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## Main Religious Studies Courses

### Religious Studies 90B Sacred Communities: Social Perspectives on Religion

MWF 12-1

Gerber

60 Evans

Units (4)

People often think that religion is about personal beliefs. But religious life unfolds in communities made up of humans and deities, the dead and the living, clerics and laypeople, believers and non-believers. It's found in synagogues, stores, kitchens, shrines, boardrooms and neighborhoods. It can

[read more \[+\]](#)

### Religious Studies C103 Religion of Ancient Egypt

TTh 12:30-2

271 Barrows

Units (3)

A survey of the religious beliefs of the ancient Egyptians, based primarily upon the written sources.

### Religious Studies C104 Babylonian Religion

TTh 3:30-5

VELDHUIS

104 Barrows

Units (3)

- This course is cross-listed with: -  
*Near Eastern Studies C104*

A survey of Babylonian religious beliefs and practices based on indigenous texts and monuments.

### Religious Studies C108 Scandinavian Myth and Religion

MWF 10-11

WELLENDORF

219 Dwinelle

Units (4)

- This course is cross-listed with: -  
*Scandinavian C160*

Religious beliefs and practices during the Viking Age in Scandinavia and their manifestations in later recordings. Readings and discussion in English.

### Religious Studies C161 Religion in Early India

TTh 3:30-5

VON ROSPATT

79 Dwinelle

Units (4)

- This course is cross-listed with: -  
*South Asian C127*

Designed as a two-semester sequence, these courses are an introduction to the religions that have their origin on the Indian subcontinent--Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism, and tribal religions--as well as those that originated in other regions such as Islam, Christianity, Judaism, and

Zoroastrianism. Organizing this material chronologically rather than teaching it by separate religious traditions facilitates comparisons and promotes an understanding not only of the differences among these religions but also some of their commonalities in philosophy, theology, and praxis.

## Religious Studies C166 India's Great Epics

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 MWF 11-12

 GOLDMAN

 106 Stanley

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**Units** (4)

- *This course is cross-listed with:* -  
*South Asian C142*

The course entails substantial selected readings from the great Sanskrit epic poems--the Mahabharata and the Ramayana in translation, selected readings from the corpus of secondary literature on Indian epic studies as well as lectures on salient issues in both. Discussion will focus on a variety of historical and theoretical approaches to the study of the poems and their extraordinary influence on Indian culture. Readings will be supplemented with selected showings of popular cinematic and television versions of the epics.

## Religious Studies 173AC

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 TTh 2-3:30

 BILIMORIA

 534 Davis

American culture, we examine how Gandhian satyagraha shaped emergent civil resistance movements, as also the global appeal to nonviolent democracy. ACES component comprises internship with civil liberties partners that monitors local implementations of human rights treaties.

- *This course is cross-listed with:* -  
*African American Studies 173AC*

The course surveys the impact of Gandhi's philosophy of nonviolence and justice in American Civil Rights struggles. Through narratives, images from African American, itinerant Gandhian and ethnic critics of race practices in

## Religious Studies 190B Evangelical Christianity in a Globalized World

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 TTh 3:30-5

 Gerber

 310 Hearst Mining

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**Units** (4)

Contemporary Evangelical Christianity has its roots in the United States and Northern Europe. But in the last few decades, its this-worldly aspirations, combined with an increasingly interconnected world, has made it a global force whose influence is felt on every continent. This course will ...

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## Courses From Other Departments

### Philosophy 104 Ethical Theories

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 MWF 11-12

 WALLACE

 60 Evans

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**Units** (4)

The fundamental concepts and problems of morality examined through the study of classical and contemporary philosophical theories of ethics.

### Rhetoric 105T Rhetoric of Religious Discourse

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 MWF 12-1

 KANIA

 109 Dwinelle

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**Units** (4)

Consideration of the rhetoric of hermeneutics or biblical interpretation with special emphasis on the mythical, symbolic, and allegorical language as the bearer of persuasive intention.

## Chicano Studies 110 Latina/o Philosophy & Religious Thought

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 TTh 3:30-5  
 Di PIETRO  
 185 Barrows

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**Units** (4)

For the last 30 years, the themes of identity and liberation have dominated the social ethic and religious thought of subaltern subjectivities in the Americas. The centrality of these ideas respond to the increasing awareness of and opposition to the legacies of the history of conquest, ...

