

Religious Studies schedule of classes

FALL
2023

REL 1100
CRN 40477

Introduction to Religion

Synchronous ONLINE MW 1:00-2:47 PM

Guffey, Andrew

Critical, comparative study of the human religious experience, as well as an examination of various methodological approaches employed by academic disciplines in the study of religion.

REL 1150
CRN 41498

Introduction to Islam

ONLINE

Lela, Aly

Pre-Islamic Arabia, Muhammad and early Islamic history; the Qur'an and basic beliefs, practices and law; the Islamic Caliphate; Islam in the modern world and Muslims in America; women in Islam and other contemporary issues.

(Satisfies the general education requirement in the global perspective knowledge exploration area. Satisfies the university general education requirement for a writing intensive course in general education. Prerequisite for writing intensive: completion of the university writing foundation requirement.)

REL 1200
CRN 44457

Introduction to Judaism

TR 10:00-11:47 AM

Klein, Joe

Religious beliefs, practices and philosophies embedded within the major historical experiences (Biblical and Diasporic) of Jewish people including main institutional branches of Judaism, central characteristics of Jewish culture, and their relationship with non-Jewish groups and societies.

(Satisfies the general education requirement in the global perspective knowledge exploration area. Satisfies the university general education requirement for a writing intensive course in general education. Prerequisite for writing intensive: completion of the university writing foundation requirement.)

REL 1250
CRN 40937
CRN 42265

Introduction to Christianity

MWF 9:20-10:27 AM

Engle, Randall

ONLINE

Mabee, Charles

Key ideas, major concepts, and peculiar language of the Christian religious experience. Focus on history of Christianity, creeds and doctrines of various denominations, Christianity's cultural influences, and Christian ethical systems.

(Satisfies the general education requirement in the global perspective knowledge exploration area.)

REL 1850
CRN 40252

World Religious Traditions

ONLINE

Mabee, Charles

Examines the core teachings and practices of the world's major religious traditions, including Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Chinese religions. Emphasis is on terminology developed within each tradition, identification of human problems that each attempts to solve, and the insights and problematic issues that arise from these attempts.

(Satisfies the general education requirement in the global perspective knowledge exploration area.)

REL 3140
CRN 44459
CRN 40985

Religion in the Modern World

Synchronous ONLINE MWF 10:40-1147 AM

Engle, Randall

ONLINE

Mabee, Charles

Focuses on key issues of religious life in the modern world. Examples of topics include the role of women in religious leadership, the relation of science and religion, religious fundamentalism, and religiously motivated acts of terrorism.

(Satisfies the general education requirement in the knowledge applications integration area. Prerequisite for knowledge applications: completion of the general education requirement in the social science or the global perspective knowledge exploration area, not both.)

REL 3450
CRN 44461

Islam in America

ONLINE
Lela, Aly

Examination of the history, development, and challenges facing the Muslim community in the United States. Emphasis on the diversity of this community and its role in the greater Detroit area.

REL 3728
CRN 45186

Mystics and Mystical Insights

Synchronous ONLINE R 6:00-9:20 PM
Pytlik, Michael

This course traces the mystical elements of Judaism, Christianity and Islam in historical context with a focus on what defines mystics and mysticism and related religious ideas. Special focus on relevant mystical texts, including the Bible, the Kabbalah, Christian contemplative prayer and Islamic Sufism.

REL 3900
CRN 44465

ST: Suffering and Evil

ONLINE
Guffey, Andrew

This Special Topics course is an exploration of philosophical, theological, and literary responses to the question of theodicy: If God is just and good, why is there suffering and evil?

REL 4920
CRN 40247

Directed Readings in Religious Studies

Permission of coordinator
Engle, Randall
email: engle@oakland.edu

Individual study of topic(s) not covered in available courses. May be repeated for additional credit.

TOPICS RELATED TO RELIGIOUS STUDIES

STUDY ABROAD

Please note that a study abroad program exists in Israel as an archaeological field school and tour of the country. Students participate in three weeks of field school at an archaeological site. Partial funding is provided for students.

Additional information is available by contacting the Oakland University Study Abroad office, or by emailing Dr. Michael Pytlik: pytlik@oakland.edu.

This trip satisfies one area in the Judaic Studies minor requirements.

SUMMER 02 RELIGIOUS STUDIES STUDY ABROAD OPPORTUNITY - ST: CROSS AND CROWN

The first half of the course, on campus lectures and readings, will provide the historical background of the Tudor monarchy that enables the students to understand and analyze the cultural development of England. The second portion of the course, 10 days in London, England, is designed to provide the vivid travel experience that immerses the students in English culture and encourages analysis of England's cultural development. Journaling and daily meetings will guide this understanding and analysis.