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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
FACULTY OF ARTS

BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA)

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Religious Studies is the critical study of religious beliefs, practices, texts, institutions, and communities. We ask: What is religion? How has it functioned in societies past and present? How do religious groups answer the enduring questions of human existence? Our approach to these questions is interdisciplinary, non-religious, and often comparative.

OFFERS COURSES IN...

- Buddhist studies
- Hindu studies
- Jewish studies
- Christian studies
- Islamic studies
- Ancient religions
- Witchcraft and the occult
- Method and theory in the study of religion
- Sanskrit
- Hebrew

COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR YOUR MAJOR

Complete your major requirements and test out different classes. *Design your academic plan — you're in control!*

RELIGIOUS STUDIES MAJOR REQUIREMENTS:

- 100-level surveys, one each in Western and Eastern Religious Traditions
- Two 200-level courses in different religious traditions
- RELIG 375 - Approaches to the Study of Religion
- Additional courses at the 200 to 400 levels, chosen from RELIG or cross-listed courses all across Arts

To verify your Major and BA Common Requirements, check the University Calendar and speak to an advisor.

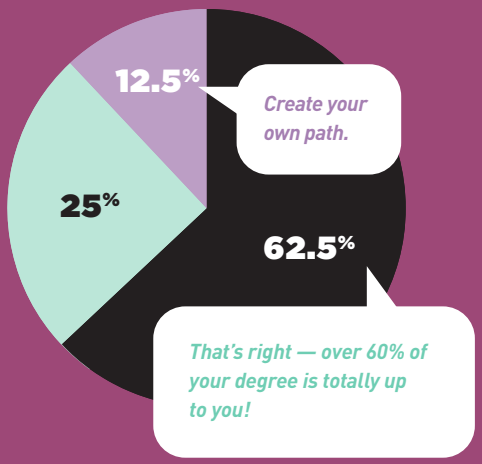
WHAT CAN I DO WITH A RELIGIOUS STUDIES DEGREE?

I COULD BE A... policy analyst, social worker, human resources representative, event planner, journalist, librarian, marketing consultant.

OR WORK IN... law, social work, public policy, non-governmental organizations, education, international organizations, academia, hospitality, or business.

BA RELIGIOUS STUDIES

- Required R.S Courses (Major)
- BA Basic Requirements
- Second Major, Minor(s), Certificates, Electives



TOP 5 REASONS TO STUDY RELIGIOUS STUDIES:

1. Take core courses taught by teacher-scholars with expertise in a variety of religious traditions.
2. We are interdisciplinary! Supplement required courses with those from a diverse array of Arts offerings that will count toward the Religious Studies major or minor.
3. Fulfil your Language Other than English requirement and study Sanskrit, to build on your interest in South Asian religions, or Biblical Hebrew.
4. Gain international and cultural awareness, including the skills to critically interpret media coverage and public policies related to religion.
5. Meet your classmates! Religious Studies courses draw students from all faculties, who share a respectful curiosity about religion and religious traditions.

ENHANCE YOUR DEGREE

STRENGTHEN YOUR CREDENTIALS:

Study abroad; write an honors thesis; learn a scriptural language; get a double major; conduct research; explore Arts Work Experience.

ADD A CERTIFICATE IN:

Peace and Post-Conflict Studies, Engaged Leadership and Citizenship in Arts and Science, International Learning, Community Engagement and Service-Learning.

STUDENT SUPPORTS

These are services that enable you to pursue academic and personal success.

- Academic advising
- Student Ombuds
- Indigenous Student supports
- Academic support
- Health & Wellness
- Campus Food Bank
- Libraries
- International Student supports
- Accessibility Resources
- Financial Aid & Awards
- Professional & Career Development
- Mental Health Supports

WE ARE ALL TREATY PEOPLE

The University of Alberta respectfully acknowledges that we are situated on Treaty 6 territory, traditional lands of First Nations and Métis people.

DEPARTMENT CONTACT INFO:

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PHONE: 780-492-3270
EMAIL: histclass@ualberta.ca
WEBSITE: ualberta.ca/history-classics

FOLLOW US

BLOG: medium.com/ualberta-arts-insider
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BA RELIGIOUS STUDIES

DEGREE GUIDE

Your University experience is about what happens inside and outside of the classroom. This map is a tool to help you complement your academics with hands-on learning outside of the classroom and take advantage of student activities. Each new step will help you explore your options, take measured risks, and inform your next step. Being informed and engaged leads to a richer journey throughout your degree and beyond!

LEGEND

- GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE
- GAIN EXPERIENCE
- SEEK OUT CONNECTIONS
- NAVIGATE COURSES

EARLY DEGREE

Expand your career options, be proactive, and test possibilities. Join a student group.

Meet your undergrad advisor and plan your degree path.

Take a Community Service-Learning Course.

Test your career options: volunteer on or off campus, or get a summer or part-time job. Reflect on what you're learning and practise self-care.

Have inspired conversations and animated debates on global topics during International Week on campus.

MID-DEGREE

Take risks, try new things, ask for and offer help to people you know and people you meet.

Learn more about Indigenous peoples, perspectives, and worldviews.

Apply your academic knowledge, and build your network through programs like the Certificate in Community Engagement and Service-Learning.

Apply to Arts Work Experience to strengthen your technical and transferable skills and gain paid, professional experience before you graduate.

Add research or creative activities to your degree with the Undergraduate Research Initiative, or apply into BA Honors.

Study abroad and receive guaranteed credit in Cortona, Italy.

LATE DEGREE

Develop and revise your career story based on your values, interests, and what you learn.

Add a Certificate in International Learning to your degree.

Ask professors to be academic references.

Ready to toss your cap in the air? Apply to graduate!

Let the Career Centre support you in communicating your skills to prepare for your next step — graduate studies, professional programs, or employment.