PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Department of Humanities and Religious Studies offers an integrated approach to the thought and culture of the world’s great civilizations. In courses on Western European, Asian, and American culture, students explore ideals and values as they are expressed in art, music, drama, history, literature, philosophy and religion.

The BA Program in Humanities and Religious Studies has several different options: an “open” major with five required courses and electives to total 39-units; focus on a single cultural field or era, such as the Ancient World, the Middle Ages and Renaissance, the Modern World, or the Eastern World; the Religious Studies concentration.

The Religious Studies concentration is an in-depth, comprehensive study of religious belief and practice on a global scale that surveys diverse interpretations of religious experience within and across cultural boundaries and examines religious institutions and sacred texts within an historical framework.

Students majoring in Humanities and Religious Studies may prepare for careers in teaching, from the elementary level (as part of a Liberal Studies major program) through the secondary level (as part of a single subject program in English/Humanities). A major in Humanities/Religious Studies is also suitable preparation for postgraduate study in several advanced degree programs, including the CSUS Master’s Program in History/Humanities, and the MA in Liberal Arts. As solid grounding in the liberal arts, the major helps to qualify graduates for continued professional preparation for careers in teaching at the community college or university level, as well as library, museum, or curatorial work.

FEATURES

The BA Program in Humanities and Religious Studies provides an interdisciplinary approach to education and a global perspective on diverse Western and Eastern cultures. Faculty advisers also help majors and minors design individual patterns of study that reflect students’ particular interests and prepare them in their chosen field.

Each semester the Department of Humanities and Religious Studies publishes a booklet describing courses scheduled for the following semester, including seminars in the Master’s Program in Liberal Arts.

A student-administered Humanities Club organizes visits to art galleries, museums, and musical and theatrical events. This group also provides opportunities for students with similar interests to meet and exchange ideas.

FACULTY

Stephen Harris, Department Chair
Jackie Donath; Mary Giles; Bradley Nystrom; Robert Platzner; Richard Shek. Joint appointments with the Department of History: George Craft; Jerry Tobey
Karen Fujii, Department Secretary
Department Office, Mendocino Hall 2011, 278-6444

CAREER POSSIBILITIES

Teaching • Publishing • Journalism • Public Relations
• Library Science • Theology • Creative Writing • Literary Research
MAJOR REQUIREMENTS • BA

Total units required for BA: 124
Total units required for Major (both concentrations): 39

A. Required Lower Division Courses (9 units)
   (3) HRS 10  Introduction to the Humanities I
   (3) HRS 11  Introduction to the Humanities II
   (3) HRS 70  Introduction to Asian Humanities

B. Required Upper Division Courses (6 units)
   (3) HRS 110  Global Cultures in Conflict
   (3) HRS 137  Exploring World Religions

C. Concentration Requirements (24 units)

1. Humanities General Concentration
   a. Required Course (3 units)
      (3) HRS 105  Approaches to Humanities
   b. Electives (21 units)
      Select twenty-one units of electives in consultation with an advisor. With advisor approval, up to six of the twenty-one units may be taken in related departments, such as History, English, Art, Music, Philosophy, Anthropology, or Ethnic Studies. Up to six of the 21 units may be lower division courses, at least 15 of the 21 units must be upper division. Students may choose elective courses in the Humanities and Religious Studies Department’s areas of specialization: The Ancient World; Medieval and Renaissance Studies; The Modern World; American Studies; Eastern Studies.

