Religious Studies, BA

ASU is not currently accepting applications for this program. Interested students should apply to the concentration in religion, culture and public life or the concentration in religion, politics and global affairs.

Program Description

Religion is an important part of human experience. Religious understanding informs and shapes politics, literature, philosophy, art and science as well as the daily life of millions around the globe. An understanding of religious traditions is critical to understanding a shared past and present and to navigating toward a shared future.

Students who pursue the BA in religious studies come from a wide diversity of faiths, cultural backgrounds and intellectual interests. What many find fascinating and exciting about religious studies is that it draws from a wide variety of disciplines --- history, philosophy, anthropology, literature, political science and theology, to name a few. Course offerings reflect a diversity of approaches (historical, anthropological, ethical and theological), regions (North America, South America, Europe, Middle East, Africa, South Asia and Southeast Asia) and traditions (Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism and Native American traditions).

Students study global religious traditions to examine human interaction and explore the root beliefs and values of diverse cultures. This interdisciplinary program combines teachings of history, philosophy, anthropology, literature, political science and theology and helps students develop critical thinking and writing skills.

In addition to the guidelines in the Concurrent Program Options section below, students interested in pursuing a concurrent degree or second baccalaureate in The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences are advised to visit The College's website for more information and requirements.
https://thecollege.asu.edu/concurrent-and-second-baccalaureate-degrees
At a Glance

- **College/School:** The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- **Location:** Tempe campus or Online, ASU Local
- **Additional Program Fee:** Yes
- **Second Language Requirement:** Yes
- **First Required Math Course:** MAT 142 - College Mathematics
- **Math Intensity:** General

Required Courses (Major Map)

2017 - 2018 Major Map (On-campus)
2017 - 2018 Major Map (Online)
Major Map (Archives)

Concurrent Program Options

Students pursuing concurrent degrees (also known as a double major) earn two distinct degrees and receive two diplomas. Working with their academic advisors, students can create their own concurrent degree combination. Some combinations are not possible due to high levels of overlap in curriculum.

Admission Requirements

General University Admission Requirements:
All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.
Freshman | Transfer | International | Readmission

Change of Major Requirements

A current ASU student has no additional requirements for changing majors.

Students should refer to https://changemajor.apps.asu.edu for information about how to change a major to this program.

Transfer Options

ASU is committed to helping students thrive by offering tools that allow personalization of the transfer path to ASU. Students may use MyPath2ASU™ to outline a list of recommended courses to take prior to transfer.

ASU has transfer partnerships in Arizona and across the country to create a simplified transfer experience for students. These pathway programs include exclusive benefits, tools and resources, and they help
students save time and money in their college journey. Students may learn more about these programs by visiting the admission site: https://admission.asu.edu/transfer/MyPath2ASU.

**Program Learning Outcomes**

Program learning outcomes identify what a student will learn or be able to do upon completion of their program. This program has the following program outcomes:

- Formulate a thesis about a significant issue in religious studies.
- Address and analyze a scholarly issue in religious studies.
- Develop a sustained, evidence-based argument about a significant issue in religious studies.

**Global Opportunities**

**Global Experience**

With over 250 programs in more than 65 countries (programs vary in length, from one week to one year), study abroad is possible for all ASU students who wish to acquire global skills and knowledge in preparation for a 21st century career. Students earn ASU credit for completed courses, while staying on track for graduation, and they may apply financial aid and scholarships toward program costs. https://goglobal.asu.edu/

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences recommends the following study abroad programs for students majoring in religious studies: https://goglobal.asu.edu/students/major/shprs/religious-studies.

**Career Opportunities**

Students interested in careers in local, state, regional and national communities find transdisciplinary encouragement and support in the Bachelor of Arts degree program in religious studies.

Students who are attracted to international study find the undergraduate program rich in multicultural coursework and study abroad opportunities.

Religious studies students find many opportunities for practical experience leading to careers in the academic study of religion, in public service, in governmental and nongovernmental agencies, and in professional careers in a variety of organizations, including all of the helping professions.

Graduates have gone on to careers in such fields as diplomacy, development and teaching or have pursued professional degrees in areas such as law, public policy and counseling.

**Contact Information**