The Academic Minor

Many departments have designed academic minors for the convenience of undergraduate students.

A minor is a structured group of courses that leads to considerable knowledge and understanding of a subject, although with less depth than a major. Some employers consider minors desirable, and the corresponding major requirements at the University may stipulate a minor. Some students choose to complement their major program with a minor in a related field or even in an entirely different field of interest. Students interested in pursuing an academic minor should contact their college dean’s office and the department responsible for the minor program for guidance and advising.

Please note that undergraduate students can only complete a minor in addition to and as a complement to a major. The University does not award stand-alone minors.

The minor in World Religions offers an expansive orientation to the diversity of human religious phenomena and the place these have in a complex, global society and its intellectual traditions. The minor requires a minimum of 18 credits as follows:

Required
ANT 335 Religion in Everyday Life ...............................................................3
Complete 15 credit hours from at least three different areas from the list provided. 9 of the 15 credit hours must be at the 300-level or above and 6 of the 15 credit hours must be from a prefix outside of their major. Students must take course work from at least two different prefixes. A course used to satisfy one area may not be used to satisfy another area in the minor.

Area 1: Judaism
HJS 110 Introduction to the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible .........................................3
HJS 324 Jewish Thought and Culture I: From Ancient Israel to the Middle Ages ............3
HJS 325 Jewish Thought and Culture II: From the Expulsion from Spain to the Present ..........3
HJS 326 The Jewish Experience in America ..........................................................3
HJS 327 Women in Judaism ..................................................................................3
CLA/HIS 390 Backgrounds to and Early History of Christianity to 150 CE ........................................3
ENG 271 The Bible as Literature ........................................................................3
HIS 191 A History of World Religions (Subtitle required) ......................................3
PHI 504 Islamic and Jewish Philosophy and the Classical Tradition ..........................3

Area 2: Christianity
CLA 190 Introduction to the New Testament .........................................................3
CLA 191 Christianity, Culture, and Society: A Historical Introduction ............................3
CLA/HIS 391 Christians in the Roman Empire .......................................................3
HIS 330 A History of Western Religious Thought ....................................................3
HIS 512 Carolingian Empire ..................................................................................3
HIS 513 Medieval Institutions Since the Mid-10th Century .......................................3
HIS 520 The Era of the Reformation .....................................................................3
HIS 546 The Byzantine Empire .............................................................................3
CLA/HIS 390 Backgrounds to and Early History of Christianity to 150 CE ..................3
ENG 271 The Bible as Literature ........................................................................3
PHI 504 Islamic and Jewish Philosophy and the Classical Tradition ..........................3

Area 3: Islam
AIS 228 Islamic Civilization ................................................................................3
AIS 330 Islamic Civilization II ...............................................................................3
AIS 338 Women and Islam ..................................................................................3
AIS 340 Fundamentalism and Reform in Islam ......................................................3
AIS 345 Islamic Mysticism ...................................................................................3
AIS 410 Theology and Law in Islam ....................................................................3
AIS 430 Islam in America ...................................................................................3
AIS 440 Introduction to the Quran .......................................................................3
HIS 191 A History of World Religions (Subtitle required) ......................................3
PHI 504 Islamic and Jewish Philosophy and the Classical Tradition ..........................3

Area 4: Central and East Asian Religion
ANT 327 Culture and Societies of India and South Asia ........................................3
CHI 345 Introduction to Early Chinese Thought ....................................................3
CHI 450 Daoism ....................................................................................................3
PHI 343 Asian Philosophy ....................................................................................3
HIS 191 A History of World Religions (Subtitle required) ......................................3
PHI 504 Islamic and Jewish Philosophy and the Classical Tradition ..........................3

Area 5: Ancient, Folk, and Indigenous Religion
CLA 135 Greek and Roman Mythology .................................................................3
CLA 382 Greek and Roman Religion ......................................................................3
GER 363 Germanic Mythology ............................................................................3
RUS 370 Russian Folklore (in English) ................................................................3

Area 6: Methodology and Comparative Studies
ANT 130 Introduction to Comparative Religion ....................................................3
ANT 450 Symbols and Culture ...............................................................................3
PHI 245 Introduction to Philosophy of Religion ....................................................3
PHI 545 Philosophy of Religion ............................................................................3

For individual students and on a case-by-case basis, other courses which a student has taken may be counted toward the minor, upon request of the student and provided the content of the course is deemed sufficiently relevant by the adviser for the minor.