2. Religious Studies Concentration
   a. Required Course (3 units)
      (3) HRS 108  Approaches to Religious Studies
   b. Electives (21 units)
      Select twenty-one units of electives in consultation with an advisor. Up to six of the twenty-one units may be taken in related departments, with advisor approval. Up to six of the 21 units may be lower division courses; at least 15 of the 21 units must be upper division. A minimum of 15 upper division units must be chosen from the following courses:
      (3) HRS 120  Biblical Revelation/Greek Reason: Origins of Western Culture
      (3) HRS 121  Introduction to the Old Testament
      (3) HRS 122  Introduction to the New Testament
      (3) HRS 123  Evolution of Christian Thought
      (3) HRS 133  An Introduction to Judaism
      (3) HRS 135  Christian Mysticism
      (3) HRS 139  World Mythology
      (3) HRS 140  Introduction to Islam
      (3) HRS 173  Chinese Philosophy & Religion
      (3) HRS 175  Zen Buddhism & Taoism
      (3) HRS 176  Cultures of the Islamic World
      (6) Select two of the following:
      ANTH 13  Magic, Witchcraft & Religions
      ANTH 118  Biblical Archaeology
      ANTH 166  Rise of Religious Cults
      ETHN 50  Native American Religions & Philosophy
      ETHN 171  African Religions & Philosophies
      HIST 143A  Middle Eastern History to 1800
      HIST 170  History of Religion in the United States
      PHIL 131  Philosophy of Religion
      PHIL 145B  Indian Philosophy
      PSYC 164  Psychology & Judeo-Christian Thought
      SOC 171  Sociology of Religion

Note: At the discretion of the advisor, 3-4 units of foreign language study may be applied to the 21 units. The advisor and student together will determine if the language is appropriate to the student's area of interest in Religious Studies or plans for future work in theology or the academic study of religion.

SUBJECT MATTER PROGRAM
(Pre-Credential Preparation)

A. Required Lower Division Courses (15 units)
   (3) ENGL 40A  Introduction to British Literature I
   (3) ENGL 50A  Introduction to American Literature I
   (3) HRS 10  Introduction to Humanities, I
   (3) HRS 11  Introduction to Humanities, II
   (3) HRS 70  Introduction to Asian Humanities

B. Required Upper Division Courses (30 units)
   (3) ENGL 110A  Linguistics & the English Language
   (3) ENGL 110J*  Traditional Grammar & Standard Usage
   (3) ENGL 120A  Advanced Composition
   (3) ENGL 125A  Literature & Film for Adolescents
   (3) ENGL 125B  Writing & the Young Writer
   (3) ENGL 140  Studies in British Literature
   (3) ENGL 145B  Shakespeare Early Plays
   (3) ENGL 145C  Shakespeare Later Plays
   (3) ENGL 150  Studies in American Literature
   (3) HRS 164  Arts & Ideas in American Culture, II
   (3) HRS 105  Approaches to Humanities
   (3) HRS 137  Exploring World Religions
   *This course will be waived for students with passing scores on the English Department Traditional Grammar Exam.

C. Electives (12 units)
   (12) Select four of the following:
      HRS 120  Biblical Revelation/Greek Reason: Origins of Western Culture
      HRS 130  Classical Mythology
      HRS 131  Medieval Culture
      HRS 139  World Mythology
      HRS 155  The Romantic Spirit
      HRS 166  The Modern Temper
      HRS 171  Introduction to the Eastern World
      HRS 174  Modern Japanese Literature & Culture
      HRS 176  Cultures of the Islamic World
      HRS 180  The Film
      HRS 188  Fantasy & Romance

CERTIFICATE

Completion of this Subject Matter Program also satisfies the requirements for a Certificate in Academic Achievement in English/Humanities.

Sections of the California Administrative Code, Title 5, which govern single subject waiver programs are being revised. Consult the department for the currently approved Subject Matter Program.

Teaching credential candidates must also complete the Professional Education Program in addition to other requirements for a teaching credential. Consult the department credential advisor for details. You may also obtain information about the Professional Education Program from the Education Student Service Center (Education Building Room 216, 278-6174).
MINOR REQUIREMENTS

Humanities Minor (21 units)

Total units required for the Minor: 21; a minimum of 12 upper division units required.

Specific course requirements are:

(3) HRS 10 Introduction to the Humanities I
(3) HRS 11 Introduction to the Humanities II
(9) One course from three of the following specialization areas: Ancient Civilization: HRS 110, 113, 114, 120, 121, 122, 123, 130, 133, 139; Medieval/Renaissance Studies: HRS 131, 135, 140, 141; Modern World: HRS 155, 164, 166, 174, 180, 181, 188; American Studies: HRS 101, 163, 164, 168, 185, 186; Eastern Studies: HRS 70, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176

Religious Studies Minor (21 units)

Total units required for Minor: 21

Courses in parenthesis are prerequisites.

