Religion

The major and minor in religion are administered by the Department of Religion: Professors Fine, Penn, I. Peterson; Associate Professors Mrozik (on leave Spring 2016), Steinfels; Visiting Instructor Taylor.

Overview

To major in religion is to ask questions about the many ways women and men have sought to make sense of their lives. Examining religious traditions—their notable leaders, their valued texts, and the social behaviors designed to embody their visions—is a central way to study the profound questions that direct so many areas of human endeavor. The study of religion is an excellent way of organizing a liberal arts education so that diverse cultures, artistic expressions, political forces, and gender assignments can be questioned and set in historical and changing contexts.

Our courses focus on sacred texts and interpretive traditions; religious thought; and religion in history and society. The study of religion is inherently comparative, international, and interdisciplinary in approach, embracing a range of methodologies from the humanities and social sciences.

Contact Info

Michael Penn, chair
Sue Rusiecki, senior administrative assistant

Requirements for the Major

Credits

- A minimum of 32 credits
- 12 credits at the 300 level. Only one 395 course will count toward the 300-level requirement

Courses

- The Religion Major does not have a prescribed sequence of required courses. Students choose their course of study in close consultation with their advisors.
- Majors must take courses in at least three different religious traditions such as Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, or Judaism. This requirement may be fulfilled by courses at any level and by courses that take a comparative approach.

Other

- Independent work is encouraged and, if approved by the advisor, such work may constitute partial fulfillment of the above requirements.
- Courses with a substantial focus on a religious tradition or a religious theme offered by other departments may be counted towards the Religion major with approval of the advisor and department chair. Examples include:
  - Classics 211 Gods and Mortals: Ancient Greek and Roman Myth
  - Classics 260 Knowing God
  - History 222 Muslim Politics in Modern South Asia
  - History 223 Religion and Politics in Modern India
  - History 235 Native American History through 1865
  - International Relations 324 Islamic Political Thought
  - International Relations 333 Just War and Jihad: Comparative Ethics of War and Peace
  - International Relations 343 Law and Religion

- Please note this list is not comprehensive. Additional courses should be identified in consultation with the advisor or department chair.
- One extra-departmental course on relevant methodological or theoretical approaches may be counted towards the major with permission of the advisor. Such a course may be of particular value for students planning to do independent research. Examples include:
  - Anthropology 275 Research Methods in Cultural Anthropology
  - Sociology 225 Survey Research and Data Analysis
  - Gender Studies 201 Methods and Practices in Feminist Scholarship
- Please note that such courses may have prerequisites set by their department or require the permission of the instructor.

Requirements for the Minor

Credits

- A minimum of 20 credits (five courses)
- At least one of the five must be at the 300 level
- At least three of the courses should be taken in the Mount Holyoke Department of Religion

Course Offerings

RELIG-100 Introduction to Religion
Not Scheduled for This Year
This course is an introduction to the study of religion, assessing the nature of religion and methodological approaches through an examination of subject matter drawn from numerous traditions.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives
S. Mrozik
Restrictions: This course is limited to first years, sophomores and juniors
Credits: 4

RELIG-102 Introduction to Islam
Fall
This course examines Islamic religious beliefs and practices from the origins of Islam to the present, focusing on such central issues as scripture and tradition, law and theology, sectarianism and mysticism. Attention will be given to the variety of Islamic understandings of monotheism, prophethood, dogma, ritual, and society.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives
A. Steinfels
Credits: 4

RELIG-103 Introduction to the Hebrew Bible
Spring
This course provides a critical introduction to the writings contained in the Hebrew Bible (also known as the Old Testament). It investigates the social and historical context of the ancient Israelites, examines a range of ancient Near Eastern literature, and introduces the principal methods of biblical studies. Participants will read much of the Hebrew Bible as well as select non-Israelite sources. Examples of recent biblical scholarship will provide additional information for better understanding these writings and will present different methods for approaching and interpreting ancient texts.
Crosslisted as: Jewish Studies 103
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
M. Penn
Credits: 4
RELIG-104 Introduction to the New Testament  
Fall  
This course investigates the social and historical context of first and early second-century Christianity, examines New Testament and select non-canonical documents, and introduces participants to the principal methods of New Testament studies. Students will read the works that make up most modern collections of the New Testament, a number of early Christian documents that did not make the final cut, and several ancient non-Christian sources. Examples of recent New Testament scholarship will provide historical background for better understanding of Christian writings and will present different methods for approaching and interpreting ancient texts.  
Crosslisted as: Jewish Studies 104  
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities  
M. Penn  
Credits: 4

