Religious Studies Newsletter
November 2021, Vol. 1

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Special Announcements

NinerScholars Portal is Now Open
- The NinerScholars Portal is now open for students to begin applying for scholarships that will be awarded for the 2022-23 academic year.
- Please go to the University Scholarship Office website (scholarships.charlotte.edu) or more specifically (scholarships.charlotte.edu/apply/how-apply). These pages provide students with valuable information about the scholarship application, award process, and timeline, as well as guidance on accessing and navigating NinerScholars.

Apply for Internships in RELS
- RELS 3400 - Internships is being offered to Religious Studies majors/minors for Spring 2022.
- Internships in the Department of Religious Studies provide an opportunity for majors and minors to transfer the skills and knowledge they have learned in the classroom to professional settings.
- In order to receive academic credit for your internship, you must complete an ePortfolio that compiles information about the organization, your responsibilities (amounting to 120 hours), evaluations, and a reflection on the work you completed.
- You will need to contact the organization’s supervisor, arrange an interview, and secure your placement before you can register for RELS 3400.
The Department of Religious Studies has placements available for internships, such as Pierre Law, International House, and SHARE. Contact Celia Sinclair (cbsincla@uncc.edu) or Saad Jalisi (sjalisi@uncc.edu) with questions.

**Declaring the Major**

**How to Declare the Major in Religious Studies**

- To declare the undergraduate major in Religious Studies, just fill out [this form](#).
- The major in Religious Studies requires 30 credit hours.
- The minor in Religious Studies only requires 15 credit hours. With a few more classes, you could acquire a Bachelor’s degree in Religious Studies.

**M.A. in Religious Studies**

**How to Apply for the M.A. in Religious Studies**

- The M.A. in Religious Studies program approaches the academic study of religion and religions from a variety of critical and interdisciplinary perspectives, with an emphasis placed on the global and multicultural aspects of religion.
- The M.A. application is completely electronic via the [Charlotte Graduate School website](#).
- Exceptional undergraduate students at Charlotte may apply for the Early Entry Program and begin work toward the graduate degree before completion of the Bachelor’s degree.
  - Check out our promotional [video](#) to understand the Early Entry Program!
- For more information regarding admission requirements or other aspects of the program please contact: Dr. Kent Brintnall - kent.brintnall@uncc.edu.

**Programming**

**U.S. Fulbright Information Session**

- Are you interested in pursuing graduate or professional study, conducting research, or teaching English Abroad with the Fulbright Institute?
- Attend the Student Fulbright Program Information Session!
- **Monday, November 15, 2021 2:00-3:00pm**
- [Click Here to Register for the virtual information session.](#)
- Email Brad Sekulich at sekulich@uncc.edu with any questions.
**Best Buddies at UNC Charlotte**

- Applications for membership to Best Buddies are now open!
- Best Buddies is an international nonprofit organization that seeks to enhance the lives of people with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) through inclusion, friendship, and advocacy.
- Best Buddies “friendship club” matches students in a one-to-one friendship (Buddy Pair) between a student with and a student without an IDD. Members make a commitment to contact their buddy at least once a week and hang out with their buddy twice per month.
- If you are interested in applying, please fill out [this form](#) prior to November 19th, 11:59pm.
- For more information, please check out the [Best Buddies in North Carolina](#) website, or email Angel Padilla at [apadill7@uncc.edu](mailto:apadill7@uncc.edu).

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**Women of Color Conversations**

- The Office of Identity, Equity, and Engagement is hosting Women of Color Conversations.
- These virtual chats will engage with meaningful dialogue around the intersections of womanhood and being a person of color.
- These conversations will be held on November 18th and December 9th from 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM.
- Register [here](#).
Race and Social Equity Fall Forum

- This forum addresses racial and social equity issues as it relates to being unhoused.
- Attendees will hear directly from an alum who experienced being houseless as a student, barriers faced and endured, and tentative solutions.
- A panel discussion will feature local leaders who will share innovative strategies to eliminate the number of people being unhoused.
- This free virtual event will take place on November 17, 2021 from 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM.
- Click here for registration (required).

Helpful Resources

Center for Counseling and Psychological Services

- Let's Talk is a brief, drop-in and confidential problem-solving consultation with a CAPS team member. Visits are first come, first serve. No appointment necessary and the wait time is usually brief.
- Services Offered by CAPS:
  - Individual Counseling
  - Group Counseling
  - Relationship Therapy
  - Crisis Assistance
  - Self Help Resources- Click here for more information
- Call 704-687-0311 during business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday for appointments or questions
- If you are in crisis, CLICK HERE for resources

Native American Student Association: Talking Circles

- The Native American Student Association will be celebrating Native American Heritage Month all November long by holding weekly Talking Circles!
- The Talking Circles will occur every Monday evening in November at 6:00 PM.
- Meeting location: College of Health & Human Services (CHHS), Room 128.
Department Events

Jamil Niner Student Pantry Donations
- The Department of Religious Studies is participating in a canned-food drive for the Jamil Niner Student Pantry.
- The Religious Studies Graduate Organization will earn 1 volunteer hour for every 10 cans donated.
- The volunteer hours will be used towards credit for the Graduate & Professional Student Government (GPSG).
- There is a bin in the Religious Studies front office for your donations!

Religious Studies Reading/Writing Group
- David Flaherty, a graduate MA student in Religious Studies, is hosting a reading and writing group.
- Open to undergraduate and graduate students.
- This is a space to help each other edit papers, understand texts, work silently, collaborate on research, and foster a community!
- If you are interested, the group meets on Mondays from 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM via Zoom: https://uncc.zoom.us/j/93149205675?pwd=UFEob3J2L2lveWR3WkNJQ0lkVitCUT09.
- If you have any questions, you can contact David at dflaher1@uncc.edu.

News about department events will be emailed to you as well as posted on the department website and on our Facebook page, Twitter feed, and Instagram. We will host the Loy H. Witherspoon Annual Lecture as well as the Tate Lecture in Judaic Studies this year, both virtually.