

REL - Religion

Courses numbered 100 to 299 = *lower-division*; 300 to 499 = *upper-division*; 500 to 799 = *undergraduate/graduate*.

REL 110. Old Testament (3).

General education humanities introductory course. Introduction to the books of the Old Testament, including the histories of patriarchs and matriarchs, descriptions of Israelite religion and history, depictions of gender relations, and examples of wisdom literature.

REL 115. New Testament (3).

General education humanities introductory course. Introduces students to the world of the New Testament, the second section of the Christian Bible and basis for Christian belief and practice. Examines the historical context and contemporary applications of the New Testament paying attention to how it fits into or challenges its social milieu, with specific focus on gender, authority and use of violence.

REL 311A. Topic: Moses and David (3).

Focuses on the lives of Moses and David, the two greatest leaders of the Old Testament. Examines both the biblical stories of Moses and David and the ways in which the two are portrayed and discussed in post-biblical Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Students are also introduced to the fascinating array of novels, poems, works of art, films and political writings which portray and assess their personalities and careers.

REL 311G. Archaeology and the Bible (3).

Explores the intersection of the biblical text and the archaeology of "biblical lands." Includes a consideration of the history of archaeological exploration in the areas and time periods associated with the Bible, and how archaeology has impacted the study of the Bible. Students learn about the social and religious aspects of the cultures and people of biblical time periods. Periods covered include: the Kingdoms of Israel and Judah, Persian period Yehud, Judea under Hellenistic and Roman rule, the empires of the ancient Near East. Topics include: social organization and settlement patterns, urban and rural life, trade and commerce, gender roles in ancient societies, religious and cultic life, culture, arts and literature.

REL 327. Magic, Witchcraft and Religion (3).

General education humanities and fine arts advanced further study course. Cross-listed as ANTH 327. Examines various concepts concerning the realm of the supernatural as held by various peoples around the world. Relates such religious beliefs and the resultant practices to the larger patterns of cultural beliefs and behaviors. *Course includes diversity content.*

REL 370. Women in World Religions (3).

Cross-listed as WOMS 370. Examines past and present roles and statuses of women in various religious traditions of the world, e.g., Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism and Taoism. Examines the portrayal of women's roles in various religious and philosophical texts, and the redefinition of women's roles in the modern age within the contexts of these belief systems. *Course includes diversity content.*

REL 380. Special Studies (3).

A concentrated intermediate study of a particular component of religious studies. Repeatable for credit.

REL 380U. Biblical Cities (0.5).

Combines archaeological discovery with Biblical texts to visit some of the key cities and landscapes of the Bible.

REL 384. Paul (3).

Cross-listed as WOMS 384. Introduces students to the life, world and writings of the apostle Paul. His journey through the ancient

Mediterranean world speaking to women and men about his understanding of the gospel is appreciated and used to examine the development of the early church. Highlights issues in Paul's letters such as women and gender, the socio-historical situation of the early church, and the question of authorship. *Course includes diversity content.*

REL 420. Women and the Bible (3).

Cross-listed as WOMS 420. Examines the roles and statuses of women in biblical narrative, poetry and law, as well as the position of women in various Near Eastern societies. Attention may be given to the ways in which later theologians, novelists and artists have refashioned and re-evaluated the biblical portrayal of women in their works. *Course includes diversity content.*

REL 480. Special Studies (1-3).

A concentrated study of a religious issue or text announced by the instructor when course is scheduled. Repeatable for credit.

REL 490. Independent Work (1-3).

Designed for the student capable of doing advanced independent work in a specialized area of the study of religion that is not formally offered by the department. Repeatable for credit. Prerequisite: departmental consent.

REL 780. Special Topics in Religion (1-3).

Intensive study of topic(s) in religion. Discussion, reports and research projects. Repeatable for credit with departmental consent. Prerequisite: instructor's consent.

REL 790. Independent Study (1-3).

For the student who is capable of doing graduate work in a specialized area of the study of religion not formally offered by the department. Repeatable for credit. Prerequisite: departmental consent.