



RELIGIOUS STUDIES PROGRAM

JUDAIC STUDIES • ISLAMIC STUDIES
CHRISTIANITY STUDIES

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

The Religious Studies programs at Oakland University offer an independent major in Religious Studies, a general concentration in Religious Studies, as well as three minors in Religious Studies: Judaic Studies, Islamic Studies, and Christianity Studies.

Religious Studies programs offer you the opportunity to examine the world's religions from an interdisciplinary perspective: a poignant, deep and critical examination of their beliefs and histories as well as their cultural, historical and political roles in shaping today's world. You will gain capacities that help bolster your interpersonal skills, acquire sensitivities for negotiating an increasingly diverse workplace, develop an informed ethical framework, plus gain a stronger and more nuanced sense of self and a better understanding of our progressively global and interactive world.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

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oakland.edu/religiousstudies

Center for Religious Understanding

oakland.edu/religiousstudies/center-for-religious-understanding/
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Cis Maisel Center for Judaic Studies and Community Engagement

oakland.edu/religiousstudies/cis-maisel-center

Student Organizations

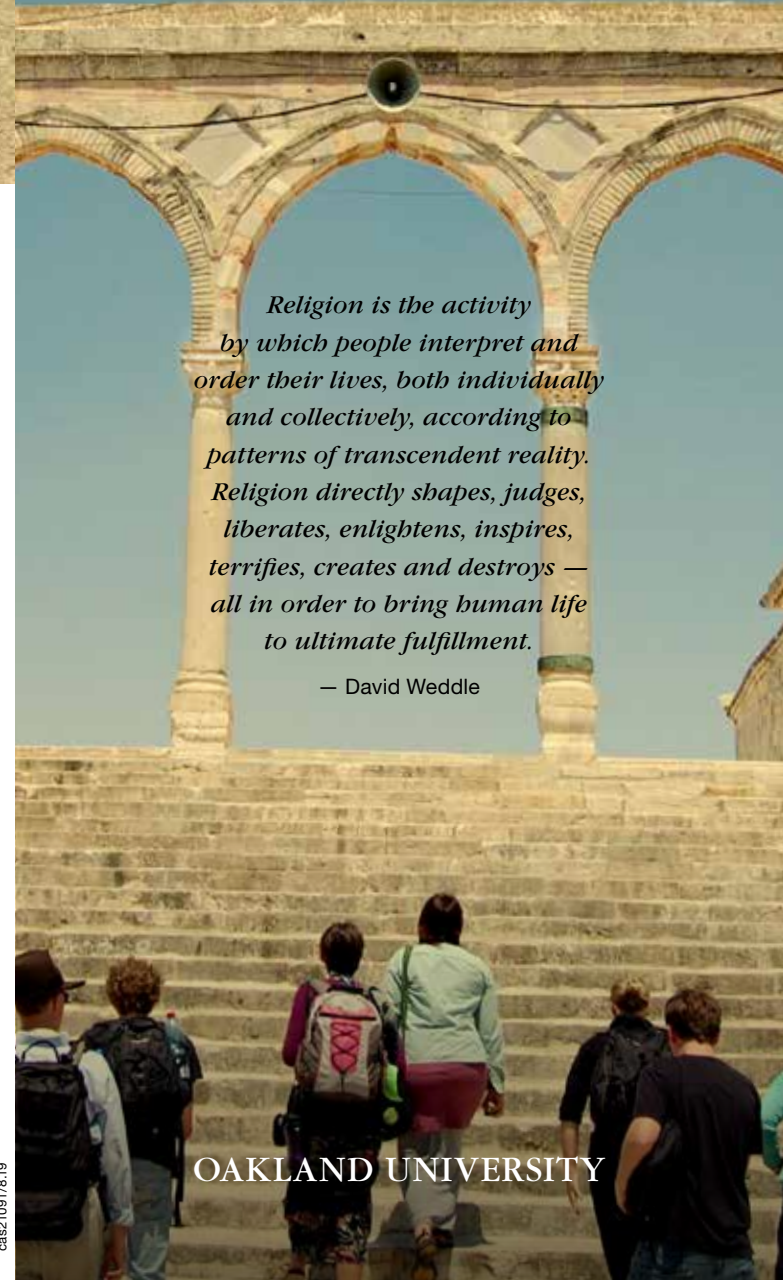
Jewish Student Organization/Hillel Metro Detroit
Muslim Student Association
Religious Studies Club

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY™

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Religion is the activity by which people interpret and order their lives, both individually and collectively, according to patterns of transcendent reality. Religion directly shapes, judges, liberates, enlightens, inspires, terrifies, creates and destroys — all in order to bring human life to ultimate fulfillment.

— David Weddle



OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

RELIGIOUS STUDIES MINORS

The Religious Studies minor provides students with a coherent and nuanced framework for achieving greater insights into the scope and complexity of global challenges facing the contemporary world.

