Religious Studies provides students an understanding of the traditions of religions across the globe. Areas of study offered by the department include Asian religious traditions, Near (Middle) East religious traditions (Judaism, Islam, and Christianity), and comparative aspects of religion. Students develop skills in reading and interpreting sacred texts. They explore the historical and social dimensions of religion along with a consideration of religious values and ethics from comparative and cross-cultural perspectives, and with relation to global issues. Students go on to work in the government, service, or nonprofit sectors, as well as pursue graduate work in the humanities and social sciences.

### Requirements

#### Degree Requirements

Total credits: minimum 120

Students should be aware of the specific policies associated with this program, located on the Admissions & Policies tab.

#### Core Courses in the Major

**Introductory Courses to the Study of Religion**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RELI 211</td>
<td>Introduction to Religions of the &quot;West&quot; (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELI 212</td>
<td>Introduction to Religions of Asia (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELI 300</td>
<td>Theories and Methods in Religious Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Religious Studies**

Select four courses (12 credits) from any religious studies courses (RELI) at the 300 and 400 level other than those used to fulfill the requirements above.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RELI 420</td>
<td>Capstone Seminar in Studies of Religion</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELI 490</td>
<td>Comparative Study of Religions (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits: 12

**Capstone or Synthesis Course**

Choose one of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RELI 420</td>
<td>Capstone Seminar in Studies of Religion</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELI 490</td>
<td>Comparative Study of Religions (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits: 3

**Electives in the Major**

Select 9 credits of electives from the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>300- or 400-level courses in religious studies not used to fulfill other requirements (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/reli/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/reli/</a>)</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>up to 6 credits of scriptural language</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 307</td>
<td>Ancient Mesoamerica (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 309</td>
<td>Peoples and Cultures of India (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 313</td>
<td>Myth, Magic, and Mind (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 324</td>
<td>Warfare, Violence, and Sacrifice in Antiquity</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 345</td>
<td>Ritual and Power in Social Life</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARAB 440</td>
<td>Topics in Arabic Religious Thought and Texts (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH 320</td>
<td>Art of the Islamic World (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH 333</td>
<td>Early Christian and Byzantine Art (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH 382</td>
<td>Arts of India (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH 383</td>
<td>Arts of Southeast Asia (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH 384</td>
<td>Arts of China (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH 385</td>
<td>Arts of Japan (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CLAS 250</td>
<td>Classical Mythology (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGH 316</td>
<td>Topics in Myth and Literature</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ENGH 320 Literature of the Middle Ages (when topic is relevant with prior written approval of the undergraduate director)

ENGH 414 Folklore and the Supernatural

ENGH 421 Topics in Medieval and Renaissance Literature (when topic is relevant with prior written approval of the undergraduate director)

ENGH 422 Chaucer

ENGH 428 Milton

GOVT 345 Islam and Politics

HIST 306 The Reformation

HIST 462 Women in Islamic Society (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)

PHIL 151 Introduction to Ethics

PHIL 251 Happiness and the Good Life

PHIL 336 Twentieth-Century Continental Thought: Existentialism (when topic is relevant with prior written approval of the undergraduate director)

PHIL 339 Recent Continental Philosophy (when topic is relevant with prior written approval of the undergraduate director)

SOCI 385 Religion and Society

SOCI 388 Violence and Religion

Total Credits 9

1 such as Arabic, Hebrew, Greek, Latin, or Sanskrit.

Writing-Intensive Requirement

The university requires all students to complete at least one course designated "writing intensive" in their majors. Students majoring in religious studies fulfill this requirement by successfully completing RELI 420 Capstone Seminar in Studies of Religion.

Upper Level Requirement

Students seeking a bachelor's degree must apply at least 45 credits of upper-level courses (numbered 300 or above) toward graduation requirements.

Additional Electives

Any remaining credits may be completed with elective courses to bring the degree total to 120.

College Level Requirements for the BA Degree

In addition to the Mason Core (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/) program, students pursuing a BA degree must complete the coursework below. Except where expressly prohibited, a course used to fulfill a college level requirement may also be used simultaneously to satisfy other requirements (Mason Core (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/) requirements or requirements for the major).

