Introduction to Judaism
RELIG 145 / JEW ST 145
Mika Ahuvia
5 credits
Examines the sacred texts, holidays, and beliefs of Judaism. Addresses the impact of Judaism 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 Muslim Beliefs & Practices
RELIG 211 / NEAR E 230
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.

Religion & World Politics
RELIG 307 / NEAR E 306
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.

Comparative Religion
RELIG 321 / ANTH 321
Radhika Govindrajan
5 credits
Explores 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.

Introduction to World Religions: Eastern Traditions
RELIG 202
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.

The Biblical Prophets
RELIG 315 / NEAR E 305
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.

Buddhism & Society: The Theravada Buddhist Tradition in South & Southeast Asia
RELIG 356 / ANTH 352
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)
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
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.