Specific course requirements are:

(3) HRS 137 Exploring World Religions
(6-9) Two or three courses from the following:
ETHN 50 Native American Religion & Philosophy
ETHN 171 African Religions & Philosophies
HIST 170 The History of Religion in the United States
HRS 70 Introduction to Asian Humanities
HRS 121 Introduction to the Old Testament
HRS 122 Introduction to the New Testament
HRS 123 Evolution of Christian Thought
HRS 130 Classical Mythology
HRS 135 Christian Mysticism
HRS 139 World Mythology
HRS 175 Zen Buddhism & Taoism
HRS 108 Approaches to Religious Studies
HRS 110 Global Cultures in Conflict
HRS 220 Seminar in Religious Studies
(3) Select one of the following:
ANTH 13 Magic, Witchcraft & Religion
ANTH 118 Biblical Archeology
ANTH 166 Rise of Religious Cults
ANTH 168 Folklore in Anthropological Perspective
PSYC 166 Humanistic Psychology
SOC 171 Sociology of Religion (SOC 1)
(6-9) Select two or three courses from the following:
HIST 110 The Ancient Near East: A Cultural History
HIST 111 Ancient Greece
HIST 112 Ancient Rome
HIST 113 Jesus & Christian Origins
HIST 114A Medieval Europe I
HIST 114B Medieval Europe II
HIST 115 The Renaissance & Reformation in Europe
HRS 113 The Culture of Classical Greece
HRS 114 The Culture of Classical Rome
HRS 120 Biblical Revelation/Greek Reason: Origins of Western Culture
HRS 131 Medieval Culture
HRS 133 An Introduction to Judaism
HRS 140 Introduction to Islam
HRS 141 The Renaissance

HRS 171 Introduction to the Eastern World
HRS 172 The Classical Culture of China
HRS 173 Chinese Philosophy & Religion
HRS 174 Modern Japanese Literature & Culture
HRS 176 Cultures of the Islamic World
HRS 230 Seminar in Medieval Studies
PHIL 131* Philosophy of Religion
PHIL 145A* Chinese Philosophy
PHIL 145B* Indian Philosophy
SOC 162 Middle Eastern Societies & Culture
* 3 units in Philosophy or permission of instructor.

LOWER DIVISION COURSES

10. Introduction to the Humanities, I. An introduction to the literature, art, architecture, philosophy and history of the ancient and early medieval world, with emphasis on classical Greece and Rome. 3 units.

11. Introduction to the Humanities, II. An introduction to the literature, art, architecture, music, history, and philosophy of the West from the Renaissance to the present. 3 units.

70. Introduction to Asian Humanities. An introduction to the art, architecture, religion, literature, history, and philosophy of India, China, and Japan from ancient times to the present. The Oriental mode of thinking will be emphasized, and comparisons with that of the West will be made. 3 units.

UPPER DIVISION COURSES

101. Multicultural America. This course is a topically structured, interdisciplinary approach to the cultural experiences of under-represented ethnic/racial groups in the U.S. 3 units.

105. Approaches to the Humanities. An advanced study of interdisciplinary methods applied to the contemporary arts (literature, music, art and other modes of humanistic expression). 3 units.

108. Approaches to Religious Studies. An introduction to current methodologies in the global field of Religious Studies, emphasizing the role played by philosophy and the social sciences in shaping our understanding of religious experience. Methodologies will include (but not limited to) the philosophical, mythical, symbolic, esthetic, feminist, psychological and sociological, focusing on non-Western as well as Western and selected contemporary religions and religious texts. 3 units.

110. Global Cultures in Conflict. An historical survey of the interactive and often adversarial relation of Western to non-Western societies, with particular attention to the dynamics of religious and cultural conflict. 3 units.

113. The Culture of Classical Greece. The Golden Age of Athens and the birth of Western humanism; studies in the classical ideal of man and the good life; discussions of tragedy, comedy, history, philosophy, sculpture and architecture. Fall only. 3 units.

114. The Culture of Classical Rome. Roman achievement and its influence; studies in the art, architecture, literature, history, and religion of Rome from the Republic to the triumph of Christianity. Spring only. 3 units.