RELIG-112 Introduction to Judaism  
Not Scheduled for This Year  
Judaism is a 3,500-year-old tradition that has developed over time as Jewish communities all over the world creatively interacted with the different cultural and historical milieus in which they lived. This course explores the ways in which Judaism has sought to transform ordinary life into sacred life. What are the ways in which Judaism conceives of God, and what is the meaning of life? What roles do study, prayer, ethics, sex, marriage, family, rituals of the life cycle, and community play in Judaism? These and other questions will be taken up through study of diverse types of religious literature and historical evidence.  
Crosslisted as: Jewish Studies 112  
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities  
L. Fine  
Credits: 4

RELIG-163 Introduction to Buddhism  
Fall  
Some scholars have argued that there is no such thing as ‘Buddhism’ in the singular, but only ‘Buddhisms’ in the plural. This course introduces students to select historically and culturally diverse forms of Buddhism, including Sri Lankan Theravada Buddhism, Japanese Zen Buddhism, and Tibetan Buddhism. The course pays particular attention to modern (and modernist) reinterpretations of Buddhism, including contested views of gender.  
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives  
S. Mrozik  
Credits: 4

RELIG-167 Hinduism: An Introduction  
Fall  
A major religious tradition of India, Hinduism is in practice a multiplicity of expressions. This course explores Hinduism's diverse traditions through its history, unifying themes, texts, and popular observances. We will read from the great texts (Ramayana, Mahabharata), learn about gods and goddesses (Krishna, the Great Goddess), and discuss art and ritual. Topics include: body techniques and the material universe (yoga, Tantra); philosophical traditions, concepts (karma, dharma); religious figures (Mirabai); movements (Bhakti). Hinduism's contemporary expressions in India and the West will be considered in social and historical context. Frequent illustration is provided through videos.  
Crosslisted as: Asian Studies 167  
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives  
P. Peterson  
Credits: 4

RELIG-201 Introduction to the Qur'an  
Spring  
This course examines the history, structure, and themes of the Qur'an and analyzes the place of the Qur'an in Islamic religious thought. Students will read the entire text of the Qur'an in translation, as well as selections from medieval and modern commentaries.  
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives  
A. Steinfels  
Notes: This course counts toward the Asian Studies and Middle Eastern Studies majors and minors.  
Credits: 4

RELIG-205 Issues in Islamic History  
This course explores Islamic religious history and issues that have been of religious and cultural significance to Muslims in various eras.  

RELIG-205CL Issues in Islamic History: ‘Classical Islamic Civilization’  
Not Scheduled for This Year  
We will examine the development of Islamic civilization from the time of the Prophet Muhammad to the sixteenth century. Particular attention will be paid to the political structures of the caliphates, the process of conquest and conversion, and interaction with non-Muslim cultures. Literature, art, architecture, and philosophical and scientific works of classical Islamic civilization will be used as primary sources for this course.  
Crosslisted as: History 204CI  
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives  
A. Steinfels  
Notes: This course counts toward the Asian Studies and Middle Eastern Studies majors and minors.  
Credits: 4

RELIG-207 Women and Gender in Islam  
Spring  
This course will examine a range of ways in which Islam has constructed women---and women have constructed Islam. We will study concepts of gender as they are reflected in classical Islamic texts, as well as different aspects of the social, economic, political, and ritual lives of women in various Islamic societies.  
Crosslisted as: Gender Studies 210SL  
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives  
A. Steinfels  
Notes: This course counts toward the Asian Studies and Middle Eastern Studies majors and minors.  
Credits: 4