Philosophy or Religious Studies

Select 3 credits from the following: 3

PHIL (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/phil/)

RELI (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/reli/)

Note that the following courses may not be used to fulfill this requirement:

- PHIL 323 Classical Western Political Theory
- PHIL 324 Modern Western Political Theory
- PHIL 327 Contemporary Western Political Theory
- PHIL 393 Humanities College to Career
- PHIL 460 Senior Seminar in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Additionally, PHIL 253, RELI 235, RELI 333, and RELI 339 cannot be used to fulfill both the philosophy/religious studies requirement and the Mason Core literature (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#literature) requirement.

Social and Behavioral Sciences

Select 3 credits of social and behavioral sciences from the following (additional to the Mason Core social and behavioral sciences requirement): 1

ANTH (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/anth/)
CRIM (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/crim/)
ECON (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/econ/)
GOVT (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/govt/)
HIST (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/hist/)
LING (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/ling/)
PSYC (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/psyc/)
SOCI (http://catalog.gmu.edu/courses/soci/)

Or choose from the following GGS courses:

GGS 101 Major World Regions (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
GGS 103 Human Geography (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
GGS 110 Introduction to Geoinformation Technologies
GGS 301 Political Geography (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
GGS 303 Geography of Resource Conservation (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
GGS 304 Population Geography (Mason Core) (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/)
GGS 305 Economic Geography
GGS 306 Urban Geography
GGS 315 Geography of the United States
GGS 316 Geography of Latin America
GGS 320 Geography of Europe
GGS 325 Geography of North Africa and the Middle East
GGS 326 Geography of Eastern Europe and Russia
GGS 357 Urban Planning
GGS 380 Geography of Virginia

