Courses

RELS 131 World Religions/Religious Worlds Units: 6.00
Introduces religion in India, China and Japan; also the
movements of Judaism, Christianity, Islam and Humanism.
NOTE Also offered online. Consult Arts and Science Online.
Learning Hours may vary.
Learning Hours: 228 (48 Lecture, 24 Tutorial, 156 Private
Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite None.
Course Equivalencies: RELS131; RELS131B
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 137 Religion and Film Units: 3.00
This course will explore how religion is portrayed in film,
noting particularly the depiction of religious belief, practices,
practitioners, and institutions, and the use of religious
symbols and metaphors.
Learning Hours: 120 (24 Lecture, 12 Tutorial, 84 Private
Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite None. Equivalency RELS 237.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 140 Religion and Science Units: 3.00
This course examines the categories of both science and
religion and attempts to explore the possible relationships
between them. Case studies involve: medicine and health,
relationships with other animals, concepts of human nature,
super/natural ontologies, and science-and-technology-based
religions.
Learning Hours: 120 (24 Lecture, 12 Tutorial, 84 Private
Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite None.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 161 Contemporary Problems in Religion and
Culture Units: 6.00
Explores religious issues in culture, literature, politics and
social ethics.
Learning Hours: 228 (48 Lecture, 24 Tutorial, 156 Private
Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite None.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 162 Religion, News and Media Units: 3.00
This course will identify and describe characteristics of
religion as they appear in news reports of social, political, and
economic aspects of public life and analyze how the news
presents, shapes, and creates perceptions of religion in public
discourse.
Learning Hours: 120 (24 Lecture, 12 Tutorial, 84 Private
Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite None.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 163 Popular Culture and Religion Units: 3.00
This course will identify and describe characteristics of
religion as they appear in popular culture (e.g. fashion;
comics; movies; art; music; novels; sitcoms; dramas; video
games) and analyze how such depictions present, shape, and
create perceptions of religion in public discourse.
Learning Hours: 120 (24 Lecture, 12 Tutorial, 84 Private
Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite None.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 200 Religion and Global Development Units: 3.00
This course will examine the vital role that different religious
ideas and groups play in major development organizations
and initiatives. Students will look at how religious ideas
and groups have influenced issues around global poverty,
pandemics, child welfare, economics and debt relief,
education, etc.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 9 Group Learning, 75
Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above and 6.0 units in
RELS at the 100-level.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 201 Topics in Religious Studies I Units: 3.00
A topic of current interest in Religious Studies not covered in
other available courses.
NOTE This course is repeatable for credit under different
topic titles.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of
RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science
RELS 202 Traditions in Religious Studies  Units: 3.00
A topic of current interest in Religious Studies not covered in other available courses.
NOTE This course is repeatable for credit under different topic titles.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 205 Religion Meets Empire: Global Perspectives  Units: 3.00
Religion and other belief systems played a crucial role in governing empires, ranging from homogenization to accepting diversity - and even to both approaches or strategies in the same empire. The course critically assesses constructions of "religion" as a category and concerning inequality and diversity in global history.
NOTE Also offered online, consult Arts and Science Online (Learning Hours may vary).
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 9 Group Learning, 75 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite None.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 206 Drugs and Religion  Units: 3.00
This course explores the role of mind/body-altering substances in religions; as things claimed to be of spiritual significance; and as the objects of a fervor (today's "psychedelic renaissance") that we religion scholars can analyze as a new religious movement. It attends to western appropriation of plants and fungi sacred to Indigenous peoples.
Learning Hours: 120 (24 Lecture, 12 Group Learning, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 207 Religion, Hate, and Xenophobia  Units: 3.00
This course will examine the history of islamophobia, the history of antisemitism, and other kinds of xenophobia related to religion and religious communities around the world. Students will become closely acquainted with the origins of these ideas, how they were articulated in the past, and the ways in which they play out in the contemporary world.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 9 Group Learning, 75 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 209 Radical Jews  Units: 3.00
This course examines the life and work of Jewish radical thinkers: analysts, anarchists, communists, feminists, environmentalists, and anti-nationalists. We will be interested both in the ways they created difficulties for dominant cultural and political institutions, and traditional Jewish authorities.