RELIG-210 Religious Ethics  
Not Scheduled for This Year  
This course explores the ethical implications of religious convictions, particularly implications relevant to personal decisions. It introduces ethical principles through an examination of scriptural sources, a selection of major moral thinkers, and illustrative moral dilemmas. Among the concerns of the course are the components and motives of personal decision, the values and liabilities of fixed norms and principles, and the nature of personal responsibility.  
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities  
The department  
Restrictions: Course limited to sophomores, juniors and seniors  
Credits: 4

RELIG-216 Spirituality, Religion, and Civic Engagement  
Spring  
This theoretical and experiential course will examine the concept of social justice dating back to Roman Catholic teachings by St. Thomas Aquinas regarding
poverty; leading up to modern day umbrella movements which include race, 
class, gender, sexual orientation, ability, national origin, first language and the 
ways in which ideas about social justice have shifted. This will include 
intersections with global human rights movements, evangelicalism and 
intersectionality regarding identity politics. Students will participate in 
ethnographic community-based projects learning about how religion and/or 
spirituality are utilized for civic engagement.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives
Other Attribute(s): Community-Based Learning; Speaking-Intensive; Writing-Intensive
M. Runell Hall
Credits: 4

RELIG-218 Women in American Religious History
Not Scheduled for This Year
This course is a critical study of significant women (Anne Hutchinson, Mother 
Ann Lee, Mary Baker Eddy, Ellen Gould White, Aimee Semple McPherson, 
Dorothy Day, and others) and their roles in the pluralistic character of American 
religion. It raises central questions concerning leadership, marginality, deviant 
behavior, and criticism of women. Students are expected to contribute to the 
course by their participation and individual research.
Crosslisted as: Gender Studies 210RH
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
The department
Credits: 4

RELIG-221 Religious Movements in America
Not Scheduled for This Year
What is American religion? Is America a ‘Christian’ nation? How have 
immigration affected the American religious landscape? How have struggles for 
freedom, civil rights, racial, economic, gender, and LGBTQ equality affected 
what people believe and how they act out these beliefs? To begin to answer these 
questions, we survey the main historical narratives of religion in the U.S. from 
the colonial period to the present. We also zero in at various moments in this 
history to appreciate the variety of religion and religious experience in American 
life. This combination enables us to engage the tension between the two main 
ways of considering religion in America: the quest for religious consensus and 
the recognition of a thoroughly pluralistic American religious culture.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
The department
Credits: 4

RELIG-223 Religion and Politics in Modern India
Not Scheduled for This Year
The history of India has been singled out for its complex intermingling of 
religion and politics. This course will explore the constitution of religious 
identities in two of India’s largest religious communities: Hindu and Muslim. 
Focusing primarily on the colonial period, we will discuss religious reform 
movements, communal violence, mass politics, and the partition of the 
subcontinent into the independent states of India and Pakistan. Throughout we 
will be interested in the ways that the colonial experience affected the religious 
thought and practice of Indians. Finally, we will explore the meanings of this 
history for the postcolonial workings of democracy and secularism in modern 
India.
Crosslisted as: History 223
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives
Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive; Writing-Intensive; Topics Course
K. S. Datla
Credits: 4

RELIG-225 Topics in Religion

RELIG-225LF Topics in Judaism: 'Love, Friendship, and Interpersonal 
Relations in Judaism'
Fall
This course explores teachings and practices having to do with interpersonal 
relations in Jewish religious tradition, including notions of ‘spiritual friendship,’ 
relations between parents and children, teachers and disciples, and loving 
partners. Drawing broadly on the many varieties of Jewish religious literature, 
with a special interest in the mystical traditions of Judaism, the course also 
dresses diverse ethical questions such as the nature of forgiveness, 
responsibility towards the needs of others, and sexual ethics.
Crosslisted as: Jewish Studies 225LF
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
L. Fine
Credits: 4

RELIG-226 Introduction to the Philosophy of Religion
Not Scheduled for This Year
This course surveys the classical responses major Western thinkers have had to 
great religious questions. Ancient Greece, the Enlightenment, the nineteenth and 
twentieth centuries serve as the primary periods of focus. Works by Plato, 
Anselm, Aquinas, Hume, Kant, Dostoevsky, Marx, Kierkegaard, and Tillich are 
just a few of the materials we will read. The classical arguments for G-D’s 
existence, as well as the nature of human freedom, and the place of reason and 
faith in social life will be addressed.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
Other Attribute(s): Speaking-Intensive; Writing-Intensive
The department
Credits: 4

