Religious Studies (Religion, Politics and Global Affairs), BA
LARELPGBA

Accelerated options for this program are not currently available to ASU Online students.

This major provides you with valuable skills in interdisciplinary research, cross-cultural understanding, empathy, critical analysis and communication that will enable you to address crucial contemporary issues, including globalization, health care, human rights, immigration and the meaning of life. These skills are useful in a wide variety of careers.

Program Description

The BA program in religious studies with a concentration in religion, politics and global affairs considers how the study of religion expands the understanding of political culture, communal formation, governance, nationalism, statehood and citizenship in both domestic and global contexts.

Students explore the role religion has in shaping political values, social movements, civic organizations and communal norms, with particular attention on how religion impacts issues of health, the environment, migration, peace, conflict, violence and various issues of social justice. Special consideration is given to the religious intersections of nationality, ethnicity, race, gender and other vital facets of human community and identity.

In addition to the guidelines in the Concurrent Program Options section below, students interested in pursuing concurrent or second baccalaureate degrees in The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences are advised to visit the college's website for more information and requirements.

At a Glance
• College/School: The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
• Location: Tempe 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)

2023 - 2024 Major Map (On-campus)
2023 - 2024 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.

Accelerated Program Options

This program allows students to obtain both a bachelor's and master's degree in as little as five years. It is offered as an accelerated bachelor's plus master's degree with:

Global Management (Creative Industries and Design Thinking), MGM
Global Management (Digital Audience Strategy), MGM
Global Management (Global Affairs), MGM
Global Management (Global Business), MGM
Global Management (Global Development and Innovation), MGM
Global Management (Global Digital Transformation), MGM
Global Management (Global Entrepreneurship), MGM
Global Management (Global Health Care Delivery), MGM
Global Management (Global Legal Studies), MGM
Global Management (Nonprofit Leadership and Management), MGM
Global Management (Public Administration), MGM
Global Management (Public Policy), MGM
Global Management (Sustainability Solutions), MGM
Global Management (Sustainable Tourism), MGM

Global Management, MGM

Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. Students typically receive approval to pursue the accelerated master’s during the junior year of their bachelor's degree program. Interested students can learn about eligibility requirements and [how to apply](#).

**Admission Requirements**

**General University Admission Requirements:**
All students are required to meet general university admission requirements.

For more information, see [First-year](#) | [Transfer](#) | [International](#) | [Readmission](#)

**Tuition Information**

When it comes to paying for higher education, everyone’s situation is different. Students can learn about [ASU tuition and financial aid](#) options to find out which will work best for them.

**Change of Major Requirements**

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

Students should visit the [Change of Major form](#) for information about how to change a major to this program.

**Attend Online**

**ASU Online**

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may view the program’s ASU Online page for program descriptions and to request more information.

**ASU Local**

It is now possible to earn an ASU degree with [ASU Local](#), an integrated college experience in which students take advantage of in-person success coaching and programming experiences on site while completing one of 130+ undergraduate online degree programs, all of which come with online faculty interaction and tutoring support.

**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
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.

**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 related to politics and global affairs.
- Address and analyze a scholarly issue in religious studies related to politics and global affairs.
- Develop a sustained, evidence-based argument about a significant issue in religious studies related to politics and global affairs.

**Global Opportunities**

**Global Experience**

Religion plays a major role in societal norms, politics and traditions all over the world. Through [Global Education programs](#) (there are over 300 unique programs available), students witness diverse religions and cultures firsthand and gain a heightened understanding of the impact of religion. This understanding, as well as the cultural competency, communication and critical thinking skills they also acquire, will enhance their resumes.

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences recommends [these programs](#) for students majoring in religious studies with a concentration in religion, politics and global affairs.

**Career Opportunities**

Religious studies majors seek jobs in many professional areas, including:

- chaplaincy
- diversity management
- education
- foreign service
- health care, including mental health and counseling
- journalism
- law
- nonprofit and nongovernmental organizations
- public service and public policy
Religious studies is an excellent foundation for graduate and professional studies in:

- anthropology
- gender studies
- health care
- history
- law
- justice studies
- philosophy
- political science
- sociology
- theology

Career example titles and salaries listed below are not necessarily entry level, and students should take into consideration how years of experience, geographical location, and required advanced degrees or certifications may affect pay scales.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Career</th>
<th>*Growth</th>
<th>*Median Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advocate</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
<td>$38,520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counselor (General)</td>
<td>17.2%</td>
<td>$43,390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawyer</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>$135,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT)</td>
<td>14.9%</td>
<td>$56,570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News Reporter</td>
<td></td>
<td>$55,960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politician</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>$48,090</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion Professor</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>$78,780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious Education Director</td>
<td></td>
<td>$49,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious Leader</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>$55,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Worker</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>$50,820</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Data obtained from the Occupational Information Network (O*NET) under sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration (USDOL/ETA).

☀ Bright Outlook

**Contact Information**

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