1 The two courses used to fulfill the combined college and Mason Core (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/) requirements must be from different disciplines in the social and behavioral sciences.
2 HIST 100 and HIST 125 may not be used to fulfill this requirement.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 114</td>
<td>Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 300</td>
<td>Civilizations</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 302</td>
<td>Peoples and Cultures of Latin America (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 307</td>
<td>Ancient Mesoamerica (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 308</td>
<td>Peoples and Cultures of the Middle East (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 309</td>
<td>Peoples and Cultures of India (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 313</td>
<td>Myth, Magic, and Mind (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 314</td>
<td>Zombies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 317</td>
<td>East Asian Cultures</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 330</td>
<td>Peoples and Cultures of Selected Regions: Non-Western</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 332</td>
<td>Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Globalization (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 381</td>
<td>Medical Anthropology</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ANTH 396</td>
<td>Issues in Anthropology: Social Sciences (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARAB 360</td>
<td>Topics in Arabic Cultural Production</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARAB 440</td>
<td>Topics in Arabic Religious Thought and Texts (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARTH 203</td>
<td>Survey of Asian Art (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARTH 204</td>
<td>Survey of Latin American Art (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARTH 206</td>
<td>Survey of African Art (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH 318</td>
<td>Art and Archaeology of Ancient Egypt</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARTH 319</td>
<td>Art and Archaeology of the Ancient Near East (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH 320</td>
<td>Art of the Islamic World (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH 382</td>
<td>Arts of India (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH 383</td>
<td>Arts of Southeast Asia (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH 384</td>
<td>Arts of China (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH 385</td>
<td>Arts of Japan (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH 386</td>
<td>The Silk Road (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARTH 482</td>
<td>RS: Advanced Studies in Asian Art</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHIN 318</td>
<td>Introduction to Classical Chinese (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHIN 325</td>
<td>Major Chinese Writers (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHIN 470</td>
<td>Special Topics in Chinese Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>DANC 118</td>
<td>Global Dance Perspectives I (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECON 361</td>
<td>Economic Development of Latin America (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECON 362</td>
<td>African Economic Development (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FREN 454</td>
<td>Topics in Caribbean Francophone Literature and Culture</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>GGS 101</td>
<td>Major World Regions (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>GGS 316</td>
<td>Geography of Latin America</td>
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<tr>
<td>GGS 317</td>
<td>Geography of China (Mason Core) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/</a>)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>GGS 325</td>
<td>Geography of North Africa and the Middle East</td>
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<td>GGS 399</td>
<td>Select Topics in GGS</td>
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<td>GOVT 328</td>
<td>Global Political Theory</td>
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<tr>
<td>GOVT 332</td>
<td>Government and Politics of the Middle East and North Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>GOVT 333</td>
<td>Government and Politics of Asia</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Students who are already proficient in a second language may be eligible for a waiver of this requirement. Additional information on waivers can be found at the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs (http://chssundergrad.gmu.edu/).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GOVT 338</td>
<td>Government and Politics of Russia</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>GOVT 340</td>
<td>Central Asian Politics</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>GOVT 341</td>
<td>Chinese Foreign Policy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOVT 345</td>
<td>Islam and Politics</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>GOVT 433</td>
<td>Political Economy of East Asia</td>
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<td>HIST 251</td>
<td>Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core)</td>
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<td>HIST 252</td>
<td>Survey of East Asian History (Mason Core)</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 261</td>
<td>Survey of African History (Mason Core)</td>
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<td>HIST 262</td>
<td>Survey of African History (Mason Core)</td>
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<td>HIST 271</td>
<td>Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core)</td>
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<td>HIST 272</td>
<td>Survey of Latin American History (Mason Core)</td>
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<td>HIST 281</td>
<td>Survey of Middle Eastern Civilization (Mason Core)</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 282</td>
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<td>HIST 326</td>
<td>Stalinism</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 327</td>
<td>The Soviet Union and Russia Since World War II</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 328</td>
<td>Rise of Russia (Mason Core)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 329</td>
<td>Modern Russia and the Soviet Union (Mason Core)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 353</td>
<td>History of Traditional China</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 354</td>
<td>Modern China (Mason Core)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 356</td>
<td>Modern Japan (Mason Core)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>HIST 357</td>
<td>Postwar Japan (Mason Core)</td>
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<td>HIST 358</td>
<td>Post-1949 China (Mason Core)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>HIST 360</td>
<td>History of South Africa (Mason Core)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 364</td>
<td>Revolution and Radical Politics in Latin America (Mason Core)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 365</td>
<td>Conquest and Colonization in Latin America (Mason Core)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 366</td>
<td>Comparative Slavery</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 367</td>
<td>History, Fiction, and Film in Latin America</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 387</td>
<td>Topics in Global History (Mason Core)</td>
<td>3-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 461</td>
<td>Arab-Israeli Conflict</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 462</td>
<td>Women in Islamic Society (Mason Core)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 465</td>
<td>The Middle East in the 20th Century</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAPA 310</td>
<td>Japanese Culture in a Global World (Mason Core)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAPA 340</td>
<td>Topics in Japanese Literature (Mason Core)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAPA 380</td>
<td>Japan in Motion</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>KORE 300</td>
<td>Korean Culture and Society</td>
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<td>KORE 320</td>
<td>Korean Popular Culture in a Global World</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>KORE 385</td>
<td>Introduction to Korean Linguistics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUSI 103</td>
<td>Musics of the World (Mason Core)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELI 211</td>
<td>Introduction to Religions of the &quot;West&quot; (Mason Core)</td>
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<td>RELI 212</td>
<td>Introduction to Religions of Asia (Mason Core)</td>
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<td>RELI 272</td>
<td>Islam</td>
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<td>RELI 313</td>
<td>Hinduism (Mason Core)</td>
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<td>RELI 314</td>
<td>Chinese Philosophies and Religious Traditions</td>
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<td>RELI 315</td>
<td>Buddhism (Mason Core)</td>
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<td>RELI 317</td>
<td>Daoism</td>
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<td>RELI 318</td>
<td>Korean Philosophy and Religions</td>
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<td>RELI 338</td>
<td>Qur’an and Hadith</td>
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<td>RELI 342</td>
<td>Comparative Study of Mysticism</td>
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<td>RELI 344</td>
<td>Muhammad: Life and Legacy</td>
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<td>RELI 358</td>
<td>Islamic Thought (Mason Core)</td>
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<td>RELI 367</td>
<td>Islamic Law, Society, and Ethics</td>
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<td>RELI 368</td>
<td>Islam, Democracy, and Human Rights</td>
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<td>RELI 490</td>
<td>Comparative Study of Religions (Mason Core)</td>
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<td>RUSS 353</td>
<td>Russian Civilization (Mason Core)</td>
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<td>RUSS 354</td>
<td>Contemporary Post-Soviet Life (Mason Core)</td>
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</table>

