

Religious Studies

(RELS)

Explore a broad range of religious cultures, traditions, and history while studying the differences and similarities between religious faiths such as Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Sikhism. Our Religious Studies program invites students to join in current scholarly efforts to study, analyze and understand different forms of religious experience from a number of disciplinary perspectives.

Sample First Year Schedule

Your first year classes in Religious Studies will consist of a mixture of courses within your major, general education courses and elective courses outside your major.

Course Type	Course(s)	Credits
Major Course	A 6.00 credit introductory level Religious Studies course	6.00
General Education Course	Any approved 1000 level course from the Humanities or Social Sciences	6.00 or 9.00
General Education Course	Any approved course from the Natural Sciences	6.00
Course Outside Religious Studies	Any course that is not a Religious Studies or general education course	3.00 or 6.00
Elective Course	Any course for which you meet the prerequisite requirements	3.00
Total		30.00 (maximum)

Program Options

With Religious Studies, you have the option of taking another program within the Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies as a Double Major or pursuing another program as a Minor. Religious Studies can also be taken as a minor.

Double Major Options Include:

Classics/Classical Studies	Jewish Studies
French Studies	Philosophy
German Studies	Political Science
History	Sociology
	+ many more!

Minor Options Include:

Classics/Classical Studies	Jewish Studies
French Studies	Philosophy
German Studies	Political Science
History	Sociology
	+ many more!

The York Promise

York is here to support you throughout your unique university journey. Beyond academic achievement, we strive to enrich your student experience through personal and professional development by offering:

- Career-Focused Services**

Career advising, career fairs and networking opportunities to help sharpen your professional edge.

- Academic Support**

Learning skills workshops, outstanding libraries, academic accommodations, transition programs and academic advising services designed to help you every step of the way.

- Social & Leadership Development Programs**

A vibrant social scene with more than 300 clubs and organizations to enhance student life, and help you develop soft skills you can bring to the table in your future career.



Michael Di Tomasso
Fourth Year Student
Religious Studies

"The best part about the Religious Studies program is the small class sizes. This creates a sense of community within the program for both the faculty and the students. I've been able to make lasting connections with both my classmates and my professors."

Your Degree Pathway

A degree in Religious Studies requires the completion of 90 Credits for a Bachelor's Degree (three years) or 120 Credits for an Honours Degree (four years). Your courses will consist of Major, General Education, and Elective Courses.

First Year

First year will introduce you to the university environment, provide you with general education courses, and allow options for you to study courses aligned with your own interests.



Religious Studies Courses: Introductory level Religious Studies course, such as the Nature of Religion, Gods and Humans, Islamic Traditions, Introduction to the Study of Religion

General Education Courses: Humanities, Social Sciences or Natural Sciences (for non-science students)

Elective Courses: Your choice of courses outside of Religious Studies

Second Year

In your second year, you will continue your development of the fundamentals in Religious Studies.



Religious Studies Course Options: World Religions in Canada, Sikh History and Thought, Religion and Film, History of the Bible, Contemporary Religious Issues + many more

General Education Courses: Humanities, Social Sciences or Natural Sciences (for non-science students)

Elective Courses: Choose new subjects to explore or continue to develop skills from previous selections

Third Year

Your third year in Religious Studies will allow you to explore specific interests in the field.



Religious Studies Course Options: Methods in the Study of Religion (Required), Theories in the Study of Religion (Required), Politics and Representation of Terror and Terrorism, A Cultural History of Satan, Sacred Space and Ritual Practices in Islam, Gender and Morality: Feminist Challenges to the Traditions + many more

Elective Courses: Choose new subjects to explore or continue to develop skills from previous selections

Fourth Year

In your fourth and final year, your courses in Religious Studies will be designed to meet your specific interests.



Religious Studies Course Options: The Death of God: Atheism and Modernity in the West, Women in Islam, Buddhism as Seen from the West, Sex and Violence in the Hebrew Bible, Diversity in Early Christianity + many more

Elective Courses: These courses can include additional Religious Studies courses or further courses of interest at the upper level



Your Degree!