

Religious Studies

Religion plays a major role in shaping and influencing various cultural, historical, and political movements across the globe. Understanding religious traditions and their impact on diverse modern issues is vital preparation for building a career in the global marketplace. At Queen's, our approach to the study of religion is multicultural, diverse, and interdisciplinary. Our courses look at religion in a variety of interesting ways: specific religious traditions (i.e. New Religious Movements, Islam in the Modern World), themes (i.e. Religion and Sport; Religion, Business, and Ethics), and theories.

TOP 5 REASONS to study RELIGION

- 1 Analyze the impact religion has on politics and identity.
- 2 Understand confusing social forces.
- 3 Be able to explain religion to people who don't get it.
- 4 Be able to explain and understand Religious Traditions.
- 5 Acquire intercultural literacy and a global perspective.

Alumni Story

"My degree in Religious Studies taught me how to think outside the box. Specifically, I learned how to approach problems from different perspectives and how to be innovative with my analysis and arguments."

-Robyn Agoston, BAH '05

AT A GLANCE

THEMATIC COURSES

Race and Ethnicity

Social Movements

Environment;
Social Ethics

Mythology and
Heroes

Magic and
Witchcraft

TRADITIONS COURSES

Buddhism; Christianity

Hinduism; Islam

Judaism

Indigenous Knowledges
and Practices

Black Religions

Secularity

New Religious
Movements

add a CERTIFICATE

Data Analytics

Disability and
Physical Activity

Geographic
Information Science

Indigenous
Languages and
Cultures

International
Studies

Sexual and Gender
Diversity

Urban Planning
Studies

QUartsci.com/certs

FIRST YEAR COURSES AVAILABLE

- World Religions
- Religion and Science
- Religion and Popular Culture
- Religion, News, and Media
- Religion and Film

Interested in finding out how to augment your degree with Experiential Learning? Learn what opportunities and resources are available for you on the [Experiential Learning website](#). You can also reach out to the team directly at asc.el@queensu.ca.

Acquire Skills. Gain Experience. Go Global.

That is a degree from Queen's.

queensu.ca/religion

Religious Studies MAJOR MAP

BACHELOR OF ARTS (HONOURS): MAJOR, JOINT HONOURS, MINOR

1ST YEAR

2ND YEAR

3RD YEAR

4TH OR FINAL YEAR

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED

In first year you will have the chance to explore the foundations of Religious Studies along with some electives.
Attend [Majors Night](#) in the Winter term to learn more about Plan options.
Interested in getting a head start in learning and working in a digital world? Take [ASCX 150](#) and develop future-ready skills!

Start going deeper into the discipline of Religious Studies, while considering a minor and/or certificate such as [International Studies](#). Learn more about [Certificates](#) and [Internship](#) options.
Want to make sure your academics are where you want them to be? Visit [SASS \(Student Academic Support Services\)](#) and the Writing Centre for some help.
Develop your entrepreneurial skills by participating in the [Dean's Changemaker Challenge](#) (ASCX 200/300).

A chance to start grouping courses in areas of interest, or to keep it more general and explore many areas of Religious Studies. Meet with an [Academic Advisor](#) to make sure you are on track and have planned out your courses for next year.

In fourth year you will have the chance to participate in research-based courses that can lead to [Graduate School](#) or to your future career path. Make sure to finish up all your courses for your major and your optional minor and/or certificate(s).
Interested in working on a real-world problem with an actual client? Take [ASCX 400](#) and develop your consulting and project-management skills.

GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Join teams or clubs on campus, such as the [Queen's International Affairs Association](#); see the [AMS Clubs Directory](#) or the [Queen's Get Involved](#) page for more ideas.

Look into summer jobs by talking to the dept. or Career Services about work through [SWEP](#) or [Work-Study](#). Consider entrepreneurial opportunities via programs like the [Queen's Innovation Connector Summer Initiative \(QICSI\)](#).
Consider becoming a [Departmental Student Council \(DSC\)](#) representative.

Get involved with the Departmental Student Council (DSC) by becoming a DSC representative.
If interested, apply for an [Undergraduate Student Summer Research Fellowship \(USSRF\)](#). Consider applying to do a 12-16 month [QUIP internship](#) between your third and fourth year.

Consider becoming the Departmental Student Council Chair.
Investigate requirements for full-time jobs or other opportunities related to careers of interest. Assess what experience you're lacking and fill in gaps with volunteering, clubs, or internships – check out the Career Services skills [workshop](#) for help.

GET ENGAGED WITH THE COMMUNITY

Volunteer on- or off-campus with different community organizations such as [Greenpeace](#), [Ecojustice](#), [Elizabeth Fry Society](#), [Syrian Refugee Aid Groups](#).

Attend public lectures sponsored by the School of Religion.
Start or continue volunteering with organizations such as [Room to Read](#).

Do targeted networking with alumni working in careers of interest by joining the LinkedIn group [Queen's Connects](#). Connect with professors at [events or workshops](#) hosted by the Department Student Council (DSC). If interested, get involved with the [Queen's Journal](#) or [QIAA](#).

