

Interdepartmental Program  
College of Humanities, Arts,  
and Social Sciences

Published May 2009

Effective for students beginning degree Summer Sem. 2009 thru Spring Sem. 2010

## Admission Requirements For This Major

1. New freshmen admitted to USU in good standing qualify for admission to this major.
2. Transfer students from other institutions or transferring from other USU majors need an overall minimum GPA of 2.5 for admission to this major in good standing.

## The Program

The Religious Studies BS or BA degree requires a total of 36 credits for the major, as well as 15 credits in a complementary minor.

Students begin their course of study by completing one lower-division course (RELS 1010, Introduction to Religious Studies).

Students must take 30 credits of upper-division coursework, chosen from the following four areas: **Cultural Inquiry** (humanistic approaches), **Scientific Inquiry** (social scientific approaches), **Doctrinal Inquiry** (philosophical and theological approaches), and **General Inquiry**.

At the end of the program, students completing either the BA or the BS degree must take a capstone seminar.

The minor in religious studies requires the same lower-division course as the major, as well as 12 additional credits with *at least one* upper-division course chosen from *each* of the first three areas of approach: Cultural Inquiry, Scientific Inquiry, and Doctrinal Inquiry.

## Purpose and Outcomes

Students completing the BA or BS degree in Religious Studies should be able to demonstrate the ability to:

1. understand the influence of religion upon culture, and the influence of culture upon religion;
2. analyze the influence of religious value systems on individuals;
3. apply appropriate methods of research and argumentation to questions concerning religion and culture;
4. communicate their findings in clear, well-reasoned writing; and
5. express cultural literacy concerning the major religions of the world.

## Undergraduate Interdepartmental Degree and Minor Offered Through This College

**Religious Studies:** Bachelor of Science (BS) and Bachelor of Arts (BA)

**Religious Studies:** Minor

### Academic Advisement

All students should contact their academic advisor for assistance with course selection, program planning, and meeting graduation requirements. If they do not know who their advisor is, students should contact their department, the College of HASS Advising Center, or the Office of University Advising.

## Graduation Requirements: BS or BA\* Degree in Religious Studies

### Minimum University Requirements\*\*

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Total credits . . . . .  | 120            |
| Grade point average (most majors require higher GPA) . . . . .       | 2.00 GPA       |
| Credits of C- or better . . . . .                                    | 100            |
| Credits of upper-division courses (#3000 or above) . . . . .         | 40             |
| USU credits . . . . .  | 30             |
| (20 of which must be upper division, including 10 required by major) |                |
| Completion of approved major program of study . . . . .              | See department |

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Credits in minor (if required by department) . . . . .  | 12        |
| Credits in American Institutions (ECN 1500; HIST 1700, 2700, or 2710; POLS 1100; or USU 1300) . . . . . | 3         |
| University Studies requirements . . . . .   | See below |

\*A BA degree requires foreign language training. For further information, see the *General Catalog*.

\*\*Colleges and departments may require more credits or a higher GPA. See requirements on this sheet.

## University Studies Requirements for Religious Studies Major

**Note:** Approved University Studies courses and requirements are listed in the *General Catalog*. The most current listings are shown online at: <http://www.usu.edu/generalcatalog/>

## General Education Requirements (30-34 credits)

### Competency Requirements (9-10 credits)

#### Communications Literacy (CL1 and CL2) (6 credits)

ENGL 1010 (CL1) (3 credits) or satisfactory AP, CLEP, IBO, ACT, or SAT score

AND

ENGL 2010 (CL2) (3 credits) or satisfactory IBO score

#### Quantitative Literacy (QL) (3-4 credits)

MATH 1030 or 1050 or STAT 1040 (3-4 credits)

OR

One MATH or STAT course requiring MATH 1050 as a prerequisite

OR

Satisfactory AP, CLEP, IBO, ACT, or SAT score

#### Computer and Information Literacy (0 credits)

Passing grade on six computer and information literacy related examinations. (Effective Spring Semester 2010, students must fulfill this requirement prior to enrolling in ENGL 2010.)

### Breadth Requirements (18-20 credits)

Select at least one approved course from each of the following six categories: **American Institutions (BAI)**, **Creative Arts (BCA)**, **Humanities (BHU)**, **Life Sciences (BLS)**, **Physical Sciences (BPS)**, and **Social Sciences (BSS)**. At least two of the six breadth courses must be University Studies courses with a **USU prefix** (excluding USU 1000, 1010, 1100, 3330, 4900, and 6900). (CLEP or AP credit may be used.)

### Exploration Requirement (3-4 credits)

Choose an additional class from one of the following General Education categories: QL, BAI, BCA, BHU, BLS, BPS, or BSS.

## Depth Education Requirements

### Communications Intensive (CI) (2 courses)

Two courses having CI designation (such as ENGL 3700; HIST 3110, 3150, 3220, 3250, 3850, 4230; PHIL 3100, 3120, 3730; RELS/ENGL/HIST 3710) will meet this requirement.

### Quantitative Intensive (QI) (1 course)

For most students, a course taken for the major will meet this requirement.

### Depth Course Requirements (4 credits minimum, including 2 credits minimum completed in each of two courses)

Complete at least 2 credits in approved 3000-level or above courses from each of the following two categories: **Life and Physical Sciences (DSC)** and **Social Sciences (DSS)**.

