

Students: Since you will want to attend to the matter of cognates when you enroll, we are providing you with the current active cognates linked to the courses that are listed below. If you have already declared a cognate that is now deactivated, you WILL be able to complete the requirements. You may search for active and deactivated cognates by course at <https://cognates.miami.edu/>

REL 101: Introduction to Religion

Shockley | T, TR 3:30pm-4:45pm (on-line)

An overview of religious perspectives concerning ultimate reality, humankind, and the world, with special attention to major Asian and Abrahamic religions.

Counts toward the following cognates:

- Individualized cognate in Arts & Humanities
- Islam and the Arab World
- Religious Traditions and Texts
- Contemporary Issues in Religion

REL 102: Problem of God

Maklakiewicz | TH 5:05pm-7:50pm (on-line)

Contemporary religious issues related to the concept of God. Foundational to this course is an examination of the religious dimension of human experience and consciousness in relation to a number of historical and contemporary problems and challenges. This course approaches "the problem of God" from the angle of human experience, focusing on the various historical, social, and existential determinants of belief. Topics include globalized religion, the challenge of atheism and humanism, the impact of secularization on religion, and an exploration of the historical, social, and theological images of creation and the divine.

Counts toward the following cognates:

- Individualized cognates in Art & Humanities and People & Society
- Religious Traditions and Texts
- Contemporary Issues in Religion

REL 131: Religion in America

Kling | T, TH 12:30 pm – 1:45 pm

The history of religion in the U.S. from the pre-colonial period to the present. Includes study of the religion of Native Americans, African Americans, Asian Americans, women, Protestants, Catholics, Jews, and cults.

Counts toward the following cognates:

- Individualized cognate in Arts & Humanities
- Religious Traditions and Texts

REL 151: Religion and Moral Choices

Papadakis | TH 6:35pm – 9:20pm (on-line)

Using a narrative approach, this course introduces students to religious responses to dilemmas raised by issues such as capital punishment, biotechnology, abortion, euthanasia, and war. In this course, we will focus on formative narratives and biographies in Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Because this course is part of the Religion and Health Care program, it will highlight issues related to health care. Key topics include reproductive planning/care, eugenics, abortion, gender vs. sex, vaccinations, mental health, end of life care, euthanasia, and organ donation. The course will be divided into two parts: 1. Formative religious narratives and 2. Health care topics in relation to religious ethics.

Counts toward the following cognates:

- Individualized cognates in Arts & Humanities and People & Society
- Religious Traditions and Texts
- Contemporary Issues in Religion
- Religion and Medicine
- Politics and Religion

REL 161: Religion and Medicine: Health Care as a Spiritual Practice

Newell | M, W 12:20 pm – 1:35 pm

An exploration of the history of medical care and the history of medicine as calling, as well as the changing professionalism of health care; the role of virtue ethics in the practice of medicine; the tensions between religion and medicine; the place of personal religious beliefs in health care; and the changing landscape of health, holism, healing, faith and the science of medicine.

Counts toward the following cognates:

- Individualized Cognate in Arts & Humanities
- Religion and Medicine
- Spirituality
- Medical Humanities: Exploring the Human Dimensions of Health and Medicine

REL 231 / JUS 231: Jewish Civilization and Intro to Judaism, Jews, and Jewishness from Abraham to Wonder Woman

TBA | T, TH 9:30 am – 10:45 am

Introduction to Jewish Civilization from Abraham to present.

Counts toward the following cognates:

- Individualized cognates in Arts & Humanities
- Religious Traditions and Texts
- The Evolution of the Jewish People in their Homeland and the Diaspora

REL 244 / JUS 301 / ARC 589 / ARC 689: Sacred Space

Green, W. | TH 5:05 pm – 7:50 pm

An inter-disciplinary seminar, SACRED SPACE explores the multiple, layered intersections of religion and architecture through case-studies of contemporary and historic religious buildings across culture, time and place. Students from across the University and the faculty investigate if, how, and to what extent architecture and the sacred are connected and if they require one another. Over the course of the semester, students prepare a case study for group discussion. This course is offered in the Harkness Table format which emphasizes discussion-based learning.

Counts toward the following cognates:

- Individualized Cognate in Arts & Humanities and People & Society
- Contemporary Issues in Religion

REL 271: Introduction to Islam

Husayn | M, W 3:35 pm – 4:50 pm

Interested in learning about Islam? In this introductory course, students will learn about the religion, culture, and history of Islam. The course examines Muslim beliefs about God, the Prophet Muhammad, the Qur'an, the caliphate and the emergence of various sects. No prior knowledge is assumed.

Counts toward the following cognates:

- Individualized Cognate in Arts & Humanities
- Religious Traditions and Texts
- Islam and the Arab World

REL 281: Introduction to Buddhism

Ritzinger | M, W 2:30 pm – 3:45 pm

A highly selective survey of the Buddhist tradition from a variety of angles and in several cultural contexts. We will attend to the ideas for which Buddhism is famous, while situating Buddhist practitioners in their social contexts at key historical moments. Throughout we will give attention to the issue of our own perspective and what it means to think across the porous borders of culture in an interrelated world.

