

# BA in Religious Studies

## Degree Program Description

What do shamans, politicians, nurses, prophets, intellectuals, nuns, and soldiers have in common? They are all part of the Religious Studies curriculum at MU, which studies religion as a powerful influence in human life and history, shaping global cultures, national identities, and the values of individuals. Religious Studies majors explore the roles religion plays in societies, the ways that religious institutions grow and change, the meanings of scriptures from around the world, the extraordinary experiences of religious specialists, and much more. Graduates of the major pursue a variety of employment and graduate school opportunities.

## Major Program Requirements

A student must take a total of 24 credit hours in Religious Studies, of which at least 21 hours must be at the 2000-level or above. Students must earn a minimum GPA of 2.0 or higher in order to have the credit applied. In addition to University (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegreerequirements/universityrequirements/>), general education (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/academicdegreerequirements/generaleducationrequirements/>), and College of Arts and Science (<https://catalog.missouri.edu/collegeofartsandscience/#undergraduatetext>) requirements, students must also meet the following major program requirements. All major requirements in the College of Arts and Science must be completed with grades of C- or higher unless otherwise indicated.

### Major Core Requirements

|                |                          |   |
|----------------|--------------------------|---|
| REL_ST 1100    | Introduction to Religion | 3 |
| or REL_ST 1500 | Religion and Culture     |   |
| or REL_ST 2110 | Global Religions         |   |

## Semester Plan

Below is a **sample** plan of study, semester by semester. A student's actual plan may vary based on course choices where options are available.

| First Year  |    |  |           |
|---|----|--|-----------|
| Fall  | CR | Spring   | CR        |
| REL_ST 1100, 1500, or 2110                              |    | 3 Religious Studies, 2000-level  | 3         |
| ENGLISH 1000 or 1000H                                   |    | 3 Math and Quantitative Reasoning                                      | 3         |
| Biological, Physical, or Mathematical Sciences with Lab |    | 4 Biological, Physical, or Mathematical Sciences                       | 3         |
| Behavioral Science                                      |    | 3 Missouri State Law Requirement, Social Science from Arts and Science | 3         |
| SSC 1150  |    | 2 Humanities   | 3         |
| Second major, minor, certificate, or elective           |    | 2  |           |
|   |    | <b>17</b>  | <b>15</b> |
| Second Year   |    |  |           |
| Fall  | CR | Spring   | CR        |
| Behavioral Science from Arts and Science                |    | 3 REL_ST 2100  | 3         |
| Humanities  |    | 3 First Writing Intensive  | 3         |

| Religious Studies 2000+-level                   |    | 3 Humanities from Arts and Science                          | 3         |
|---|----|---|-----------|
| Second Language Requirement                     |    | 4 Second Language Requirement                               | 4         |
| Social Science, 2000-level                      |    | 3 Second major, minor, certificate, or elective             | 3         |
|   |    | <b>16</b>   | <b>16</b> |
| Third Year                                      |    |   |           |
| Fall  | CR | Spring  | CR        |
| Religious Studies, 3000-level                   |    | 3 Religious Studies, 3000-level                             | 3         |
| Second major, minor, certificate, or elective   |    | 3 Humanities, 3000-level                                    | 3         |
| Second Language Requirement                     |    | 4 Internship or Undergraduate Research in Religious Studies | 3         |
| Biological or Physical Sciences with Lab        |    | 4 Second major, minor, certificate, or elective             | 3         |
|   |    | Second major, minor, certificate, or elective               | 3         |
|   |    | <b>14</b>   | <b>15</b> |
| Fourth Year                                     |    |   |           |
| Fall  | CR | Spring  | CR        |
| Religious Studies Capstone, 4000-level          |    | 3 Religious Studies, 3000-level                             | 3         |
| Religious Studies Writing Intensive, 3000-level |    | 3 Religious Studies, 3000-level                             | 3         |
| Second major, minor, certificate, or elective   |    | 3 Second major, minor, certificate, or elective             | 3         |
| Second major, minor, certificate, or elective   |    | 3 Second major, minor, certificate, or elective             | 3         |
|   |    | Second major, minor, certificate, or elective               | 3         |
|   |    | <b>12</b>   | <b>15</b> |

**Total Credits: 120**