Religion (Bachelor of Arts)

Department of Religion, History & Philosophy; Division of Humanities and Social Sciences

Professor: Katharine Meacham
Associate Professors: Matthew Baldwin, Program Coordinator
Marc Mullinax

Religious Studies and Philosophy are academic disciplines embracing diverse methods of critical study. Our students investigate religion as a centrally important phenomenon in human history and experience, and engage with philosophical investigations of such topics as truth, reality, knowledge, being, and meaning.

The Program in Religion and Philosophy at Mars Hill University is committed to the university’s mission to unite a vital Christian faith with rigorous study in the liberal arts. Religion majors and minors develop valuable skills of critical thinking, analysis, research, writing, and public speaking. Our graduates have gone on to use these skills for providing service and leadership in a wide variety of exciting careers, in many different walks of life. The major in religion can provide a solid foundation for graduate programs in religion or philosophy, in seminars, and in other fields. The minor in religion or in religious/philosophical studies can support many different programs of study in the arts, sciences, and professions at Mars Hill University.

128 Hours

Students must complete requirements outlined in:
I. General Education Requirements
II. Major Requirements
III. Electives

I. General Education Requirements

Students must complete the Foundations and Perspectives course requirements. General Education Perspectives specified by the major are:

- Aesthetics Perspective: minimum hours from the options 3
- Global Perspective: 2 consecutive courses of foreign language 6
- Humanities Perspective: minimum hours from the options/two disciplines 6
- Ideas & Innovations - US: minimum hours from the options 3
- Ideas & Innovations - World: minimum hours from the options 3
- Natural Science Perspectives: minimum hours from the options 4
- Quantitative Reasoning Perspective: minimum hours from the options 3
- Social Science Perspective: minimum hours from the options 3

II. Major Requirements (36 Hours)

 Majors take the major “core” and complete requirements for one of three concentrations.

The Major Core

- REL 111 Bible: Hebrew Scriptures Introduction 3
- REL 112 Bible: New Testament Introduction 3
- REL 115 Religion: Search for Meaning 3
- REL 350 Research, Theory, & Method in Religion & Philosophy 3
- REL 450 Senior Seminar 3
- One course from a non-Christian tradition: 3
  - REL 235 Judaism
  - REL 240 Islam
  - REL 241 Hinduism, Buddhism
  - REL 242 Confucianism, Taoism, and Zen

The Concentrations

Students must choose one of the concentrations in order to complete the major.

A. Biblical Studies

- REL 312 Old Testament Studies 3
- REL 322 New Testament Studies 3
- At least one PHI course 3
- At least three additional courses in REL, PHI, GRK or HEB 9

B. Youth Leadership

- REL 315 Youth Ministry 3
- PSY 111 General Psychology 3
- PSY 314 Adolescent and Adult Development 3
- REL 261 or REL 461 Internship 3
- At least one PHI course 3
- At least two additional courses in REL, PHI, GRK, or HEB 6

C. Religious/Philosophical Studies

- PHI 215: Problems in Philosophy 3
- At least three additional PHI courses 9
- Any two additional courses in REL, PHI, GRK, or HEB 6

III. Electives

 Students majoring in Religion must also complete between 43 and 58 additional “elective” credit hours. Exactly how many depends upon how they meet their GE and Major requirements. These “elective” hours can be filled with any courses taken through any department or program at the university.