Learning Hours: 126 (12 Lecture, 12 Tutorial, 90 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above and 6.0 units in RELS at the 100-level.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 210 Hebrew Bible  Units: 3.00
Introduction in the light of the political, cultural, and religious history of ancient Israel and Judah.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 212 Mythology of the Ancient Near East  Units: 3.00
Similarities and differences in the myths of ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia will be explored on the basis of material remains (e.g., the pyramids and temple architecture) and texts.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 214 Origins of Christianity  Units: 3.00
How did Christianity begin? This course will examine early Christian writings, including the New Testament, to explore how a small sectarian group grew to gain acceptance in the Roman empire.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 218 Christianity  Units: 3.00
Introduction to Christianity as a religious tradition through its texts, its history and its contemporary forms.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science
RELS 221  New Religious Movements  Units: 3.00
All religions were once new, small, and unusual to the cultures around them - often therefore attracting suspicion. This course examines the practices, beliefs, and histories of several NRM's, and why some gain legitimacy while others get derided as "cults." Doing so illuminates broader processes like mythmaking, Othering, and (de)secularization.
Learning Hours: 126 (24 Lecture, 12 Group Learning, 6 Online Activity, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 222  The Hindu World  Units: 3.00
Developments through 3,000 years of Indian history; the Upanishads, the Bhagavad Gita, Yoga and Vedanta, mythology of Vishnu and Shiva, and recent Hindu thinkers (e.g., Tagore, Aurobindo).
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 223  Buddhism  Units: 3.00
Buddhism in India, the life and teaching of Gautama the Buddha, and the growth of the Theravadin and Mahayanist traditions.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 224  Taoism  Units: 3.00
The philosophy, worldview, spirituality and ethics of Taoism, China's organized indigenous religion, in Chinese history and in the contemporary world.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 226  Islam  Units: 3.00
Historical and topical survey of Islam, its development through the study of its rise, institutionalization of its beliefs and practices, formation of its theology, law, mysticism; as well as its modern interpretations and practices.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 227  Indigenous Religious Traditions  Units: 3.00
Introduction to the study of the Indigenous religious experience in Canada and abroad.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 228  Sages, Scholars and Rabbis  Units: 3.00
The religious institutions produced by the Jews from the second to the seventh centuries. This course will explore in critical fashion the principal areas of rabbinic activity including: topics on jurisprudence, philosophy, social and political thinking, the role of tradition and scriptures.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 229  Confucianism  Units: 3.00
The philosophy, worldview, spirituality and ethics of Confucianism in its classical, modern and contemporary forms.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 232  Religion and Social Movements  Units: 3.00
This course will examine the field of social movements studies, with a particular focus on how religion has played a role in the rise of social movements, how religious communities have been influenced by social movements, and how mobilization and activism around social justice issues is coloured by religion and culture.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 9 Group Learning, 75 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 234  Judaism  Units: 3.00
An introduction to the self-definition of Judaism through an analysis of the concepts of God, Torah and Israel past and present. Also, a preliminary study of the struggles facing Jews in Europe, the State of Israel and North America.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science
RELS 235  Religion and Environment  Units: 3.00
Examines how religious traditions shape human values and
behaviours towards the environment and how environmental
problems are shaping the evolution of religious and spiritual
traditions.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of
RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 236  Religion and Sex  Units: 3.00
Views of and attitudes toward sexuality in selected world
religions; the place of sexuality in religious traditions;
relationship between sex and the sacred; specific topics such
as marriage, gay and lesbian issues, contraception will be
chosen.
