Religion and Culture Program

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- Field Description
- The Major
- The Minor and Courses
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The Faculty

**Program Coordinator:** Kenneth Guest

**Program Faculty:**
- Carla Bellamy (Sociology and Anthropology)
- Thomas Desch-Obi (History)
- Kenneth Guest (Sociology and Anthropology)
- Meir Lubetski (Modern Languages and Comparative Literature)
- Randolph Trumbach (History)

Religion and culture courses are taught by additional faculty from a number of disciplines and departments, including History, Modern Languages and Comparative Literature, Philosophy, Psychology, and Sociology and Anthropology

Field Description

Religion is one of the most powerful and complex forces in human history. To study the religions of man from the earliest times to the present and how they have shaped and been shaped by the forces of history (among them, nationalism, war, the challenge of secularism, and technology), Baruch’s Religion and Culture Program presents an interdisciplinary approach to the study of religious and cultural histories, doctrines, concepts, and practices.

The Major

**Arts And Sciences Ad Hoc Major In Religion And Culture**

When a student's educational objectives cannot be fully attained solely by study within an existing department, program, or school, he or she is given the option of devising an ad hoc pattern of courses in an area of concentration of his or her own choosing. A student may embark upon an ad hoc major following preparation and acceptance of a proposal outlining the area of study, the desired outcomes, and the educational values of the program. The program must be approved by the Office of the Associate Dean, Weissman School of Arts and Sciences.

Students interested in including courses in religion and culture as part of an arts and sciences ad hoc major should contact Professor Kenneth Guest, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, 646-312-4477; e-mail ken.guest@baruch.cuny.edu.

The Weissman School of Arts and Sciences ad hoc major requires 30–33 credits.

The Minor

To complete the religion and culture minor, students are required to take two courses numbered 3000 and higher and REL 4900, the capstone course.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required Course</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>REL 4900</td>
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<tr>
<td>Issues in Religion and Culture</td>
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<thead>
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<th>Electives</th>
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<tr>
<td>Choose two courses from the following:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REL 3001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Religious Traditions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REL 3002</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Traditions of Judaism</td>
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<td>Course Code</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>REL 3003</td>
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<td>REL 3008</td>
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<tr>
<td>REL 3084</td>
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<td>REL 3085</td>
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<td>REL 3094</td>
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<td>HIS 3560</td>
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<td>PSY 3057</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 3141</td>
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<td>SOC 3113</td>
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Courses in Religion (REL)

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>REL 2155</td>
<td>Philosophies from India</td>
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<tr>
<td>REL 2165</td>
<td>Classical Buddhism</td>
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<tr>
<td>REL 3001</td>
<td>World Religious Traditions</td>
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<tr>
<td>REL 3002</td>
<td>Traditions of Judaism</td>
<td>3 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>REL 3003</td>
<td>The Christian Tradition</td>
<td>3 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>REL 3008</td>
<td>Religion And Politics In The United States (HIS 3008), (POL 3008)</td>
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<td>REL 3084</td>
<td>The Historical Search for the Prophet Mohammad (HIS 3084)</td>
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<td>REL 3085</td>
<td>Special Topics in Religion and Culture</td>
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<td>REL 3094</td>
<td>Mysticism: A Comparative Approach</td>
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<td>REL 3100</td>
<td>Jesus - An Historical and Critical Approach (HIS 3100)</td>
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<td>REL 3175</td>
<td>The Lives of Hinduism</td>
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<td>REL 3220</td>
<td>Modern Jewish Thought</td>
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<td>REL 3320</td>
<td>Contemporary Christianity</td>
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<td>REL 3525</td>
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<td>The Christian New Testament</td>
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<td>Religion in the 20th and 21st Centuries</td>
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<td>History of Chinese Religion (AAS 3820), HIS 3820</td>
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<td>South Asian Religion (AAS 3821), ANT 3821</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>REL 4025H</td>
<td>Writers and Their Spiritual Searches: Religious Themes in Contemporary Literature (ANT 4025H), (SOC 4025H)</td>
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<td>REL 4050</td>
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<td>REL 4900</td>
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<td>REL 5000</td>
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<td>Independent Study II</td>
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<td>Independent Study III</td>
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