[read more \[+\]](#)

## Buddhist Studies/Tibetan/So Asian C114 Tibetan Buddhism

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 TTh 3:30-5  
 RONIS  
 155 Barrows

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**Units** (4)

This course is a broad introduction to the history, doctrine, and culture of the Buddhism of Tibet. We will begin with the introduction of Buddhism to Tibet in the eighth century and move on to the evolution of the major schools of Tibetan Buddhism, Tibetan Buddhist literature, ritual and monastic practice, the place of Buddhism in Tibetan political history and the contemporary situation of Tibetan Buddhism both inside and outside Tibet.

## Comparative Literature 120 The Biblical Tradition in Western Literature

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 W 2-5  
 KRONFELD  
 122 Barrows

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**Units** (4)

Examination of selected aspects of the Biblical tradition and their relevance to the study of later literature.

## Letters & Science 121 Origins in Science and Religion

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 TTh 2-3:30  
 PADIAN, HENDEL  
 2040 VLSB

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**Units** (4)

This course explores the concepts of origins in science and religion and their cultural contexts and entanglements, from antiquity to the present. Guiding questions include these: What are origins, and why do we want to know about them? How does this desire manifest itself in different ways of constructing and analyzing knowledge? What sorts of intellectual processes, standards, and tests can be applied to different concepts of origins? What

happens when different notions of origins clash?

## Philosophy 125 Metaphysics

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 TTh 11-12:30  
 STROUD  
 100 Wheeler

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**Units** (4)

An advanced introduction to contemporary metaphysics, focusing on the ideas of objectivity, existence, naturalness, identity, time, causation, and possibility.

## Celtic Studies 129 Aspects of Modern Celtic Cultures & Folklore

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 MWF 12-1  
 WALSH  
 182 Dwinelle

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**Units** (4)

A comparative introduction to modern Celtic cultures: principally Irish, Welsh, Scottish Gaelic and Breton. The development of the distinctive cultures of the Celtic "nations without states" from 1500 to the present; an examination of the role of minority cultures and minority languages in larger political cultural entities. Theme topics will vary, but will include folklore, nationalism and linguistic history from time to time.

## Chinese 130 Topics in Taoism

 MWF 2-3  
 TBA  
 79 Dwinelle

Units (4)

Readings in printed and manuscript sources.

## Asian American Studies 132AC Islamophobia & Constructing Otherness

 MW 4-5:30  
 BAZIAN  
 2 LeConte

Units (4)

This course will examine and attempt to understand Islamophobia, as the most recently articulated principle of otherness and its implications domestically and globally. The course will also closely examine the ideological and epistemological frameworks employed in discourses of otherness, and the complex social, political, economic, gender-based, and religious forces entangled in its historical and modern reproduction.

## Buddhist Studies/Tibetan/So Asian C154 Death, Dreams & Visions in Tibetan Buddhism

 TTh 11-12:30  
 DALTON  
 156 Dwinelle

Units (4)

Tibetan Buddhists view the moment of death as a rare opportunity for transformation. This course examines how Tibetans have used death and dying in the path to enlightenment. Readings will address how Tibetan funerary rituals work to assist the dying toward this end, and how Buddhist practitioners prepare for this crucial moment through tantric meditation, imaginative rehearsals, and explorations of the dream state.

## History 165A The Reformations of Christendom

 TTh 3:30-5  
 SHEEHAN  
 103 Moffitt

Units (4)

This course examines not a period but a process: the reform and disruption of the civilization called "Christendom" during the 16th and 17th centuries and its transformation into the familiar Europe of the nation states

## Celtic Studies 173 Celtic Christianity

 TTh 2-3:30  
 REJHON  
 251 Dwinelle

Units (4)

This course considers the evidence for the presence of early Christian believers in the so-called "Celtic" areas of western Europe. Students will examine how the Celtic peoples received Christianity in the context of native (pagan) religion; they will look specifically at how the Roman Church ...

[read more \[+\]](#)

## History 185A History of Christianity to 1250

 TTh 9-11:30  
 ELM  
 20 Barrows

Units (4)

The course deals with the origins of Christianity and the first eleven centuries of its expansion into a major institutional, social, and intellectual force shaping Western Europe. The central themes are the mechanisms and conditions shaping this expansion, rather than a chronological account in ...

[read more \[+\]](#)

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