Learning Hours: 126 (36 Lecture, 12 Group Learning, 6
Online Activity, 72 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of
RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 239  Sport and Religion  Units: 3.00
This course will provide an overview of the relatively new and
expanding body of research that examines the relationship
between sport, spirituality and religion. Topics including
play, games, flow, ritual, prayer, sports stars as role models,
doping, fandom and miracles in sport will be explored.
Learning Hours: 129 (36 Lecture, 93 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of
RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 240  Magic, Witchcraft, and the Supernatural  Units: 3.00
Studies the differences between the categories of religion,
magic, witchcraft, the supernatural, etc., as constructed
in scholarship, popular culture, and practice. Focuses on
effects such as New Religious Movements, depictions of
magic in film and TV, and moral panics over alleged occult
practices, and the histories that let us make sense of them.
Learning Hours: 120 (24 Lecture, 6 Group Learning, 12
Online Activity, 78 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of
RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 242  Objects in Global Indigenous Spirituality  Units: 3.00
The course addresses the sacred or profane status of objects
in Indigenous cosmologies. What they are, mean, and do,
and how Indigenous persons position themselves in relation
to them. This leads to reflections on the object/subject
division, the condition of materiality and immateriality, and
the resulting nature of spirits in Indigenous worlds.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of
RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 250  Mythology of Heroes  Units: 3.00
Examines how hero stories are formed, transmitted, and
function using a variety of source materials from ancient
writings through to contemporary cultural expressions.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of
RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 252  Mysticism  Units: 3.00
The academic study of mysticism; mystical movements; and
mystics.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of
RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 255  Research and Writing in Religious Studies  Units: 3.00
An investigation into the techniques of critical reading and
writing for research in Religious Studies.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Seminar, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 2 or above or (6.0 units in
RELS at the 100-level). Equivalency RELS 355.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 257  Indigenous Sages and Wisdoms  Units: 3.00
Following the specific roles usually associated with the
category “shamanism”, this course examines empirical
accounts on the knowledges and practices of various types of
spiritual specialists, such as sages, healers, diviners, priests,
sorcerers, and mediums in Indigenous traditions in Canada
and various regions of the world.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of
RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science
RELS 266 Religion and Social Ethics Units: 3.00
Moral problems and religious responses: e.g., sexual morality; violence; civil disobedience.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 296 Islam in Canada Units: 3.00
This course examines the historical and contemporary expressions of Islam in Canada. Starting from early Muslim migrants to Canada to current issues of media representations, Islamophobia, and gender and sexuality, as they are unfolding in Canadian contexts for Muslims.
Learning Hours: 138 (18 Lecture, 18 Seminar, 12 Group Learning, 90 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 2 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 301 Themes in Religious Studies Units: 3.00
A topic of current interest in Religious Studies not covered in other available courses.
NOTE This course is repeatable for credit under different topic titles.
Learning Hours: 132 (36 Lecture, 96 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 302 Traditions in Religious Studies Units: 3.00
A topic of current interest in Religious Studies not covered in other available courses.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 312 Feminist Theology and Christianity Units: 3.00
An examination of some of the issues raised by the feminist critique of traditional theology and of some feminist attempts at theological reconstruction. In this course we will look at feminist theology and Christianity.
Learning Hours: 132 (36 Lecture, 96 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 314 Queering Religion Units: 3.00
This course examines the complex intersection of gender, sexuality and religion and the ways in which religious traditions have shaped and continue to shape complex notions of gender and sexuality in the modern era. It considers a review of feminist, gender studies and queer theories, thereafter we will apply these concepts to case studies.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 316 Religion and Politics in Muslim Societies Units: 3.00
Explores the role of religion in the politics of Muslim societies with particular attention to the modern period.