RELIG-230 Spirituals and the Blues
Not Scheduled for This Year
This course examines and analyzes African American music as a primary textual 
source for understanding philosophical and religious language within that 
community. It addresses various questions: What are the central philosophical 
and religious themes expressed within the text? How are these themes reflected 
in the music? What is the intrinsic character of the spirituals and the blues? Is 
there such a thing as a ‘music of oppression’? In what way(s) does the black 
experience contribute to philosophical and religious understanding, as well as the 
use of language? What does this material suggest about the connections among 
art, literature, and experience?
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
The department
Credits: 4

RELIG-232 Contemporary Jewish Ethics
Not Scheduled for This Year
This course will explore issues of contemporary ethics from the point of view of 
Jewish religious thought and tradition. Topics will include medical and genetic 
ethics, death and dying, family and sexual ethics, ethics of war, poverty, and the 
environment. The course will explore these issues in the context of theoretical 
approaches to questions of religion and ethics.
Crosslisted as: Jewish Studies 232
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
L. Fine
Prereq: 8 credits in religion or Jewish studies.
Credits: 4
RELIG-233 Contemplative Practice and Religious Traditions
Not Scheduled for This Year
Contemplative practices and meditative techniques are central to many religious traditions. This course explores such practices, in part, through the study of religious texts that serve as guides to contemplation and ‘mindfulness.’ We also consider ways in which classical contemplative traditions are being adapted by contemporary spiritual seekers. Students will also have opportunities to engage in various forms of practice from Jewish, Christian, Muslim, Hindu, and Buddhist traditions, in order to exemplify the traditions being studied.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives
L. Fine
Credits: 4

RELIG-235 Introduction to Jewish Mysticism
Not Scheduled for This Year
Mysticism refers to a type of religious life in which individuals seek intimate and personal, direct and intense experience of the Divine. There exists a rich and fascinating Jewish mystical tradition with hundreds of books of diverse kinds. This course examines the Kabbalah of thirteenth-century Spain, focusing upon the seminal work of this period, the Sohar; the synthesis of mysticism and messianism that occurred in the city of Safed (in the Land of Israel) in the sixteenth century; and the popular pietistic movement of eastern Europe from the eighteenth century forward, Hasidism; and various expressions of mystical spirituality in our own time.
Crosslisted as: Jewish Studies 235
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
L. Fine
Credits: 4

RELIG-241 Women and Buddhism
Not Scheduled for This Year
This course examines the contested roles and representations of Buddhist women in different historical and cultural contexts. Using a variety of ethnographic, historical, and textual sources, the course investigates both the challenges and opportunities Buddhist women have found in their religious texts, institutions, and communities.
Crosslisted as: Gender Studies 210BD
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives
S. Mrozik
Credits: 4

RELIG-247 What Didn’t Make It in the New Testament
Not Scheduled for This Year
Hundreds of ancient Christian texts did not make it into the New Testament. ‘What Didn’t Make It in the New Testament’ examines some of these excluded writings. We will explore Gnostic gospels, hear of a five-year-old Jesus killing (and later resurrecting) his classmates, peruse ancient Christian romance novels, tour heaven and hell, read the garden of Eden story told from the perspective of the snake, and learn how the world will end. In critically examining these ancient narratives, we will better appreciate the diversity of Christian traditions, understand the historical context of the early church, and explore the politics behind what did and did not make it into the bible.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
M. Penn
Credits: 4

RELIG-249 Encounters Between Judaism and Other Religious Traditions: Christianity, Islam, and Buddhism
Not Scheduled for This Year
This course will explore selected examples of the encounter between Judaism and other world religious traditions. Living alongside other religious traditions over millennia, how have Jewish religious thought and practice creatively appropriated, adapted, as well as resisted aspects of ‘foreign’ religious. Examples we will consider include encounters with medieval Islam in the realms of Arabic poetry and Sufi mysticism, Christianity in connection with religious ritual, mystical notions of the divine feminine, and in our own time, the influence of Buddhism on American Judaism.
Crosslisted as: Jewish Studies 249
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
L. Fine
Credits: 4