Consider joining professional associations like the [Canadian Society for Studies in Religion](#) and the [American Academy of Religion](#).
Join groups on LinkedIn reflecting specific careers or topics of interest in Religion.

GET ENGAGED GLOBALLY

Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking [QUIC's Intercultural Competency Certificate](#), and research possible immigration regulations.
Speak to a QUIC advisor to get involved in their programs, events, and training opportunities.

Is an exchange in your future? Start thinking about where you would like to [study abroad](#). Apply in January for a third year exchange through the [International Programs Office](#).

Build your intercultural competence by getting involved with other cultures or by practicing or improving your language skills.

International students interested in staying in Canada can speak with an [International Student Advisor](#).

GET CAREER READY

Grappling with program decisions? Go to [Majors Night](#) or get some help wondering about career options from Career Services.

Explore careers of interest in the Career Services Information Area. For more information check out [Career Cruising](#) or by finding and connecting with alumni on [LinkedIn](#).

Start focusing on areas of interest. Research education requirements for careers of interest. If needed, prepare to take any required tests (like the LSAT or GMAT) and get [help thinking about Grad School](#) from Career Service. Speak to our Graduate Coordinator about graduate studies in Religion.

Apply to jobs or future education, or make plans for other adventures. Get help from Career Services with [job searching](#), [resumes](#), [interviews](#), [Grad School applications](#), or other decisions.
Apply in the fall for [SSHRC](#) and [OGS](#) scholarships if applying to grad school in Ontario.
Apply for the [Queen's Career Apprenticeship: Kingston \(QCA:K\)](#).

CONSIDER A 12-16 MONTH QUIP INTERNSHIP

CONSIDER A 12 MONTH QCA:K APPRENTICESHIP

Knowledge & Workplace Skills

A degree in Religious Studies can equip you with:

Intercultural Literacy:

- Historical, textual, cultural dimensions of diverse religious traditions
- Impact of religion on global politics and histories
- Respect for difference

Analytical/Problem-solving Proficiencies:

- Methods and theories of analysis used in the academic study of religion
- Interpretation of primary and secondary sources, historical, and contemporary

Communication Skills:

- Research design and implementation
- Summarize complex material
- Develop convincing arguments
- Write cogently and present effectively

People Skills:

- Collaboration in groups
- Listening, consideration and evaluation of others' ideas/opposing arguments

Career Possibilities

A degree in Religious Studies can take your career in many directions. Many students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a Master's. Our students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:

- Research
- Cultural affairs
- Faith-based leadership
- Human resources
- International development
- Family and labour relations
- Patient advocacy
- Public policy
- Social services

Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and network can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.

How to use this map

Use the 5 rows of the map to explore possibilities and plan for success in the five overlapping areas of career and academics. The map just offers suggestions – you don't have to do it all! To make your own custom map, use the [My Major Map](#) tool.

Religious Studies



Get started thinking about the future now – where do you want to go after your degree? Having tentative goals (like careers or grad school) while working through your degree can help with short-term decisions about courses and experiences, but also help you keep motivated for success.

Get the help you need

Queen's provides you with a broad range of support services from your first point of contact with the university through to graduation. At Queen's, you are never alone. We have many offices dedicated to helping you learn, think and do.

Ranging from help with academics and careers, to physical, emotional, or spiritual resources – our welcoming living and learning environment offers the programs and services you need to be successful, both academically and personally. Queen's wants you to succeed! Check out the [Student Affairs website](#) for available resources.



School of Religion
Theological Hall
85 Stuart Street
613-533-2106
queensu.ca/religion

QUIP QUEEN'S UNDERGRADUATE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

START DATES in May, September, or January
POSITIONS are paid and full-time
WORK TERMS are 12-16 months long

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- Graduate with a "Professional Internship" degree
- Learn about current advances, practices and technologies in business and industry.
- Test drive a career, earn a competitive salary, and get real world experience.

ELIGIBILITY

- 2nd or 3rd Year Students
- Minimum GPA of 1.9

WHY QUIP?

- Gain a year of career-related work experience.
- Build network connections.
- Receive support from Queen's staff in job search and during internship.

SAMPLE PAST INTERNSHIPS



For more information, contact quip@queensu.ca or visit the [Program Website](#).

Why study in Kingston?

Since 1841, our community has been more than a collection of bright minds – Queen's has attracted students with an ambitious spirit. Queen's has the highest retention rates, the highest graduation rates, and one of the highest employment rates among recent graduates. We are a research intensive university focused on the undergraduate experience. The BBC has identified Kingston as one of the GREATEST UNIVERSITY TOWNS in the world – and it is often awarded the safest city in Canada. It is a university city at the core; just a quick drive to Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa and even New York. A university with more clubs per capita than any other university in Canada, and a city with more restaurants per capita than any other city in North America – you will have the experience of a lifetime at Queen's – and graduate with a degree that is globally recognized among the best.

We're closer than you think