1 A course used to fulfill the Mason Core global understanding (http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global) requirement may not be simultaneously used to satisfy this college-level requirement. A course used to fulfill this requirement may be used simultaneously to fulfill any other requirements (Mason Core requirements, college-level requirements, or requirements for the major). Additional information on waivers can be found at the Office of Undergraduate Academic Affairs (http://chssundergrad.gmu.edu/).
Mason Core

Some Mason Core requirements may already be fulfilled by the major requirements listed above. Students are strongly encouraged to consult their advisors to ensure they fulfill all remaining Mason Core requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Foundation Requirements</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Written Communication (ENGH 101)</td>
<td>(<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#written">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#written</a>)</td>
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<td><strong>Exploration Requirements</strong></td>
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<td>Arts (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#arts">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#arts</a>)</td>
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<td>Global Understanding (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#global</a>)</td>
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<td>Literature (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#literature">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#literature</a>)</td>
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<td>Natural Science (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#natural-science">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#natural-science</a>)</td>
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<td>Social and Behavioral Sciences (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#social-behavioral-science">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#social-behavioral-science</a>)</td>
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<td>Western Civilization/World History (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#western-civilization-world-history">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#western-civilization-world-history</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Integration Requirements</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Written Communications (ENGH 302) (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#written">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#written</a>)</td>
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<td>Writing-Intensive (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#wi">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#wi</a>)</td>
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<td>Synthesis/Capstone (<a href="http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#synthesis-capstone">http://catalog.gmu.edu/mason-core/#synthesis-capstone</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
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</table>

1. Most programs include the writing-intensive course designated for the major as part of the major requirements; this course is therefore not counted towards the total required for Mason Core.

2. Minimum 3 credits required.

Program Outcomes

1. **Inter-religious Literacy**: Students will demonstrate nuanced knowledge of the various defining dimensions of religion both within specific religious traditions and comparatively across different religious communities.

2. **Knowledge of Key Concepts and Questions**: Students will be conversant in the history, formation, and significance of foundational ideas, terms, and questions within the interdisciplinary field of Religious Studies.

3. **Critical and Comparative Thinking**: Students will be able to critically and comparatively analyze particular religious phenomena via different theoretical approaches and methods in the academic study of religion, including historical, textual, and social scientific analysis.

4. **Research Methods and Assessment**: Students will be able to find appropriate scholarly sources in the field of Religious Studies, learn to critically evaluate secondary sources, and consider how to respectfully engage with primary source materials.

5. **Argument-oriented Writing**: Students will be able to read for, evaluate, and professionally write an argument with support of scholarly evidence and reasoning within the field of Religious Studies.

Accelerated Master’s

Many accelerated master’s programs are available for any bachelor’s degree at Mason. See the full list of degrees (http://catalog.gmu.edu/programs/#filter-filter_24) with accelerated programs at George Mason.

4-Year Plan

Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies Sample Plan of Study

A sample four year graduation plan and degree planning worksheet can be found at https://academicaffairs.chss.gmu.edu/undergraduate-students/advising/advising-sheets (https://academicaffairs.chss.gmu.edu/undergraduate-students/advising/advising-sheets/). The plan is a recommended sequencing of courses based on prerequisites and scheduling. This may not fit every student’s needs and is a guideline, not a requirement. Students should confirm major requirements with their academic advisor each semester and with their PatriotWeb Degree Evaluation to ensure they enroll in the proper courses and are on track to graduate.