120. Biblical Revelation/Greek Reason: Origins of Western Culture. A study of the conflicting cultures that have shaped the social attitudes and ethics of Western culture. Readings in the Bible, Plato, Greek tragedy, erotic poetry, the New Testament, and Church fathers. Prerequisite: Passing score on the WPE. 3 units.
121. Introduction to the Old Testament. A survey of the historical narrative, basic problems of textual criticism, and analysis of archeological evidence. Origins and development of Judaism and its interaction with surrounding cultures. 3 units.

122. Introduction to the New Testament. A study of the New Testament literature in its historical and cultural setting. Topics covered include the relationship of the four Gospels; the new quest of the historical Jesus; the evolution of early Christianity; and the diverse theologies represented in the letters of Paul and other canonical and non-canonical writings. 3 units.

123. The Evolution of Christian Thought. A survey of Christian thought from the first century to the twentieth. Topics include the teaching of the historical Jesus, the struggle of ancient theologians to define orthodoxy, the Reformation and the work of modern Catholic and Protestant thinkers. 3 units.

130. Classical Mythology. A study of Greek and Roman myths and hero tales and their place in the art and literature of Western civilization. 3 units.

131. Medieval Culture. From the decline of Rome to the Renaissance. Emphasis on the cultural developments from the Barbarian intrusion until the advent of Humanism with attention to art, architecture, literature to illustrate the dynamics of these diverse years. 3 units.

133. An Introduction to Judaism. A semester survey and analysis of the fundamental tenets of Judaism set within the context of the historical and intellectual development of the Jewish People. 3 units.

135. Christian Mysticism. Inquiry into Christian Mysticism; its origins and growth in the Western world; its continuing relevance for contemporary man. Primary focus on Saint John of the Cross and Saint Teresa. 3 units.

137. Exploring World Religions. A comparative inquiry into the nature of great religions of the world. Emphasis on Buddhism, Hinduism and other non-Western religions, particularly as they relate to Christianity and Judaism. Prerequisite: Passing score on the WPE. 3 units.

139. World Mythology. This course provides an introduction to the nature and function of myth. The specific literature studied will be exclusive of classical mythology and because of the breadth of subject matter will vary in content. At least four areas of mythology will be covered each term. 3 units.

140. Introduction to Islam. A survey of the Islamic way of life: its beliefs, traditions and practices from Quranic origins and the Sunna of the Prophet Muhammad. The historical development of Islamic law, religious sects, mysticism, and intellectual thought of the world Muslim community from medieval to contemporary times. 3 units.

141. Renaissance. This course will investigate the nature and implications of Renaissance Humanism in Italy (14th and 15th centuries) as well as its impact in Northern Europe in the 16th century. It will include the literary works of such writers as Petrarch, Pico, Machiavelli, Erasmus and Cervantes, along with the art of Giotto, Botticelli, Michelangelo, Brunelleschi, Cellini, Dufay, da Vince, and Palestrina. Prerequisite: Passing score on the WPE. 3 units.

155. The Romantic Spirit. A semester of interdisciplinary study of 19th century Anglo-European culture, with emphasis on the emergence of revolutionary art-forms and world-views rooted in idealism. Prerequisite: Passing score on the WPE. 3 units.

163. Arts and Ideas in American Culture, I. Comparative studies in major figures, trends, events in American literature, visual art, music, architecture, popular culture studied in relation to the major ideas and social developments from Transcendentalism to the birth of modernism. Prerequisite: Passing score on the WPE. 3 units.

164. Arts and Ideas in American Culture, II. A survey of major thinkers, artists, schools, and movements in American literature, music, architecture and the arts from the Armory Show (1913) to the present. Prerequisite: Passing score on the WPE. 3 units.

166. The Modern Temper. An investigation of those crises in art and society underlying the development of antihumanism in the 20th century. 3 units.

171. Introduction to the Eastern World. A study of the “spirit” of various ages of China and Japan seen through literature, art, architecture, religion, philosophy and history. 3 units.

