



FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you would like additional information on the philosophy or religion program at Western Carolina University, please visit us online at philrel.wcu.edu, call 828.227.7262, or email amckenzie@wcu.edu. Application materials and deadlines can be found at admissions.wcu.edu.



KNOW RELIGION MORE BROADLY

The concentration in religion at WCU is a comparative and interdisciplinary program that includes courses in most of the world's major religious traditions: Hinduism, Judaism, Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, Native American religions, and religious life in China. Religion might therefore be a good academic home for you if you are interested in how people around the world think and live, how different cultures conflict, and how they might cooperate. From spirituality to the Supreme Court, and from mysticism to creationism, we study the religious ideas and events that help make sense of the world.

CONCENTRATION IN RELIGION



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KNOW RELIGION MORE DEEPLY

Religions ask and answer questions about the meaning of life and death, of love and justice, of God and ethics – all the questions that characterize the human condition. Religious studies equips us as global citizens by providing the opportunity to understand the religious cultures that are shaping the world. We at WCU distinguish between teaching religion and teaching about religion. To teach religion is to strengthen people's faith and to get them to be more religious. At WCU, however, we teach about religion by studying the religions of the world in a manner that is comparative, factual, and as fair as we can be, and we don't try to persuade students to agree – or to disagree – with any particular religion. To teach about religion is strictly an educational effort that aims to give students access to the rich range of different philosophies, mythologies, moral systems, and ritual practices that shape the paths of people around the world.

UNDERSTAND GLOBAL EVENTS AND TRENDS MORE FULLY

From how one should dress to how one should fight, from movies to economic policy, from concepts of justice to concepts of mercy, religion has a hand in just about everything going on in the world. Simply put, religion has been a major force in shaping history. That's why the study of religion is essential to a rich and accurate understanding of the world that should appeal to anyone with a thirst for knowledge.

BECOME A LEADER

If you've ever been out in public or watched TV, you might have noticed that people can say some silly things about religion – or in the name of religion. The world needs more thoughtful people who know what they're talking about. Become one of those people. By studying religion and learning to talk about it with subtlety and depth, you can become one of the leaders we need to help improve our communities and our world.



CONNECT WITH THINKERS, SEEKERS, AND DOERS

Religion majors are preparing for lives of purpose and depth. Students choose to major in religious studies for a variety of reasons, but never merely because they want to train for their first job out of college. Our conversations are substantial, and the connections we make with each other are as well. Join us for an education that's really worthwhile.

PREPARE FOR A MEANINGFUL CAREER

There are countless professions and graduate school programs that someone might enter after completing a degree in religious studies: law, teaching, counseling, ministry, medicine, marketing, and writing barely scratch the surface. But one thing is certain: the study of religion will help prepare you to make a choice that truly suits your unique interests and fills you with a sense of purpose.