

Course: REL 110

Course Title: World Religions

Credit Hours: 3

Department: Religious Studies

Prerequisite: None

May also receive credit for this course through International Baccalaureate

General Education Area:

PUBLIC AFFAIRS - Cultural Competence (*GEC 115*)

Information submitted by a department representative on 4/8/2021 3:34:39 PM – Compiled by Darren Wienberg, Academic Advising & Transfer Center

Typically Offered During:

Fall Full Semester:	YES	Fall 1 st Block:	NO	Fall 2 nd Block:	YES
Spring Full Semester:	YES	Spring 1 st Block:	NO	Spring 2 nd Block:	YES
Summer:	NO				

Typical Instructional Modality:

Traditional (seated):	YES	Blended:	YES	Internet:	YES
Online Video:	NO	Web Conference:	NO		

May Also Count Toward Department Offering:

Major:	YES	Minor:	YES	Certificate:	YES
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Please see online published semester class schedule and undergraduate catalog for detailed course offering information.

How do you describe the course to students when they ask “What is this class about?” (Without using the catalog description)?

REL 210 develops knowledge and an appreciation of diverse cultures and religions, enabling students to have a positive impact on others. Given the important role that religion plays in today’s world, knowledge of the beliefs, values, and practices of world religions is vital for culturally competent global citizens. Students will learn how the religions of the world have affected individual and cultural identities in history and in today’s world.

Beyond meeting a General Education requirement, what benefits can students realize from choosing this course?

In REL 210, students will:

- describe the history, development, and practices of major religions from around the world;
- understand diverse religions as cultural systems that help shape and articulate the values, beliefs, and behaviors of individuals and communities;
- learn to analyze primary texts belonging to diverse religious traditions;
- learn to recognize and appreciate diversity in terms of religious affiliation and cultural belonging
- assess the relevance of religions to contemporary issues and evaluate how they both contribute and respond to challenges facing contemporary societies;
- study and speak about religion in a respectful and impartial manner.

Other than your major/minor/certificate students, what groups of students could find this course relevant to their degree program or career path?

Business, Nursing, Pre-Med, Education, Criminology, Political Science, Media, Journalism, Film, Sociology, and Diversity Studies

Catalog Description (Fall 2022 Undergraduate Catalog)

Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and other world religions have an important impact on public affairs. By surveying the world's religions, this course equips students to understand the perspectives of various faith communities, to think critically about the role of religion in human experience past and present, and to engage constructively with religious and cultural diversity.