172. The Classical Culture of China. An introduction to classical Chinese culture through a survey of her philosophy, religion, art, and institutions. It highlights the uniqueness of Chinese culture as well as the common concerns it shares with other high cultures. Materials covered will provide background for the understanding of modern and contemporary China. 3 units.

173. Chinese Philosophy and Religion. A study of Chinese philosophic and religious ideas through representative works in English. The traditional Chinese views on human nature, society, politics, morality, and spirituality are examined. The Chinese transformation of Buddhism will also be discussed. The inner dynamics of traditional Chinese thought and its contemporary implications are explored. 3 units.

174. Modern Japanese Literature and Culture. The study of representative Japanese literature of the late Tokugawa period and of modern Japan through English translations. 3 units.

175. Zen Buddhism and Taoism. Covers the fundamental doctrines of the Buddha and the historical development of Buddhism from India to China and Japan. Zen, as one of the most important concepts in Buddhism, will be presented not only to cover the sect of Buddhism but also to trace the Zen spirit in many areas of religious and cultural traditions in East. 3 units.

176. Cultures of the Islamic World. A survey of the expression of Islamic religious values in philosophy, theology, art, architecture, music, and literature from 622 C.E. to the present. The origin and rise of the religion of Islam and the contribution of Muslim poets, writers, artists of both genders and other transmitters of the Islamic multicultural legacy are examined. 3 units.

180. The Film. An introduction to the esthetics of cinema with special attention to the evolution of a critical theory of cinema within the framework of twentieth century arts and ideas. 3 units.

181. Contemporary Directions in Film. An examination of contemporary film and film criticism from an interdisciplinary perspective, stressing the links between film, literature, the visual arts and society. 3 units.

185. Women in Film and American Culture. A study of major social issues confronting American women examined through their images in film and other visual and literary arts, set in the context of American culture. This course is open to all students regardless of sex. 3 units.
186. **American Women in Media and the Arts.** The impact of change upon the images, roles, and perceptions of women in selected examples of American art, literature, music, advertising, television, film, comics, and other areas of popular culture. The arts and media are studied in relation to each other in the light of feminist theory and in their social and cultural context. Because this course is the same as COMS 186 and WOMS 186 only one of these courses can be counted for credit. **Prerequisites:** one course in Women’s Studies (core or cross-listed), and one course in message analysis or the arts (such as COMS 100B, HRS 180 or 185, WOMS 146). 3 units.

188. **Fantasy and Romance.** An exploration of the esthetic of fantasy, and an overview of the historical development of the quest-romance from the medieval through the modern periods. 3 units.

196. **Experimental Offerings in Humanities.** Special experimental courses will concentrate on specific themes, figures or topic areas and will be scheduled as needed. Graded Credit/No Credit. 2-3 units.

199. **Special Problems.** A tutorial-reading course involving independent research. Topic and research method to be decided upon jointly by both student and instructor. May be repeated for credit. 1-3 units.

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**GRADUATE COURSES**

202. **Ideas in Conflict.** An introduction to critical methodologies in the Humanities and to techniques of formal analysis applied to specific eras and artworks in Western cultural history. 3 units.

220. **Seminar in Religious Studies.** A course designed to offer a variety of topics in the study of world religions, this seminar presents a rotating series of subjects ranging from ancient religious literature to contemporary religious problems. 3 units.

230. **Seminar in Medieval Studies.** The purpose of the seminar is to study a major theme, dimension, or figure of the Middle Ages with particular attention to the interrelationship of the visual and plastic arts, literature, music, and philosophy. 3 units.

250. **Seminar in Modernism.** Interdisciplinary studies in the arts of the modern era. Topics will vary from term to term. 3 units.

296. **Experimental Offerings in Humanities.** A seminar in the Humanities will be scheduled as needed. 3 units.

299. **Special Problems.** Individual projects or directed reading on the graduate level. **Prerequisite:** approval of the faculty member under whom the work is to be conducted and of the Humanities program advisor. 1-3 units.

500. **Culminating Experience.** Completion of a thesis, project or comprehensive examination. Open only to students who have been advanced to candidacy and have secured the permission of the graduate coordinator. Graded Credit/No Credit. 3 units.