Counts toward the following cognates:

- Individualized Cognate in Arts & Humanities
- Religious Traditions and Texts
- China Studies

REL 311 Prophecy and Prophetic Literature in the Hebrew Bible

Papadakis | T, TH 8:00 am – 9:15 am (on-line)

Prophecy in ancient Israel and Judah and the prophetic literature of the Hebrew Bible in relation to its ancient near-eastern historical, religious, and social context.

Counts toward the following cognates:

- Individualized Cognate in Arts & Humanities
- Religious Traditions and Texts

REL 330 / AAS 390: Caribbean Religion

Nwokocha | M, W 5:05 pm – 6:20 pm

Caribbean Religion with an emphasis on African Diaspora, Atlantic, and Creole religions and spirituality. Some of the religious traditions we will cover include Lucumí or La Regla de Ocha (Santería), Haitian Vodou, Spiritism, Regla de Palo Mayombe, Abakua, and Obeah. We will explore race; gender; material and visual culture; healing; as well as issues of stigma, marginalization, and activism.

Counts toward the following cognates:

- Individualized Cognate in Arts & Humanities and People & Society
- Caribbean Studies
- Africa and the African Diaspora
- Latin American Art and Culture
- Exploring the Caribbean through the Social Sciences
- The Caribbean through Literature, History & the Arts
- Belonging in a Diverse Society: Intersections of culture, identity, and social justice

REL 354 / PHI 351: Religion and the Problem of Evil

Shockley | T, TH 5:05pm – 6:20pm (on-line)

Major religious perspectives on the origin and nature of evil and human suffering.

Counts toward the following cognates:

1. Individualized Cognate in Arts & Humanities
2. Contemporary Issues in Religion

REL 367 / AAS 390 / ENG 247: Black Religion in Literature: Afrofuturism and Africanjuism

Nwokocha | M, W 2:30 pm – 3:45 pm

We will explore the history and religious creative genre of Afrofuturism, Africanfuturism and Africanjuism. We begin by considering the literary and scholastic works on Afrofuturism by focusing on the works of three writers and scholars: N.K. Jemisin, Nnedi Okorafor and Toni Morrison. In between, we will discuss issues of religion, language, dialect, political art, music, genre, and gender as we read poems, novels, speeches and short stories. Additionally, we will consider questions like what role has writing by Black religion played in the sci-fi and fantasy? How has this genre of writing been shaped by different ways of thinking about race and religion? How has race and religion, in turn, been shaped or constructed by that writing? And how do representations of gender and sexuality participate in a literary construction of race and religion?

Counts towards the following cognates:

- Individualized Cognate in Arts & Humanities and People & Society
- Religion and Contemporary Issues: Culture, Society, and Identity (NEW!)
- Spirituality
- Religion, Myth and Interpretation
- Religion, Identity, and Pop Culture
- Africa and the African Diaspora

REL 371 / GSS 350: Women, Gender, and Islam

Husayn | M, W 5:05 pm – 6:20 pm

An examination of issues related to women and gender with an emphasis upon themes pertaining to the Muslim world. We will study the contributions of progressive/feminist Muslim writers in addition to secular academic research on the subject. Topics include Qur'anic revelations concerning women; gendered ideals that developed after the founder's death; understanding how Islamic texts, rituals, and doctrines have both reinforced and challenged certain gender categories; and the experience of Muslims living in the U.S. and the Middle East, addressing racial as well as gendered hierarchies.

Counts toward the following cognates:

- Individualized Cognate in Arts & Humanities and People & Society
- Islam and the Arab World
- A Cross-Cultural and Historic Examination of Sexuality

REL 403: Supervised Reading in Religious Issues or Problems

Green, W | TBD

Independent study enables students to read extensively in an area of personal interest in religious issues or problems.

REL 406: Special Topics in Religious Issues or Problems

Green, W. W 5:05 pm – 7:50 pm (Harkness)

Topic: The Evolution of Religion (Da Vinci Program)

REL 451: Ethics and Genetics

Newell | W 2:30 pm – 5:15 pm

This seminar will explore the social, cultural, legal, and ethical issues raised by our increasingly sophisticated understanding and popular use of genetics. We will examine current ethical conundrums such as access to and use of personal genetic information by both individuals and institutions; the diagnosis and treatment of inherited diseases with new genetic technologies such as CRISPR; informed consent and the use of ancestral DNA in research; genetic modification of animals and plants as sources of food, medicine, and fuel; the problems and promises of genetic testing for genealogical research; and the changing landscape of identity and belonging based on DNA.

Counts towards the following cognates:

- Individualized cognates in Arts & Humanities and People & Society
- Applied Ethics