

The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing. One cannot help but be in awe when he contemplates the mysteries of eternity, of life, of the marvelous structure of reality. It is enough if one tries merely to comprehend a little of this mystery every day. Never lose a holy curiosity.

- Albert Einstein

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Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Religious Studies

Deepen the mind and widen the heart

Cross-cultural in content and multi-disciplinary in approach, Religious Studies investigates a wide variety of the world's spiritual practices and religious traditions. Students in Religious Studies learn to explore critically the beliefs and assumptions of the world they inhabit, and they engage in a perennial conversation with the unanswerable questions, vital ideas, and struggle for meaning exemplified by human religiousness. Such studies contribute to the quality of work and life, and offer an academic training in critical thinking and writing greatly desirable for success in a variety of professions.

Career Opportunities

Graduates in Religious Studies go on to successful and rewarding careers in a wide range of fields, including:

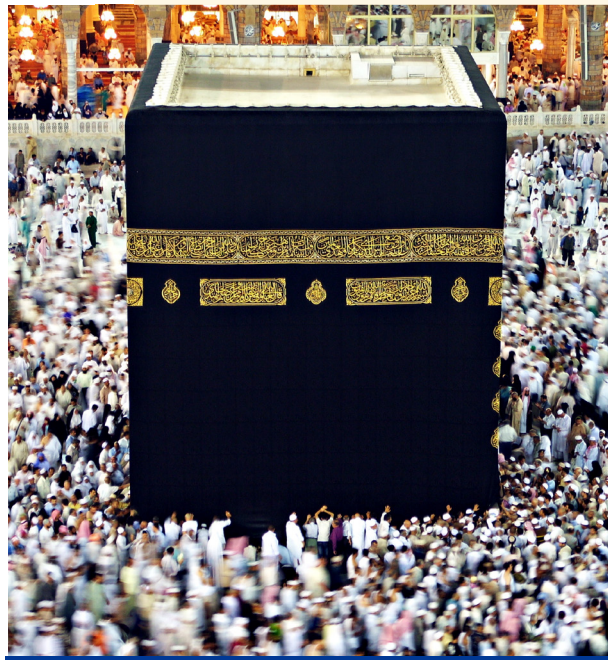
- Education
- Law
- Journalism
- Business
- Government
- Non-profit organizations
- Counseling
- Social work
- Health Professions
- Politics
- Information technology
- Marketing
- Communications
- Writing
- Research

Benefits of Double Major or Minor

A degree in Religious Studies can be combined with a major or minor in a different discipline to broaden and deepen a student's education. Many students find that Religious Studies gives them an advantage over other students pursuing careers in a variety of professions. Some common double majors include: Religious Studies and Political Science, Religious Studies and Sociology, Religious Studies and Psychology, Religious Studies and the Health Professions, Religious Studies and Business, Religious Studies and History, Religious Studies and English, Religious Studies and Engineering, Religious Studies and Physics, and Religious Studies and Art.

Faculty & Staff

- [Shaheer Afaqi, PhD](#), Judaism and Early Christianity, Islam, Law and Mysticism, Religion, and International Relations
- [Steve Campagna-Pinto, PhD](#), Religion, Conflict, and Peacemaking; Religion in America; Religion in the Modern West; Holocaust Studies
- [Patrick Emmett, PhD](#), Religion and Addiction, Alcoholism, and Recovery; Meaning of Death; Western Religions
- [Joseph Florez, PhD](#), Evangelicalism, Latinx & Latin American Religions, Violence and Conflict, and Memory Studies
- [Katy Hanson, MA](#), Women in Religion, Women's Spirituality Movements, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Religion and Popular Culture
- [Mark Lamas Jr, PhD](#), Western Religions, Christian Origins, New Testament, Ancient Judaism, Hebrew Bible, Greco-Roman Religions, and Modern Christianity
- [Jonathan Young, PhD](#), Asian Religions, Buddhism, Hinduism, New Religious Movements
- [Tamar Anthony](#), Administrative Support Coordinator



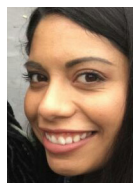
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Degree Requirements



Laura Castro
Class of 2015

Double majoring in religious studies transformed my mind and heart; it truly helped me develop into a well-rounded individual throughout my undergraduate studies. Religious studies complemented my chemistry major and continues to do so in my pursuit toward a Master's of Science in Biology, and becoming a physician.



Mercedes Macias
Class of 2014

The Religious Studies program taught me to be able to fully communicate and interpret the ideas, beliefs, emotions, and worldview of myself and others. This is essential to my job as a union organizer because workers need to know that their thoughts and feelings are understood and valued so that they can find the courage to change their own lives.



Jeff Newby
Class of 2012

The RS program at CSUB was instrumental in my development of critical thinking, writing, and reading abilities; it also fostered an empathetic understanding with cultures other than my own. Without these important life-skills I doubt I would have been as strong a candidate for my current job as a teacher in Kamiichi, Japan. The RS program gave me the tools and foundation to accomplish what I wanted. For that, I am grateful.

Religious Studies Major Track

The Religious Studies major track is for students majoring in RS and requires 36 units (12 courses) in total.

- 1. Required Introductory Course**
RS 2900
- 2. Core Courses**
One course chosen from each of the four areas and one additional course from any area:
Area 1. RS 3210, 3220, 3230
Area 2. RS 3240, 3250
Area 3. RS 3260
Area 4. RS 3270, 4410
- 3. Approaches to the Study of Religion**
One course from the following list: RS 3340, 3350, 3368, ANTH 3350, RS 3360, PHIL/RS 4560
- 4. Religion & Culture**
Three courses (one lower division, one upper division, and one elective):
Lower Division:
RS 1128, 1138, 1108, 1118, 2010, 2018, 2108
Upper Division:
RS 3208, 3518, 3528, 3538, 3548, 4420, 4518, 4528
- 5. Experiential**
One course chosen from: RS 3480, 3378, 3388
- 6. Senior Seminar**
RS 4908

Religious Studies Double Major Track

The Religious Studies double major track requires completion of another major degree track, plus a minimum of 27 units (nine courses).

- 1. Required Introductory Course**
RS 2900
- 2. Core Courses (15 units)**
One course chosen from each of the four areas and one additional course from any area:
Area 1. RS 3210, 3220, 3230
Area 2. RS 3240, 3250
Area 3. RS 3260
Area 4. RS 3270, 4410
- 3. Approaches to the Study of Religion**
One course from the following list: RS 3340, 3350, 3368, ANTH 3350, RS 3360, PHIL/RS 4560
- 4. Religion & Culture**
One course, either lower or upper division:
Lower Division:
RS 1128, 1138, 1108, 1118, 2010, 2018, 2108
Upper Division:
RS 3208, 3518, 3528, 3538, 3548, 4420, 4518, 4528
- 5. Senior Seminar**
RS 4908

Requirements for the Minor in Religious Studies

12 units (six lower division and six upper division).

- Any two 3-unit 1000-level or 2000-level (lower division) RS courses.
- Any one 3-unit 3000-level or 4000-level (upper division) RS course.
- One RS course from the following: RS 3210, RS 3220, RS 3230, RS 3240, RS 3250, RS 3260, RS 3270, RS 4410