

## RELIGION

The study of Religion is open to everyone regardless of background or beliefs. The program is designed to familiarize students with the history, texts, and traditions that form the basis of religious expression in Western and other cultures. Through their studies, students will learn to appreciate the diversity found among religious traditions, to recognize the complexity of religious thought, and to respect the freedom of religious expression. This training will help prepare students to make responsible decisions in their communities, society, and beyond. Students will be encouraged to examine actively their own moral, spiritual, and ethical foundations and to clarify for themselves what role religious values will take in their personal development.

The study of Religion is valued in a number of occupational fields including banking, business law, and social and governmental services. A degree with a major in Religion will give stu-

dents the necessary background for entrance into seminary or other graduate study in the field of Religion. A major in Religion with a concentration in either Biblical Studies or Christian Thought and History is particularly useful for those planning to enter the Christian ministry, Christian Education, or other church-related vocations. Interested students may wish to participate in the Pre-Ministry Program. A major with a concentration in Religious Studies and World Religions is valuable to those who wish to have a thorough understanding of religious thought and life including and beyond the Western traditions.

CMU has a chapter of Theta Alpha Kappa, a national honor society for Religious Studies and Theology (advisor: Dr. Daryl Jefferies).

### BA, RELIGION MAJOR— min. 124 hrs.

**1 COMMON CORE:** See page 50 for Common Core requirements for all CMU degrees.

#### **2 ADDITIONAL GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS (21-24 HOURS)**

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Humanities or Fine Arts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When choosing a Humanities course, see page 52 for guidelines.</li> <li>• When choosing a Fine Arts course, see page 51 for guidelines.</li> </ul> | 9 hours   |
| Social Sciences (CJ, CT, EC, HI, PS, PY, or SO): See page 52 for guidelines.   | 3 hours   |
| Science: See page 52 for guidelines.   | 3-4 hours |
| Foreign Language (a single language)   | 6-8 hours |

#### **3 RELIGION MAJOR: Choose one concentration below (27 HOURS)**

| BIBLICAL STUDIES   | CHRISTIAN THOUGHT & HISTORY  | RELIGIOUS STUDIES/ WORLD RELIGIONS   |
|--|--|--|
| RL201 Old Testament (3)<br>RL202 New Testament (3)<br>RL480 Major Readings (3) (Capstone)<br><br><b>ELECTIVES (18 HOURS):</b><br><i>One (1) from the following:</i><br>RL303 The Prophets (3)<br>RL310 Biblical Literature and the Ancient World (3)<br><i>One (1) from the following:</i><br>RL301 Mission/Message of Jesus (3)<br>RL302 Paul and the Early Church (3)<br><i>One (1) from the following:</i><br>RL331 History of Christianity I (3)<br>RL332 History of Christianity II (3)<br><b>Three (3) additional Religion courses (9 hours)</b> | RL203 Explorations in Christian Thought (3)<br>RL331 History of Christianity I (3)<br>RL332 History of Christianity II (3)<br>RL336 Thanatology (3)<br>RL480 Major Readings (3) (Capstone)<br><br><b>ELECTIVES (12 HOURS):</b><br><i>One (1) from the following:</i><br>RL201 Old Testament (3)<br>RL202 New Testament (3)<br><br><b>Three (3) additional Religion courses (9 hours)</b> | RL314 World Religions Today (3)<br>RL325 Philosophy of Religion (3)<br>RL336 Thanatology (3)<br>RL480 Major Readings (3) (Capstone)<br><br><b>ELECTIVES (15 HOURS):</b><br><i>One (1) from the following:</i><br>RL201 Old Testament (3)<br>RL202 New Testament (3)<br><i>One (1) from the following:</i><br>RL331 History of Christianity I (3)<br>RL332 Hist. of Christianity II (3)<br><b>Three (3) additional Religion courses (9 hours)</b> |

#### **4 MINOR AND ELECTIVES (TO COMPLETE MIN. 124 HOURS)**