



RELIGION

OUR PROMISE TO YOU

Some people approach the study of religion because of a sense of calling or vocation, some out of fascination with a basic human need. Whatever your personal aim may be, we encourage you to follow your heart. The academic study of religion is both personally satisfying and socially pertinent to our 21st century world. As a scholar of religion, you will:

- Develop familiarity with the particular history, beliefs and practices of multiple religious traditions.
- Interpret the role and power of religion in history, society and culture.
- Identify and assess the moral and spiritual dimensions of human beings.

EXCEPTIONAL PREPARATION

Studying religion prepares students for further study which may involve graduate study in the humanities or a professional degree. Such preparation includes the ability to analyze and construct arguments, think critically and communicate effectively in writing, conversation and presentation, which are essential to every job market. A degree in Religion strengthens students' capacity to empathize with others and to facilitate meaningful dialogue to build stronger, more cohesive communities.

LEARN DIFFERENTLY

Religion majors seek to interpret any text whether it be the Bible or the Baghavad Gita. What did the writers write? Why did they phrase it that way? We also look at ourselves, asking, "How does my modern (or post-modern) view of the world affect the interpretation of those texts? How does this text impact my view of the world?"



CAREERS

- Author
- Editor
- Human Resource Specialist
- Journalist
- Library Technician
- Public Relations Specialist
- Reporters
- Research Assistant
- Social Media Manager
- Technical Writer

Contact Admissions:
270-852-3120
admissions@kwc.edu

find yourself

Courses Offered

Kentucky Wesleyan education is all about preparing you to pursue a productive career and a full, meaningful life. Each major offers unique courses designed to get you ready for a professional career in that field of study. Below, learn more about some of the courses you can expect to take with this major:

Scan me to discover more information about your major and the others we offer!



REL 100: Introduction to Religion

3 Semester Credit Hours

This course will formulate a definition of and reason for religion. It will probe the way religions claim to "know" about the sacred, and the way that modernism has challenged these claims. Religion will be examined from the perspectives of brain science, politics and social sciences.

REL 102: Survey of Christian Traditions

3 Semester Credit Hours

This is a survey of doctrines and concepts in the Christian religion. Students will examine and critically evaluate the variety of Christian viewpoints about topics such as God, Jesus the Christ, salvation and eschatology.

REL 251, 252: Biblical Greek I, II

3 Semester Credit Hours

This course enables the student, after two semesters, to read most portions of the New Testament in its original language. Emphasis is placed on Greek vocabulary and grammar.

REL 261, 262: Biblical Hebrew I, II

3 Semester Credit Hours

This course enables the student, after two semesters, to read most portions of the Old Testament in its original language. Emphasis is placed on Hebrew vocabulary and grammar.

REL 300: Topics in Religion

1-3 Semester Credit Hours

This course permits advanced study of religion. Subject matter will vary. Topics might include courses in non-Christian religions or study of contemporary issues in religion.

REL 303: The Bible in Its Context

3 Semester Credit Hours

This course surveys the entirety of the biblical canon in relation to its historical context as a foundation for considering the reading of biblical texts in contemporary contexts.

REL 340: Topics in Comparative Religion

3 Semester Credit Hours

An in-depth comparison of multiple religious traditions with a particular focus that will rotate between Food Traditions in Major World Religions, Pilgrimage in Asian Traditions, and Experiences of the Divine in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

REL 343: Abrahamic Faiths

3 Semester Credit Hours

This course is a study of the three great religious traditions that call Abraham their father, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. This course is designed to highlight the diversity of human cultures and their response to the sacred as well as their interaction with the modern world.

REL 344: Eastern Religious Traditions

3 Semester Credit Hours

The course provides an overview of Eastern religious traditions such as Buddhism, Islam, Hinduism, Chinese Religion, etc. Differences and commonalities between these religious traditions will be explored through a critical examination of their ethical concepts and value systems, beliefs, and rituals.

REL 377: The Bible and Literature

3 Semester Credit Hours

Explores the Bible's artistic value and some literary art that it has inspired. Students will examine the major biblical genres, including creation myth, origin myth, lyric poetry, prophetic poetry, didactic parable and wisdom literature. Students will study significant examples of western literature that reveal profound influence from biblical language, imagery, plots, or themes. This combination of ancient, medieval and modern literature will stimulate consideration of historical and cultural factors that play a role in the production, preservation and transmission of literature.

REL 381: Topics in Religion and Society: Religion and Pop Culture, Religion and Gender, OR Religion and Ecology

3 Semester Credit Hours

An exploration of the function of religion in its social context. The focus of this course will rotate between religion and gender, religion and ecology, and religion and popular culture.