Learning Hours: 132 (36 Lecture, 96 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 321 Greek and Roman Religions Units: 3.00
A study of the development and organization of non-civic religious associations in the Greek and Roman empires using inscriptions, papyri, and literary texts. Insight into religious practices of the Greco-Roman period comes through exploration of groups organized by deity, cult, occupation, or ethnic identity, and the so-called mystery religions.
Learning Hours: 132 (36 Lecture, 96 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 322 Yoga in India and the West Units: 3.00
Surveys the history and philosophy of yoga in India and the West.
NOTE Yoga Practicum: estimated cost $90.
Learning Hours: 128 (36 Lecture, 8 Off-Campus Activity, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 326 Religion and Politics in Muslim Societies Units: 3.00
Explores the role of religion in the politics of Muslim societies with particular attention to the modern period.
Learning Hours: 132 (36 Lecture, 96 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 328 Apocalypse Units: 3.00
The primary focus of the course will be the theological perspectives and social functions of apocalypse in select religious traditions. The course will also survey the appropriation of apocalyptic themes throughout history in artistic forms such as art, fiction, and film, with particular attention to our modern times and cultures.
Learning Hours: 132 (36 Lecture, 96 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science
RELS 331 Religion and Violence Units: 3.00
Links between violence and religious beliefs, practices and institutions; for example, sacrifice, holy wars, scapegoating, and suicide.
Learning Hours: 132 (36 Lecture, 96 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 332 Race, Ethnicity, and Religion Units: 3.00
The course will explore the intersection of race, ethnicity, and religion, alongside gender, sexuality, culture and more. It will challenge students to think about how racial identities, theories, and movements implicate(d) the way religious communities construct their own systems and worldviews.
Learning Hours: 128 (18 Lecture, 18 Seminar, 12 Group Learning, 80 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 333 Jewish Views of the Other Units: 3.00
A study of the tensions that come into play as Jews formulated views of the Other to balance co-existence with them. Source materials include authoritative writings of Jewish commentary and law and social scientific views of them.
Learning Hours: 132 (36 Lecture, 96 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 334 Religion and Democracy Units: 3.00
Deals with the role of religion in the public sphere and its relation to liberal democracy. It examines the (in)compatibility of some tenets of certain religions with modern democratic principles.
Learning Hours: 132 (36 Lecture, 96 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 335 Indigeneity and Nature Units: 3.00
The seminar deals with the knowledges and practices through which Indigenous peoples conceptualize and approach what the West calls "Nature". Applying their underlying principles, we further analyze contemporary initiatives to promote interspeciesism, and to grant rights to Nature and legal personhood to different elements of the environment.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Seminar, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 336 AI, Biohacking, and Future Technology Units: 3.00
This course looks at issues raised by the intersection of religion and human enhancement technologies. We will consider categories of biohacking, AI, and possible future technologies including mind uploading. Engaging diverse religious issues, we will consider what it means to be human and "better".
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Seminar, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 337 Gender and Sexuality in Islam Units: 3.00
This course explores conversations regarding women, gender, and sexuality in Islam from classical to the modern period. This is a survey course that utilizes gender and religious studies theories. We will engage with textual traditions of Muslim women and contemporary treatment of women and queer Muslims in Muslim societies.
Learning Hours: 120 (24 Seminar, 12 Group Learning, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 338 Spirituality, Secularity, and Nonreligion Units: 3.00
A study of concepts intended to summarize positions which are necessarily defined in reference to religion but considered to be other than religious. We explore the origins and presents of perspectives and experiences including the secular, spiritual-but-not-religious, atheistic, and other forms of imitation, indifference, and hostility to religion.
Learning Hours: 126 (24 Lecture, 6 Group Learning, 12 Online Activity, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science
RELS 354 Theory in Religious Studies Units: 3.00
An introduction to major theoretical approaches to the study of religion.