RELIG-252 Magic, Prayer, and Sacrifice: Rituals and Why We Do Them
Fall
From live sacrifice to sacred dances, from pilgrimage to bodily purification, rituals have long been considered a hallmark of religion. Yet, ritual activities are also important to apparently non-religious spheres of life, such as sporting events and political mobilization. This course will examine examples of ritual activity from a range of cultural contexts through the lens of anthropological, sociological, psychological, and religious studies theories of ritual. We will explore the structure of ritual activities, the question of whether rituals have meaning and function for individuals and for societies, and, if so, what those meanings and functions might be.
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
A. Steinfels
Credits: 4

RELIG-256 What Didn’t Make It in the Bible
Fall
Hundreds of ancient religious texts did not make it into the Hebrew Scripture (aka the Old Testament). This course examines some of these excluded writings. In particular, we will focus on works found among the Apocrypha, the Pseudepigrapha, and the Dead Sea Scrolls, We will read an ancient Harlequin romance, tour heaven and hell, hear of the adventures of fallen angels who sired giants (and taught humans about cosmetics), and learn how the world will end. In critically examining such texts, we will better appreciate the diversity of Judaism, better understand the historical context of early Christianity, and explore the politics behind what did and did not make it into the bible.
Crosslisted as: Jewish Studies 256
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
M. Penn
Credits: 4

RELIG-265 Holy Feast, Holy Fast: Sacred Food and Eating in Judaism
Not Scheduled for This Year
This course explores the role of food and eating in Jewish religious culture, but will also include a significant comparative religious dimension. Topics will include the ritual, religious, and social significance of the dietary laws in Judaism, the symbolic foods of Passover and other festivals, fasting and ascetic attitudes toward food, as well as food culture as a marker of Jewish identity.
Crosslisted as: Jewish Studies 265
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
L. Fine
Credits: 4

RELIG-267 Buddhist Ethics
Not Scheduled for This Year
This is an introduction to contemporary and classical Buddhist ethical ideals. Working with primary and secondary sources, we will ask the following questions: Is the universe moral? What are Buddhist ethical ideals and who embodies these? How do contemporary Buddhists interpret classical ethical ideals? What moral dilemmas do Buddhists face today? How do Buddhists grapple with moral ambiguity? We will consider the perspectives of Buddhists...
from different cultures including India, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam, Japan, and
the United States.

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives
S. Mrozik

Credits: 4

RELIG-270  Jewish Religious Art and Material Culture: From Ancient Israel
to Contemporary Judaism
Not Scheduled for This Year
Despite the biblical prohibition against 'graven images,' there exists a rich history
of Jewish religious art and aesthetics. This course will study ancient Israelite art
and archeology, including the Second Temple in Jerusalem, the extraordinary
mosaic floors and frescoes of early synagogues throughout the Mediterranean
world, medieval illuminated Hebrew manuscripts and printed book culture,
synagogues of later periods, including the wooden synagogues of Eastern Europe,
and Judaic ritual objects of many types. Jewish art, architecture, and visual
representation will be explored in the context of the ancient Near Eastern, Greco-
Roman, Christian, and Islamic settings in which they evolved.
Crosslisted as: Jewish Studies 270, Art History 290JR
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives
L. Fine
Credits: 4

RELIG-295  Independent Study
Fall and Spring
The department
Instructor permission required.
Credits: 1-4
Course can be repeated for credit.

RELIG-306  Sex and the Early Church
Not Scheduled for This Year
This course examines the various ways first- through fifth-century Christians
addressed questions regarding human sexuality. We will concentrate on the rise
of sexual asceticism and pay particular attention to the relationship between
sexuality and issues of gender, culture, power, and resistance. Primary readings
will include letters, narrative accounts of female and male ascetics, monastic
rules, and 'heretical' scriptures. These will be supplemented by modern
scholarship in early Christian studies and the history of sexuality.
Crosslisted as: Gender Studies 333TT
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
M. Penn
Prereq: 4 credits from Religion department or permission.
Credits: 4

RELIG-311  Sufism: The Mystic Path in Islam
Not Scheduled for This Year
Exploration of the mystical tradition in Islam known as Sufism, from its origins
in medieval Iraq to its role in contemporary Islamic societies. This course focuses
on how the Sufi pursuit of unity with, or annihilation in, God relates to the core
monotheistic beliefs of Islam. Sufi theories and practices are studied through
primary source materials. Special attention will be paid to the themes of love,
desire, and beauty in the literature of Sufism.

