

# Department of Religious Studies

## Fall 2022 Graduate Courses



### RELS 5000-091

#### Joining and Leaving Religions: Studies in Conversion and Deconversion

*Tuesdays 2:30-5:15 / Sean McCloud*

*(Cross-listed with RELS 4000 / AMST 4050)*

Why do people join a religion? Why do some leave their religions? This course engages that question through a combination of primary sources and scholarship on conversion, deconversion, and change. We use a variety of sources, including narratives of conversions and personal change; scholarly theories of conversion; and social theories focused on agency, constraint, change, and stasis.



### RELS 5000-091

#### Malignant Fraternities: Hegemonic Masculinity in the Hebrew Bible

*Thursdays 5:30-8:15 / Barbara Thiede*

*(Cross-listed with RELS 4000 / WGST 4050 / WGST 5050)*

The Hebrew Bible was written by men and for men; working out the terms of masculinity and establishing how it is best performed is essential to the biblical project. In this course, we will explore male friendship and male homosociality and their potential homoerotic expression. We will ask how binary gender performances are undermined and address the use of sexual violence against women and men in contests for power and authority.



### RELS 6101-090

#### Approaches to the Study of Religion in the Humanities

*Tuesdays 5:30-8:15 / Alex Kaloyanides*

*(Cross lists with MALS 6101)*

How do social formations such as religion, or demographic variables such as race, class, and gender, work in individual lives and social groups? This course, which serves as the MA theory and methods course for Religious Studies and MALS, examines sociological, historical, anthropological, textual, and psychological approaches to humanities and social sciences subjects such as religion and provides the kind of interdisciplinary study that teach you to critically read across disciplines and to understand the research methods covered in humanities and social sciences generally.

### RELS 6800-001 / 002

#### Directed Readings/Research

*By approval / Kent Brintnall*

Investigation of a topic in religious studies culminating in a research paper.

Contact Kent Brintnall at [kbrintna@uncc.edu](mailto:kbrintna@uncc.edu).

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