Learning Hours: 132 (36 Lecture, 96 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above and 6.0 units in RELS at the 200-level. Exclusion A maximum of 6.0 units from RELS 353; RELS 354; RELS 355.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 367 Medicine, Ethics, and Religion Units: 3.00
The aim of this course is to provide an overview of some ethical issues that arise at the intersection of biomedicine and religion. These ethical issues include moral distress, consent, beginning of life issues, indigeneity and healing, medically assisted death, gene editing, and anti-aging interventions.
Learning Hours: 120 (18 Lecture, 18 Seminar, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above or (6.0 units in RELS at the 100-level). Equivalency RELS 268.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 385 Religious Fundamentalisms Units: 3.00
Religious fundamentalism is a modern phenomenon not exclusive to any religion. In the past few decades, religious fundamentalist movements have been shaping new social, cultural and political norms in a predominately secular age. The course explores theoretical aspects and examines specific case studies across various religions and cultures.
Learning Hours: 126 (36 Lecture, 20 Online Activity, 70 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 393 Buddhism in the Modern World Units: 3.00
Encounter between Buddhism and the West, major movements and thinkers, and socio-politically engaged Buddhism.
Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 394 Religion and Politics in Contemporary China Units: 3.00
Examines Chinese and foreign religions in mainland China from 1949 to the present day. Topics include the status of established religions, the political control of new religious movements and the resurgence of traditional Chinese religions and ideologies including Daoism and Confucianism.
Learning Hours: 132 (36 Lecture, 96 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 396 Islam in the Modern World Units: 3.00
Exploration of Islamic developments since the 19th century: major thinkers, trends of thought, and contemporary movements as responses to modernity.
Learning Hours: 132 (36 Lecture, 96 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 398 Jewish Cultural and Political Thought Units: 3.00
The development of modern Jewish thought and practice, including the Reform, Orthodox, Conservative and Reconstructionist movements. The consequences of the Holocaust and the establishment of the modern State of Israel.
Learning Hours: 132 (36 Lecture, 96 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite (Level 3 or above) or (6.0 units of RELS at the 100-level).
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 401 Honours Seminar Units: 3.00
Advanced seminar providing detailed reading of one contemporary theme or thinker in religious studies.
Learning Hours: 120 (6 Lecture, 30 Seminar, 12 Online Activity, 72 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and registration in a (RELS Major or Medial Plan) and a (minimum GPA of 2.60 in 24.0 units in RELS). Corequisite (RELS 354 and (RELS 255 or RELS 355)) or RELS 353.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science
RELS 452 The Contemporary Religious Situation Units: 3.00
Religion in modernity; traditional groups, newer religious movements, contemporary ideologies and social trends of religious significance.

Learning Hours: 120 (36 Lecture, 84 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 3 or above and registration in a (RELS Major or Medial Plan). Corequisite (RELS 354 and [RELS 255 or RELS 355]) or RELS 353. Exclusion RELS 451.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 501 Directed Special Studies I Units: 3.00
Reading courses on topics not covered in other available courses, arranged with individual members of the Department.

Learning Hours: 120 (12 Individual Instruction, 108 Private Study)
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and registration in the RELS Major Plan and permission of the Department.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 502 Directed Special Studies II Units: 3.00
Reading courses on topics not covered in other available courses, arranged with individual members of the Department.

NOTE RELS 502/3.0 may be taken independently or as a continuation of RELS 501/3.0.
Requirements: Prerequisite Level 4 or above and registration in the RELS Major Plan and permission of the Department.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science

RELS 594 Independent Study Units: 3.00
Exceptionally qualified students entering their third- or fourth-year may take a program of independent study provided it has been approved by the Department or Departments principally involved. The Department may approve an independent study program without permitting it to be counted toward a concentration in that Department. It is, consequently, the responsibility of students taking such programs to ensure that the concentration requirements for their degree will be met.

NOTE Requests for such a program must be received one month before the start of the first term in which the student intends to undertake the program.
Requirements: Prerequisite Permission of the Department or Departments principally involved.
Offering Faculty: Faculty of Arts and Science