Religious Studies Minor

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Program Web Site: http://nku.edu/philsophy

NKU's interdisciplinary religious studies minor is designed for students who are especially interested in religious studies or who wish, for career purposes, to add to their general education background.

Religious studies is the scholarly examination of the widespread and diverse phenomena of human religious experiences, the expression of these experiences in systems of belief and in institutions, and their interaction with culture and society. Religion embodies some of humanity's most profound and enduring attempts to answer perennial questions about ultimate reality and about human nature and destiny. An important dimension of religious studies at NKU is its incorporation of associated courses from other disciplines, including philosophy, history, geography, sociology, psychology, literature, anthropology, and women's and gender studies.

Religious studies provides a factual and analytical understanding of religion; sympathetic understanding of a wide range of religious traditions, cultures and values; and an introduction to the relevant literature, vocabulary, and methods used in the scholarly study of religion. This sort of an appreciation of religion is an important component in an individual's education. It is also relevant to many professions and fields including education, law, medicine, nursing, ministry, and human services, and to students interested in graduate education in religious studies.

Course Requirements for Minor (21 credit hours)

Core (3 credit hours)
☐ REL 200 World Religions and Cultures

Religious Traditions and Sacred Texts (3 credit hours)
☐ REL 302 Survey of the Hebrew Bible
☐ REL 303 Survey of the New Testament
☐ REL 304 Jesus
☐ REL 305 Islam
☐ REL 306 Introduction to Judaism
☐ REL 307 Survey of Christianity
☐ REL 317 Catholicism
☐ PHI 312 Eastern Philosophy
☐ WGS 361 Feminine Face of God
☐ WGS 386 Women in the Bible

Philosophical, Ethical, and Theological Perspectives (3 credit hours)
☐ REL 325 Celtic Spirituality
☐ REL 370 Religion and Science
☐ HIS 362 Women and Christianity
☐ PHI 350 Philosophy of Religion
☐ WGS 360 Gendered Spirituality
☐ WGS 386 Women in the Bible

Historical, Linguistic, Literary, and Scientific Perspectives (3 credit hours)
- REL 301 Ancient Religions
- REL 325 Celtic Spirituality
- REL 335 Spiritual Images in Pop Culture
- REL 352 Women and Religion
- ANT 320 Religion and Culture
- ARI 101 Elementary Arabic I*
- ARI 102 Elementary Arabic II*
- ARTH 304 Survey of Asian Art
- ENG 215 Greek and Roman Mythology
- ENG 315 The Bible as Literature
- ENG 324 Holocaust Literature
- GEO 330 Geography of Religion
- HIS 300 The Ancient Near East and Greece to the Macedonian Conquest
- HIS 301 The Hellenistic World and Rome to the Death of Constantine
- HIS 303 Europe in the Middle Ages
- HIS 305 Reformation Europe
- HIS 330 Jewish History
- HIS 362 Women and Christianity
- HIS 384 History of American Religion
- HIS 414 The Holocaust
- JPN 325 Japanese Myth and Folklore
- LAT 101 Elementary Latin I*
- LAT 102 Elementary Latin II*
- SOC 430 Sociology of Religion

Elective courses (9 credit hours)
Any religious studies courses except those used to satisfy categories above.

Note:

At least 20 percent of the total required hours for the minor must be taken at NKU.

Topics courses in disciplines such as REL, PHI, ANT, HIS, ENG, PSY, SOC, and WGS with topics bearing upon religious studies may also count toward the minor. Check with your advisor.

*Only 3 hours of an approved related language can count toward the minor.

Courses listed in more than one category can only satisfy one category. Students who want to have either a broader or deeper background in religious studies than the minor at NKU affords may take advantage of the Greater Cincinnati Consortium of Colleges and Universities or the Cooperative Center for Study Aboard. See the program advisor for more information.