The Department of Religion, 2018-19
Courses Recommended for First-Year Students

A central goal of the Religion Department is to enable students to become critically-informed, independent, and creative interpreters of some of the religious movements, sacred texts, ideas, and practices that have decisively shaped the varieties of human experience, societies, and cultures. All of our courses are interdisciplinary in nature, and involve close reading of primary and secondary sources, regular writing assignments, and class discussion.

First-year students may take Religion courses at either the 100- or 200-level. There are no prerequisites for any of those courses. The department’s 100-level courses are designed especially for first- and second-year students. Some of these courses focus on one religious tradition (e.g., Relg. H106a, Sense and Senses of Islam; Relg. H122b, New Testament), while some cover more than one (Relg. H110, Sacred Texts; Relg. H150a, South Asian Religious Cultures). The department’s 200-level courses are focused more specifically on thematic approaches to the study of religion. These courses demand greater initiative on the part of students, and often emphasize seminar-style discussion and class presentations. If a first-year student has a strong interest in one of the department’s 200-level courses, they should attend the first class and discuss their interests with the instructor. In general, we encourage students to sign up for the class that interests them most. For the full listing of department courses, please consult the Tri-College Course Guide.

Courses for First-Year Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Domains</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
<th>Time</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Relg. H106a</td>
<td>The Sense and Senses of Islam</td>
<td>A or B</td>
<td>Guangtian Ha</td>
<td>MW 9:00-10:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relg. H110a</td>
<td>Sacred Texts and Religious Traditions</td>
<td>A or B</td>
<td>Anne McGuire</td>
<td>TTh 1:00-2:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relg. H150a</td>
<td>South Asian Religious Cultures</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Pika Ghosh</td>
<td>TTh 11:30-1:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relg. H201a</td>
<td>Introduction to Buddhism</td>
<td>A or B</td>
<td>Hank Glassman</td>
<td>TTh 11:30-1:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relg. H203a</td>
<td>The Hebrew Bible and Its Interpretations</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Naomi Koltun-Fromm</td>
<td>MW 11:15-12:45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Relg. H222a</td>
<td>Gnosticism</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Anne McGuire</td>
<td>TTh 10-11:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relg. H259a</td>
<td>Gender and Sexuality in Islamic Texts and Practices</td>
<td>A or B</td>
<td>Guangtian Ha</td>
<td>MW 12:45-2:15</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Relg. H299a | Theoretical Perspectives in the Study of Religion (NB: this course is designed particularly for Relg. majors) | A | Brett Krutzsch | T 1:30-4:00

**SPRING SEMESTER 2019 COURSES**

Relg. H1xxb | Quakers and the Holocaust | B | David Watt | TTh 1:00-2:30
Relg. H122b | Introduction to the New Testament | A or B | Anne McGuire | TTh 10-11:30
Relg. H208b | Poetics of Religious Experience in South Asia | A | Pika Ghosh | TTh 11:30-1:00
Relg. H221b | Women and Gender in Early Christianity | A or B | Anne McGuire | TTh 1:00-2:30
Relg. H2xxb | Race, Gender, and the Indigenization of Islam | B | Guangtian Ha | MW 9:00-10:30
Relg. 240b | History and Principles of Quakerism | B | Emma Lapsansky | TTh 11:30-1:00
Relg. H257b | Yoga Tradition in South Asia and Beyond | A or B | Pika Ghosh | Th 1:30-4:00
Relg. 272b | American Religious History | B | Brett Krutzsch | MW 11:15-12:45
Relg. 276b | Religion and U.S. Politics: Sexuality, Race, Gender | B | Brett Krutzsch | W 1:30-4:00

**Religion Department Faculty and Areas of Interest**

Pika Ghosh (Hinduism, South Asian Religious Art)
Guangtian Ha (Islamic Studies, Anthropology, Music)
Ken Koltun-Fromm (Modern Jewish Thought, Material Culture, Comics)
Naomi Koltun-Fromm (Ancient Judaism, Early Christianity, Biblical Literature)
Brett Krutzsch (American Religion, Gender and Sexuality Studies)
Emma Lapsansky (Quakerism)
Anne McGuire (New Testament, Early Christianity, Ancient Mediterranean Religions)
Affiliated Faculty member, David Harrington Watt (American Religion, Quaker Studies)

**Faculty On leave 2018-19**

Molly Farneth (Religion, Society, and Ethics)
Terrance Wiley (Religion, Society and Ethics)