REL: 101 Introduction to Religion  
Mr. Garcia Tuesdays 5:00 – 7:40p.m.

A survey of the major world religions and their perspectives concerning ultimate reality, humankind, and the world; contrasts between Asian and Abrahamic religions.

Counts toward the following cognates:
- Asian Religions: South and East Asia
- Christianity
- Islam
- Religion and Contemporary Identity

REL: 102 Problem of God  
Mr. Mack Wednesdays 5:00 – 7:40p.m.

Contemporary religious issues related to the concept of God. Foundational to this course is an examination of the religious dimension of human experience and consciousness in relation to a number of historical and contemporary problems and challenges. This course approaches “the problem of God” from the angle of human experience, focusing on the various historical, social, and existential determinants of belief. Topics include: globalized religion, the challenge of atheism and humanism, the impact of secularization on religion, and an exploration of the historical, social, and theological images of creation and the divine.

Counts toward the following cognates:
- Ethics in the Humanities: Religion, Philosophy, Politics
- Religion, Myth, and Interpretation
- Religious Issues in the Modern World
- The Philosophy of Religion

REL: 121 Introduction to the New Testament  
Dr. Walsh  
MWF 11:15 – 12:05p.m.

What do we know about the beginnings of Christianity and how do we know it? This course is designed to introduce you to the historical circumstances that gave rise to the religious movement we now call Christianity. Through the close and careful reading of both New Testament literature and a variety of relevant ancient sources from outside of the Christian canon, we will work together to understand the world of the first through third centuries CE. Beyond literary evidence, we will also use tools from other disciplines such as archaeology, art history, anthropology, the social sciences, and the cognitive sciences to help us understand how the Jesus movement took root and flourished in the Roman
world. This course does not presuppose any prior knowledge of Christian, Roman or Jewish history. All texts will be read in translation.

Counts toward the following cognates:
- The Bible
- Early Christianity

**REL: 131 Religion in America**
Dr. Kling TR 2:00 – 3:15p.m.

An introductory survey of the history of religion in America, including religions that have been most prominent (Protestantism, Catholicism, Judaism), native to the land (Native American), and non-traditional (“cults,” Buddhism, Islam).

Counts toward the following cognates:
- Christianity
- Religion in the Americas

**REL: 161 Religion and Medicine**
Dr. Newell TR 12:30 – 1:45p.m.

An exploration of the history of medical care and the history of medicine as calling, as well as the changing professionalism of health care; the role of virtue ethics in the practice of medicine; the tensions between religion and medicine; the place of personal religious beliefs in health care; and the changing landscape of health, holism, healing, faith, and the science of medicine.

Counts toward the following cognates:
- Medical Humanities
- God and Science

**REL: 231 Jewish Civilization and Being Jewish**
Dr. H. Green TR 9:30 – 10:45a.m.

A survey of the development of Judaism from antiquity to modern times.

Counts toward the following cognates:
- Judaism
- Religion, Law, and Civic Engagement
- The Evolution of the Jewish People in their Homeland and Diaspora
The ancient Greeks made numerous contributions to all aspects of western society—politics, philosophy, religion, literature, arts, architecture, and more. What made these innovative and creative people tick? This survey of ancient classical Greece explores and examines this remarkable culture, while emphasizing the major achievements of the Greeks from the Bronze Age to the fourth century. The geographical focus is the enlarged Greek world of Turkey, the Levant, Egypt, North Africa, Sicily, southern Italy, and Spain, not just mainland Greece. Emphasis will be placed on how our perception of the ancient Greeks is changing as a result of archaeological discoveries and new critical methodologies. In addition to a variety of readings, the complete multi-media interactive computer database Perseus will be fundamental to the course (available on the internet at www.perseus.tufts.edu)

Counts toward the following cognates:
- Religion in the Ancient World

This course surveys how Jesus has been portrayed from the earliest extant accounts of his life to the present day. Given our source material, we will focus on his treatment in literature, devotional accounts, art and popular culture, observing how his characterization shifts or changes according to particular historical, cultural and social circumstances. As we move chronologically through this evidence, we will also test the thesis that Jesus has evolved over time to reflect the concerns and needs of those engaged in re-imagining his life and significance. In short, we will ask the question: is Jesus who we make him?

