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 of the world's religious forces on culture and identity.
2. Examine how religion impacts wide variety of social expressions.
3. Evaluate the role of religion in current affairs in the global context.
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

First Year Courses Available

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


That is a degree from Queen’s.
Religious Studies MAJOR MAP

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

2022-2023

GET THE COURSES YOU NEED

1ST YEAR

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.

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.

Volunteer on or off campus with different community organizations such as Greenpeace, Ecoculture, Elizabeth Fry Society, Syrian Refugee Aid Groups.

GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY

Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking QCIC's Intercultural Competency Certificate, and research possible immigration regulations.

Speak to a QCIC advisor to get involved in their programs, events, and training opportunities.

GET THINKING GLOBALLY

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.

Explore careers of interest by reading books in the Career Services Information Area, such as The Ethical Careers Guide. For more information check out Career Cruising or by finding and connecting with alumni on LinkedIn.

GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION

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

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.

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.
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.

Why study in Kingston?
For 175 years, 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.