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives
A. Steinfels
Notes: This course counts towards the Asian Studies, Middle Eastern Studies, and
South Asian Studies majors and minors.
Credits: 4

RELIG-323  Topics in Contemporary Theology
Not Scheduled for This Year
Mary Daly, Elisabeth Schussler Fiorenza, Phyllis Trible, and Judith Plaskow,
among others, have argued that traditional Jewish and Christian theological
systems have overlooked the needs, concerns, histories, and contributions of
women. Their challenges range from the historical modification of a presumably
unbiased religious system to the outright rejection of a so-called patriarchal
establishment. Whatever their approach, feminist theologies offer diverse and
incisive tools for understanding how a theological system operates, how
transitory cultural assumptions become embedded in ongoing doctrines, and
how apparently minor adjustments can have significant ripple effects.

Crosslisted as: Gender Studies 333FF
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
The department
Prereq: 8 credits from Religion department or permission.
Credits: 4

RELIG-329  Buddhism in North America
Not Scheduled for This Year
In this course we will explore the diverse nature of Buddhist identity and practice
in contemporary North America. After an overview of the major Buddhist
traditions in North America, we will explore key factors in the shaping of North
American Buddhist identities and practices, such as race, ethnicity and gender;
immigration and conversion; meditation movements (including in prisons);
social activism; North American forms of monasticism; and Buddhism in the
popular media. No prior background required to take this course.

Applies to requirement(s): Humanities; Multicultural Perspectives
S. Mrozik
Restrictions: Course limited to sophomores, juniors and seniors
Credits: 4

RELIG-331  Advanced Topics in Religion

RELIG-332  Seminar in American Religious History
This course offers advanced students an opportunity to investigate with some
sophistication a problem that requires careful attention to research methods, to
critical literature, and to writing. Seminar topics include people, periods, or
problems that have a particular bearing on religion in America.

RELIG-332SH  Seminar in American Religious History: 'The Shakers'
Not Scheduled for This Year
This course will examine the historical and cultural creation of the Shaker
society. The religious vision of an alternative society whose birth and
development paralleled that of the new American nation; by contrast and by
imitation, the separate Shaker route thus offers an intriguing critique of
American society and its values, and an unusual laboratory for examining a
religious community based on a dual godhead.

Crosslisted as: Gender Studies 333PP
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities
The department
Prereq: 8 credits in Religion, or 8 credits in Gender Studies.
Credits: 4

RELIG-337  Topics in the Study of Christianity

RELIG-337MC  Topics in the Study of Christianity: 'Early Muslim/Christian
Encounters'
Not Scheduled for This Year
This course explores a set of recently discovered documents that substantially
changes our understanding of Christian-Muslim relations. We will read texts
such as a Christian/Muslim debate, a bishop's letter on how to bribe Muslim
rulers, and an exorcism account concerning demon-possessed monks. Students
will be among the first in a thousand years to read these works providing them with a strong knowledge of the history of Christianity, of Islam, and of their first interactions with each other.  
Crosslisted as: Medieval Studies 300MC  
Applies to requirement(s): Humanities  
M. Penn  
Prereq: 4 credits in Religion.  
Credits: 4

**RELIG-352 Body Images and Practices in Religious Traditions**  
Not Scheduled for This Year  
This seminar examines body images and practices in a range of religions, including Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, and indigenous traditions. Some of the topics we will discuss are religious exercise regimens, dietary laws, gender and sexuality, healing practices, religious icons, ordination, and slavery.  
Crosslisted as: Gender Studies 333KK  
Applies to requirement(s): Hum-Hist,Phil,Relig  
S. Mrozik  
Credits: 4

**RELIG-395 Independent Study**  
Fall and Spring  
The department  
Instructor permission required.  
Credits: 1-8  
Course can be repeated for credit.

**See Also**

- Jewish Studies