Counts toward the following cognates:
- Christianity
- Religion, Myth, and Interpretation
- The Bible
- World of Early Christianity
**REL: 352 Religion and Science**  
Dr. Newell TR 3:30 – 4:45p.m.

The course examines the religious and ethical issues created by modern science and technology.

Counts toward the following cognates:
- Medical Humanities
- God and Science

**REL: 358 The Color of God: Race and Religion**  
Dr. Maldonado TR 11:00 – 12:15p.m.

An examination of the role of race and ethnicity within the discipline of religious studies, emphasizing the manner in which racial and ethnic identity have contributed to religious identity, and the way in which religion has functioned within the struggles of racially and ethnically marginalized peoples. The course will be focus on the Americas and draw from diverse racial, ethnic, and religious traditions.

Counts toward the following cognates:
- Africa and the African Diaspora
- Religion and Contemporary Identity
- Religion and the Body: Embodiment in Religious Beliefs and Practices
- Religion in the Americas

**REL: 370 Islam in Modern Times**  
Dr. Husayn TR 11:00 – 12:15p.m.

Islam’s encounter with the west, the impact of modernization on the Muslim World, and the rise of Islamic Fundamentalism. Islam in America and the Afro-American Islamic movements will also be discussed.

Counts toward the following cognates:
- Islam
- Religious Issues in the Modern World

**REL: 371 Islam and Gender**  
Dr. Husayn TR 2:00 – 3:15p.m.

Gender issues such as homosexuality, masculinity, femininity, modesty, virginity, sexuality and its control, and veiling in Islam.

Counts toward the following cognates:
- A Cross-Cultural and Historic Examination of Sexuality
• Islam
• Religion and Contemporary Identity
• Religion and the Body: Embodiment in Religious Beliefs and Practices

**REL: 375 Democracy and Religion in Israel and Palestine**
Dr. H. Green TR 12:30 – 1:45p.m.

An examination of Israel’s evolution as a nation and a society, especially the correlation between nationalism and religion, between ethnicity and culture, and between democracy and religion.

Counts toward the following cognates:
• Ethics in the Humanities: Religion, Philosophy, Politics
• Judaism
• Politics and Religion
• Religion and Contemporary Identity
• Religion, Law, and Civic Engagement
• Studies of Modern Day Israel
• The Evolution of the Jewish People in their Homeland and the Diaspora

**REL: 391 Bollywood and Beyond: Religion, Gender and Politics in South Asian Film**
Dr. Dutt MWF 1:25 – 2:15p.m.

Themes in Indian society through the lens of Indian cinema - both Bollywood and the regional film industry. The important themes covered are: the complex narratives of caste, myth, politics, gender, sexuality, and the challenges of modernity in India.

Counts toward the following cognates:
• Asian Religions: South and East Asia
• Religion and Contemporary Identity
• Religion and the Body: Embodiment in Religious Beliefs and Practices

**REL: 499 Method and Theory in the Study of Religion**
Dr. Pals Wednesdays 3:35 – 6:05p.m.

An examination of central issues and texts in the academic study of religion, with special focus on the rise of the discipline, its axioms, and its several schools of interpretation.
REL: 505 Seminar in Ancient Studies: Edge of Empire: Rome and Nabataean Arabia
Dr. Graf Tuesdays 6:05 – 9:05p.m.

An investigation of the history and archaeology of a client-kingdom of Rome in the early imperial period that was located between Egypt and Iraq, with a capital at Petra (the "Red-Rose city half as old as time"), now a World Heritage site, and best known from the film "Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade." Topics and reports will include: Its beginnings, dynasts (kings and queens), relations with the Herodians of Judaea, its art and architecture, religion (its pantheon and many temples), relations with Rome, and its final annexation in 106. The hinterland of Petra (Jordan, Syria, Israel, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia) will also be included, where more than a thousand sites have been recorded, many by me in in the past thirty tears.