ISLAMIC STUDIES MINOR

Required courses selected from

- REL 1100 Introduction to Religion
- REL 1150 Introduction to Islam
- REL 1850 World Religious Traditions
- REL 3100 Islamic Ethics
- REL 3130 Islam in the Modern World
- REL 3450 Islam in America
- REL 3900 Special Topics Course in Islamic Studies

One of the following field-related courses

- AH 1003 Arts of Asia and the Islamic World
- HST 3510 The Modern Middle East
- HST 3540 The Arab-Israeli Conflict
- IS 2700 Perspectives on the Middle East
- PHL 2210 Medieval Philosophy

One of the following applications

- ARB 1140 Introduction to Arabic Language and Culture I
- REL 4920 Directed Readings in Religious Studies
- REL 4950 Religious Community Project Internship
- Approved study abroad course in a Muslim-majority society

JUDAIC STUDIES MINOR

Required courses selected from

- REL 1100 Introduction to Religion
- REL 1200 Introduction to Judaism
- REL 1850 World Religious Traditions

Two core studies courses selected from

- PHL 2210 Medieval Philosophy
- REL 3420 Jewish History
- REL 3430 The Jewish Experience in American Life
- REL 3440 The Holocaust
- REL 3700 The Book of Genesis
- REL 3710 Written Traditions of Judaism
- REL 3720 Concepts of God and Man in Judaism
- REL 3728 Monotheistic Mysticism
- REL 3740/ENG 3650 The Bible as Literature
- Any REL 3900 Special Topics course in Judaic Studies

One of the following applications

- Hebrew language course
- REL 4920 Directed Readings in Religious Studies
- REL 4950 Religious Community Project Internship
- Approved study abroad course in Israel

CHRISTIANITY STUDIES MINOR

Required courses selected from

- REL 1100 Introduction to Religion
- REL 1250 Introduction to Christianity
- REL 1850 World Religious Traditions

Two core courses selected from

- AH 3220 Early Medieval, Byzantine, and Romanesque Art
- AH 3230 Gothic Art
- HST 3340 The Italian Renaissance
- HST 3345 The Reformation
- PHL 2210 Medieval Philosophy
- REL 3110 Christian Ethics
- REL 3730 Early Christian Spirituality
- REL 3740/ENG 3650 The Bible as Literature
- REL 3900 Special Topics in Religious Studies when relevant to Christianity Studies

One of the following applications

- REL 4920 Directed Readings in Religious Studies
- REL 4950 Religious Community Project Internship

INDEPENDENT MAJOR IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES

To arrange an independent major in Religious Studies, contact the program director.

Religious Studies offers the following REL 3900 Special Topics courses:

- Controversial Islam
- Cross and Crown: Study Abroad in England
- Introduction to Buddhist Traditions
- Introduction to Hinduism
- Islamic Personal Law
- Japanese Religions
- Native American Religions
- Religion in Current Events
- Sport and Religion

"I genuinely enjoyed your class REL 1200 Introduction to Judaism. It was my favorite this semester, and I can't believe how much I learned. There were days that I didn't even want the class to end because I was fascinated with the topic. Thank you so much for making the class enjoyable and easy for students to learn the subject."

"REL 1100 Introduction to Religion has been one of my favorites of my entire college career. Very interesting and so well organized. Keep up the good work!"

- OU student feedback, Winter 2019

CONCENTRATION IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Required course selected from

- REL 1100 Introduction to Religion
- REL 1850 World Religious Traditions

CORE STUDIES

Two of the following

- REL 2100 Basic Religious Writings
- REL 3140 Religion in the Modern World
- REL 3410 American Religious Experience
- REL 3750 Science and Religion

FIELD-RELATED STUDIES

Four courses selected from at least three of the following five fields

Art

- AH 1003 Arts of Asia and the Islamic World
- AH 3110 Art of the Ancient Near East
- AH 3220 Early Medieval, Byzantine and Romanesque Art
- AH 3230 Gothic Art

History

- HST 3290 History of Religions in the U.S.
- HST 3320 Medieval Europe
- HST 3345 The Reformation
- HST 3540 The Arab-Israeli Conflict
- REL 3900 Special Topics in Religious Studies

Literature

- REL 3740/ENG 3650 The Bible as Literature
- ENG 3660 Classical Mythology

Philosophy

- PHL 2210 Medieval Philosophy
- REL 3120/PHL 3150 Philosophy of Religion
- REL 3150/PHL 3155 Philosophies and Religions of Asia

Social Science

- PSY 4974 Seminar in Individual Differences and Personality Psychology, only when special topic is religion
- REL 3460/AN 3123 Magic, Witchcraft and Religion
- REL 3400/SOC 3420 The Sociology of Religion
- REL 3728 Monotheistic Mysticism