

Department of Religious Studies

Summer 1 - 2022 Undergraduate & Graduate Courses

NOTE: All courses below are fully online.

Some considerations about online classes:

- Online courses require students to be independent learners.
- Students need to be strongly motivated to work independently.
- Students will need reliable internet access.



RELS 1201-080 **Introduction to Religious Studies**

Online/Yasmine Singh

Introduction to the academic study of religion. Whether one holds religious beliefs or not we are all living in

historical, cultural, and social worlds that are largely constructed by religious ideas and assumptions. In this course we dig deeply to ask about the kind of “world constructions” that religions represent, examining the origins of our most basic assumptions about the meaning of life, gender and sexuality, moral values, and cultural and social norms. This is an introductory course intended for students of any major or subject area.

- *Cultural or Textual Analysis*



RELS 2000-080 **The Supernatural and American Culture**

Online/Sean McCloud

Cross-Listed with AMST 2050-081

Despite claims that modernity is a realm of disenchantment, contemporary American

culture continues to be haunted by ghosts, possessed by demons, and visited by alien others. In this course, we examine some of the multiple appearances and meanings of the supernatural in American culture. We will not be interested in assessing the “reality” of any supernatural entities. Instead, we will focus intensely on trying to unveil the “work” that such entities do in cultural, political, individual, and social spheres.

- *Cultural Analysis*



RELS 2102-080: Intro to Asian Religions

Online/Janna Shedd

An introduction to Hinduism, Buddhism, Daoism, and Shinto. Emphasis on the myths, stories, symbols, rituals, ideas, and ethical practices of these religions in their classical formulations and in their contemporary practices.

- *Cultural or Textual Analysis*



RELS 2107-080: American Indian Lifeways

Online/Tina Katsanos

An introduction to the various dimensions of American Indian religiosity, people, myth and

orality, sacred space, time, and objects; embodied lifeways and ceremonies; tradition; and change. Special emphasis is placed on past and present imaginings of American Indian lifeways as shaping a current environmental movement of resistance and resilience.- *Cultural or Historical Analysis*



RELS 3230-080 **Race, Religion, and Murder**

Online/Julia Moore

Cross-Listed with AFRS 3050-081

An introduction to the intersection of race, religion, and violence, this course explores how the religions of Christianity, Buddhism, Islam, and Judaism have been used to justify and even condone acts of violence. - *Cultural or Textual Analysis*

Liberal Studies Courses: Religious Studies faculty teach the following courses for the General Education Program.



LBST 2101-R82: The Religion of Racism

Online/Julia Moore

An examination of the historical and theoretical influence of religion upon racial identity, discrimination, and stratification in society. A

key focus in this course addresses the historical and religious legacies of Christianity in relation to the racial constructions of white and non-white peoples.



LBST 2102-R81: Globalizing Asian Religions

Online/Janna Shedd

This course examines changes in practices, beliefs, and presentations of Hinduism, Buddhism, and Sikhism in the modern age. We will trace the impact of major historical figures, immigration, shifting worldviews, and popular culture on these religions as they are lived and imagined both in their home countries and beyond.



LBST 2301-R81: A Good Life

Online/Celia Sinclair

Examination of the inquiry: A Good Life—What is it? How does one live it?

Department of Religious Studies

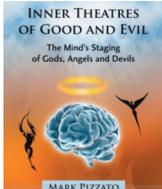
Summer 2 - 2022 Undergraduate & Graduate Courses

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Some considerations about online classes:

- Online courses require students to be independent learners.
- Students need to be strongly motivated to work independently.
- Students will need reliable internet access.

 **RELS 1200-080**
World Religions
Online/Will Sherman
Understanding the news, deciphering memes, working with diverse groups of people, and analyzing history, politics, and ethics all require a grasp of the diversity of religions across the world. Students in this course will learn about a wide range of practices and concepts identified as "religion" while using that knowledge to analyze the "world religions" as they're found in Charlotte's own cityscape. - *Cultural or Historical Analysis*

 **RELS 4000-080/RELS 5000-080**
Supernatural Figures in Theatre, Film, and the Brain
Online/Mark Pizzato
Cross-listed with Theater and Film
This course investigates how certain plays and films reflect divine and devilish forces that emerge in different human cultures, through the "inner theatres" of our brains. Depictions of gods, angels, and devils will be explored, as well as non-Western gods, representing human desires, fears, and social alternatives. - *Cultural Analysis*

 **RELS 2000-081: Death and the Afterlife in Asian Religions**
Online/Janna Shedd
An introduction to religious concepts of death and death-related practices across Asia. Students will explore a wide range of funerary practices, beliefs regarding Otherworlds and rebirth, ghost stories and festivals, and the gods and goddesses of death. Course "readings" will be assigned weekly and will include a variety of materials including films, images, myths, textbook chapters, and instructor-produced introductions and explanations of topics. - *Cultural or Textual Analysis*

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 **LBST 2101-R82: The Religion of Racism**
Online/Julia Moore
An examination of the historical and theoretical influence of religion upon racial identity, discrimination, and stratification in society. A key focus in this course addresses the historical and religious legacies of Christianity in relation to the racial constructions of white and non-white peoples.

 **LBST 2301-R82: The Intersection of Climate Change and Sustainability with Religious and Civic Identities.**
Online/Tina Katsanos
A study of sustainability as part of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. It includes an examination of the ethical dimensions of citizenship and sustainability in political, social, and religious contexts. It also includes a critical thinking and communications component which will be used to examine the ways in which citizenship and various religious identities have evolved to include environmental responsibilities. In particular, the class examines the possibilities and the limits of sustainability in dealing with environmental degradation and global climate change.

 **LBST 2102-R82: Globalizing Asian Religion**
Online/Janna Shedd
This course examines changes in practices, beliefs, and presentations of Hinduism, Buddhism, and Sikhism in the modern age. We will trace the impact of major historical figures, immigration, shifting worldviews, and popular culture on these religions as they are lived and imagined both in their home countries and beyond.

Summer 2022 Full Term Undergraduate Courses

RELS 3400-080: Internships

Departmental Approval / Celia Sinclair

Research and in-service training in business or community-based organizations. Specific content based on contract between student, supervising professor and cooperating organization. Fulfills the [C], [H], or [T] requirement. Approximately 120 contact hours for the semester. For more information, contact Celia Sinclair at cbsincla@uncc.edu