how meditation and other practices affect brain function, emotional response, and other mental and physical processes. (HU)

➤ **ON CAMPUS – TR 12:10-1:35**

REL 095 IS GOD DEAD? PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE (4)
43667 PROF. CHRISTOPHER DRISCOLL (XLIST WD)
PHIL 095 (44191)

Is God Dead? Some people think so. Do you? Come decide for yourself. This course looks at the idea of god in Western philosophy and theology, with particular attention to death of god movement(s), and the changing shape of these movements in light of culture wars and identity politics. The course surveys key thinkers to ask questions about the origins, functions, and future of god and gods in the contemporary world. Posed as an ongoing question-Is god dead?-the course is for anyone interested in the idea of god past, present, future. (HU)

➤ **ON CAMPUS – MW 9:20-10:35**

REL 116 BIOETHICS (4)
42630 PROF. PATRICK CONNOLLY (XLIST ZB)
ETH 116 (44176) – HMS 116 (44178) – PHIL 116 (44174)

Moral issues that arise in the context of health care and related biomedical fields in the United States today, examined in the light of the nature and foundation of moral rights and obligations. Topics include: confidentiality, informed consent, euthanasia, medical research and experimentation, genetics, and the distribution of health care. (HU)

➤ **ON CAMPUS – MW 1:35-2:50**

REL 121 **SOURCES FOR THE LIFE OF JESUS—JEWISH & CHRISTIAN CONTEXT (4)**
44733 **PROF. BENJAMIN WRIGHT**
JST 121 (44760) **(XLIST WE)**

Ancient sources that claim to provide information about Jesus of Nazareth. Approaches taken to Jesus' life and career; early Christian interpretations of the significance of Jesus; methodology in assessing evidence for the historical Jesus and his message. (HU)

➤ **ON CAMPUS – MW 1:35-2:50**

REL 125 **COMPARATIVE RELIGIOUS ETHICS (4)**
44730 **PROF. KHURRAM HUSSAIN**

How have thinkers within the three major Abrahamic traditions handled ethical questions and dilemmas throughout history? This course will focus on many issues including but not limited to violence and pacifism, debates concerning revelation versus reason, the different accounts of justice and peace, the nature of scripture and the divine. We will look comparatively both within and across these traditions. (HU)

➤ **ON CAMPUS – MW 10:45-12:00**

REL 148 **ISLAM ACROSS CULTURES (4)**
44731 **PROF. ROBERT ROZEHNAL**
GS 148 (44761) **(XLIST WF)**

Explores the Muslim world's diversity and dynamism in multiple cultural contexts—from the Middle East and North Africa, to Asia and America—through literature, ethnography, and films. Topics include: travel and trade networks; education; women and gender; Islam and cultural pluralism; colonialism; and identity politics. (HU, BUG)

➤ **ON CAMPUS – TR 12:10-1:25**

REL 154 **THE HOLOCAUST: HISTORY AND MEANING (4)**
42562 **PROF. NITZAN LEBOVIC**
HIST 154 (42563) – JST 154 (42566) **(XLIST HB)**

The Nazi Holocaust in its historical, political and religious setting. Emphasis upon the moral, cultural and theological issues raised by the Holocaust. (HU, BUG)

➤ **ON CAMPUS – TR 10:45-12:00**

