

Department of Religious Studies

Summer 1 - 2023 Undergraduate 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 2000-080 The Supernatural and American Culture

Online / Sean McCloud

Cross-Listed with AMST 2050-087

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. In other words, the beliefs and practices surrounding the supernatural in American culture have effects for both individuals and groups of people. In this class we will read scholarship which examines how the supernatural both reflects and works to shape the cultural field and those who interact within it.

- *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*



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



LBST 2101-R81: The Religion of Racism

Online / Julia Moore

This course is designed to introduce students to think critically about the ways religion often structures racism. In this course we will address how myths, rituals, and cultural ideas of the “sacred” are embedded in racial perceptions and structural inequalities.

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.



Department of Religious Studies

Summer 2 - 2023 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 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 afterlife, Other-

worlds and rebirth, ghost stories and festivals, and the gods and goddesses of death.

- *Cultural or Historical Analysis*

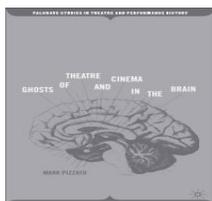
RELS 4000-080 / RELS 5000-080 Spirits Onstage, Onscreen, and in the Brain

Online / Mark Pizzato

Cross-listed with Theater and Film

This course explores connections between our brain's "inner theatre" and various cultural manifestations of spirits in drama and film. We will consider recent films related to the vengeful ghosts in Aeschylus' *Oresteia* (an ancient Greek trilogy), the romantic spirits in Kanami/Zeami's *Matsukaze* (a medieval Japanese Noh play), the demanding patriarchal ghost in Shakespeare's *Hamlet* (an early modern touchstone), and the communal spirits in Thornton Wilder's *Our Town* (a modern American classic).

- *Cultural 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

This course is designed to introduce students to think critically about the ways religion often structures racism. In this course we will address how myths, rituals, and cultural ideas of the "sacred" are embedded in racial perceptions and structural inequalities.

LBST 2102-R82: 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 (R82-R83):

The Intersection of Climate Change and Sustainability with Religious and Civic Identities.

Online / Tina Katsanos

This course is 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.

Summer 2023 Full Term Undergraduate Courses

RELS 3400-080: Internships

Departmental Approval / Eric Hoenes

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.

Summer Two July 5—Aug 10, 2023

Undergraduate Courses

For more information visit www.religiousstudies.charlotte.edu