

COMPARATIVE RELIGION PROGRAM

AUTUMN 2019 COURSES

Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies | UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

visit jsis.washington.edu/religion for more course information!

Introduction to Judaism

RELIG 145 / JEW ST 145

TTH 1:30 - 3:20 p.m.

Mika Ahuvia

5 credits

Explores Judaism's sacred texts, holidays, and beliefs. Addresses Judaism's impact on society, culture, and politics. Through the lens of the Jewish experience, grapples with fundamental questions about the role of individuals and members of larger communities in an increasingly multicultural, religious, and interconnected world.

Introduction to World Religions: Eastern Traditions

RELIG 202

TTH 1:30 - 3:20 p.m.

Ian Chapman

5 credits

History of religions, concentrating on religions that have developed in South Asia and East Asia. Primary attention to Hinduism and Buddhism; other important Asian religions are discussed in relation to them, with emphasis on basic conceptual and symbolic structures.

Introduction to Muslim Beliefs & Practices

RELIG 211 / NEAR E 230

TTH 3:30 - 5:20 p.m.

Terri DeYoung

5 credits

Examines the origins and development of central beliefs in various Muslim traditions; such as monotheism, prophecy, divine judgment, and predestination. Looks at ritual and socio-cultural practices in Muslim societies in Asia, Africa, and Europe.

Introduction to the New Testament

RELIG 220

MW 9:30 - 11:20 a.m.

Michael Williams

5 credits

Introduction to the writings in the New Testament, their nature and origins as explored in modern scholarly research, and the first decades of the Christian religion.

Religion & World Politics

RELIG 307 / NEAR E 306

MW 10:00 - 11:20 p.m.

Tony Gill

5 credits

Explores the intersection of religion and politics in various regions of the world, including the United States, Europe, Middle East, Latin America, and other regions. Presents an historical perspective on religion alongside contemporary issues in religion, politics, and church-state relations.

The Biblical Prophets

RELIG 315 / NEAR E 305

MW 1:30 - 2:50 p.m.

Gary Martin

3 credits

Explores the Biblical prophets (in translation) within their Near Eastern contexts. Historicity, literary and rhetorical sophistication, and ideological agendas. Seeks to uncover the meaning and distinctiveness of Israelite prophecy within the context of the larger Near East. No knowledge of the Bible required.

Comparative Religion

RELIG 321 / ANTH 321

TTH 1:30 - 3:20 p.m.

Radhika Govindrajan

5 credits

Anthropological approaches to religious experience and belief with emphasis on conceptual issues such as ritual, symbolism, identity, ecstatic experience, and revitalization movements in the context of globalization. Also addresses the diversity of religious expression in American culture and how that compares with other societies.

Buddhism & Society:

**The Theravada Buddhist Tradition
in South & Southeast Asia**

RELIG 356 / ANTH 352

MW 10:30 - 12:20 p.m.

Jenna Grant

5 credits

Religious tradition of Theravada Buddhism (as practiced in Sri Lanka, Burma, Thailand, Laos, and Cambodia). Variations in ethical orientations developed through Theravada Buddhist ideas.

Religion Theorized:

Approaches to the Study of Religion

RELIG 501 (GRADUATE)

T 11:30 - 2:20 p.m.

James Wellman

5 credits

Covers the major approaches to modern scholarship in the study of religion, which includes multiple approaches from history, phenomenology, anthropology, sociology, psychology, gender and sexuality studies, Marxism, and political theory. Class discusses which theories are most helpful in describing, understanding and explaining religion, enabling students to prepare their own research.

Colloquium in Comparative Religion

RELIG 598 (GRADUATE)

W 5:30 - 7:20 p.m.

James Wellman

1 credit

Required colloquium for graduate students in comparative religion program. Introduction to faculty research and to major methods and disciplines in the study of religion. Credit/no-credit only.