# Religious Studies Major

Minimum GPA for Admission: 2.5, USU; 2.0 Career

Minimum GPA for Graduation: 2.5, major courses; 2.0, USU

Minimum Grade Accepted: C in all major requirements

## A. Required Courses (6 credits)

Credits

- RELS 1010 Introduction to Religious Studies . . . . . 3
- RELS 4990 Religious Studies Capstone . . . . . 3

## B. Elective Courses (30 credits)

Students must complete *at least 6 credits* of coursework chosen from *each* of the first three divisions (Cultural Inquiry, Scientific Inquiry, and Doctrinal Inquiry). The remaining credits may be selected from any of the four divisions. The total credits for coursework completed in this section must be *at least 30 credits*.

### 1. Cultural Inquiry

Courses in this section use the methods of the arts and humanities to explore religious expression and the ways in which religion and behavior interact over time.

Select at least two of the following courses: Credits

- ENGL 3070 (DHA) Perspectives in Folklore (F,Su) . . . . . 3
- ENGL/HIST 3700 (CI) Regional Folklore (F,Sp). . . . . 3
- HIST/ARTH 3110 (DHA/CI) Ancient Near East (Sp) . . . . . 3
- HIST 3150 (CI) Roman History (Sp) . . . . . 3
- HIST 3220 (DHA/CI) Medieval European Civilization, 500-1500 . . . . . 3
- HIST 3230 Early Modern Europe . . . . . 3
- HIST 3250 (DHA/CI) Renaissance Europe 1300 to 1520 (F,Sp) . . . . . 3
- HIST 3410 The Modern Middle East . . . . . 3
- HIST 3460 Comparative Asian History . . . . . 3
- HIST 3850 (DHA/CI) History of Utah (Sp) . . . . . 3
- HIST 4210 Celtic Europe (F) . . . . . 3
- HIST 4230 (DHA/CI) The History of Christianity in the West . . . . . 3
- HIST 4250 The Reformation in Britain: 1450-1688 . . . . . 3
- HIST 4790 American Religious History . . . . . 3
- RELS/HIST 3010 Introduction to Buddhism . . . . . 3
- RELS/HIST 3020 Introduction to Hinduism . . . . . 3
- RELS/ENGL/HIST 3710 (CI) Folklore Colloquium (Sp) . . . . . 3
- RELS 3990 Introduction to Religious Studies Methodology . . . . . 3
- RELS/HIST 4010 Buddhism in the West . . . . . 3
- RELS/ARTH 5740 Art and Religion: Topics in Sacred Art (Sp) . . . . . 3

### 2. Scientific Inquiry

Courses in this section use the methods of the social sciences to explore religious values and behavior on an individual and a societal level.

Select at least two of the following courses: Credits

- ANTH 3160 (DSS) Anthropology of Religion (F) . . . . . 3
- ANTH 4110 (d6110) (DSS) Southwest Indian Cultures, Past and Present (F) . . . . . 3
- ANTH 4230 (DSS) Medical Anthropology: Matter, Culture, Spirit, and Health (Sp) . . . . . 3
- PHIL 3750 Religion and Science in the Modern World (F) . . . . . 3
- PSY 3500 (CI/DSS) Scientific Thinking and Methods in Psychology (F,Sp) . . . . . 3

Credits

- PSY 3510 (DSS) Social Psychology (F,Su) . . . . . 3
- PSY 4420 (DSS) Cognitive Psychology (Sp) . . . . . 3
- PSY 4430 Cognitive Psychology Laboratory (Sp) . . . . . 1
- SOC 3110 (CI) Methods of Social Research (F,Sp) . . . . . 3
- SOC 3500 Social Psychology (F,Sp) . . . . . 3
- SOC 4330 Religion, Science, and Society (Sp) . . . . . 3

### 3. Doctrinal Inquiry

Courses in this section use the methods of philosophy and theology, exploring systems of belief and major theological models.

Select at least two of the following courses: Credits

- PHIL 3100 (CI) Ancient Philosophy . . . . . 3
- PHIL 3110 Medieval Philosophy . . . . . 3
- PHIL 3120 (CI) Early Modern Philosophy . . . . . 3
- PHIL 3700 (DHA) Philosophy of Religion (F) . . . . . 3
- PHIL 3710 Philosophies of East Asia (F) . . . . . 3
- PHIL 3720 Philosophical Theology After Kant (F) . . . . . 3
- PHIL 3730 (CI) Philosophy of the New Testament . . . . . 3
- PHIL 4300 Epistemology . . . . . 3

### 4. General Inquiry

- RELS 4910 Special Topics in Religious Studies . . . . . 1-3
- RELS 4930 Directed Readings. . . . . 1-3
- RELS 6900 Directed Readings. . . . . 1-3

In consultation with the program advisor, students may receive approval to fulfill division elective requirements with courses other than those shown above.

## Religious Studies Minor

The minor in Religious Studies requires 15 credits. Students must earn a grade of C or better in all courses counted toward the minor. Students must complete the following courses.

Credits

- RELS 1010 Introduction to Religious Studies (required) . . . . . 3

In addition to the RELS course listed above, students must also complete 12 additional credits, with *at least one* upper-division course chosen from each of the following three areas of approach: Cultural Inquiry, Scientific Inquiry, and Doctrinal Inquiry.

## Requirement Changes

Graduation requirements shown on this sheet are subject to change. Students should check with their assigned advisor concerning possible changes.

## Materials for Persons with Disabilities

This requirement sheet is available in digital format, recordings, or large print upon request to the USU Disability Resource Center.

## For information contact

Charles S. Prebish, Program Director; Main 331; Utah State University; 0710 Old Main Hill; Logan UT 84322-0710; tel. (435) 797-1529; e-mail charles.prebish@usu.edu; <http://www.usu.edu/history/rels/>

Prepared by Registrar's Office, Utah State University