

# COMPARATIVE RELIGION PROGRAM

## AUTUMN 2019 COURSES

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

visit [jsis.washington.edu/religion](https://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.

David Fowler

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.

### **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.

### **Comparative Religious Nationalisms**

**RELIG 490 / 590** (SPECIAL TOPICS)

TH 2:30 – 5:20 p.m.

James Wellman

5 credits

This course is for advanced undergraduates and graduate students in religion, politics, international studies, sociology and other fields related to understanding the relation between religion and national identity. The course studies the theory and empirical reality of how religions are used to solidify and dominate national identity and political movements. Each student will choose their own country to research and write on related to the issue of religious nationalism.

### **Theorizing Religion**

**Approaches to the Study of Religion**

**RELIG 501** (GRADUATE)

T 1:00 – 3:50 p.m.

Sarah Gallant

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.

# COMPARATIVE RELIGION PROGRAM

## AUTUMN 2019 RELATED COURSES

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

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### Religion, Politics & International Conflict

#### JSIS 541

M 2:20 - 5:50 p.m.

Jim Wellman

5 credits

Covers global issues of religion, politics and international conflicts as they relate to question of fundamentalism, nationalism and terror. Investigates fundamentalism as a response to globalization and modernization. Reviews connections between religious violence and international relations, human security and global security.

### Introduction to the Silk Road

#### JSIS A 268 / NEAR E 268

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

Talant Mawkanuli

3 credits

Introduces students to the Silk Road as a site of cultural exchange between peoples, and of political, economic, and intellectual exchange between regions and continents. Themes include ecology, empire, ethnicity, language, religion, and the arts. Considers the Silk Road as a forerunner and symbol of modern globalization.

### Political Islam & Islamic Fundamentalism

#### JSIS B 526 / ANTH 526

TH 11:30 a.m. - 2:20 p.m.

Cabeiri Robinson

5 credits

Examines political Islam as a modern phenomenon produced at the intersections between localized and globalized political cultures and between political, religious, and social authority. Focuses on anthropological studies to examine how Islamic publics produce moral judgments about political practices.

### Survey of Western Art - Ancient

#### ART H 201

MWF 1:00 - 2:20 p.m.

Sarah Levin-Richardson

5 credits

Major achievements in painting, sculpture, architecture, and the decorative arts in Europe, the Near East, and North Africa, from prehistoric times to the beginnings of Christianity.

### Indian Philosophical Literature

#### ASIAN 225

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

Prem Pahlajrai

5 credits

Introduction to various topics pertaining to the vast philosophical literature of India, such as its origins and contexts, dharma; karma and free will; logic and argument. A variety of systems from Hindu, Buddhist, Jain, theistic, and non-theistic schools are covered. Taught in English.

### History of Jewish-Muslim Relations

#### JEW ST / HSTAFM 459 / 559

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

Liora Halperin

5 credits

Topics include Jews' and Muslims' linked encounters with empire, westernization, and nationalism; Jewish culture and identity in Islamic contexts migration and diasporic identities; the impact of Zionism, European Jewish settlement in Palestine, and the State of Israel on Jewish-Muslim relations in the Middle East and beyond; Islamophobia and antisemitism.

### Greek & Roman Mythology

#### CLAS 430

MWF 9:30 - 10:20 a.m.

Sarah Stroup

5 credits

Principal myths found in classical and later literature.

### 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.

# **RELIG 202 – Introduction to World Religions: Eastern Traditions** (5 credits)

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|-------------------|----------------------|
| <b>INSTRUCTOR</b> | David Fowler         |
| <b>TIME</b>       | TTh 1:30 - 3:20 p.m. |
| <b>TERM</b>       | Autumn 2019          |
| <b>LOCATION</b>   | THOMSON 119          |

This course aims to increase religious literacy and deepen cross-cultural understanding by introducing students to the beliefs and practices of the religions of South, Southeast, and East Asia. The course will emphasize Hindu and Buddhist traditions, but will also include discussion of Jain, Sikh, Islamic, Confucian, Taoist, and Shinto traditions. Students will learn the worldviews associated with these religions and how society and individuals play meaningful roles within them, including how each religion understands the goal of human existence. The course will include analysis of sacred narratives, philosophical literature, art & architecture, & ritual performance (among others). Emphasis will be given to understanding how these traditions interact, co-exist, and compete in dynamic cultural contexts.

Questions? email: [fowlerds@gmail.com](mailto:fowlerds@gmail.com)

