

RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD CERTIFICATE

Coordinator, Alexander Massad

The Certificate in Religions of the World is an interdisciplinary curriculum designed to help students investigate the histories, beliefs, practices, and socio-political contexts of the non-Christian religions of the world in global cultures. The interdisciplinary focus of the program prepares students to understand the diverse human experiences encountered in these religions. By exploring a wide variety of non-Christian religious expressions nationally and internationally, students will become more informed and better equipped Christian citizens as they engage our diverse world in life, vocation, and mission.

Students from any major are eligible for the 24-hour Religions of the World certificate. Students will complete an eight-hour core of courses that investigate philosophical, sociological, and theological approaches to world religions. In addition, students will select 16 hours of courses from a variety of offerings from different academic departments. No more than 4 hours may be selected from the Global Christianity category.

Requirements

Requirements for a Certificate in Religions of the World are 24-credit hours including:

Code	Title	Credits
Core Requirements		8
RELI 225	Major World Religions	
RELI 233	Theological Approaches to Religious Diversity	
Core Religions		4-12
Choose at least one course		
RELI 356	The Jewish Tradition	
RELI 375	The Muslim Tradition	
RELI 395	Hindu, Buddhist, and Sikh Traditions	
RELI 443	Comparative Mysticism: Christianity and Islam	
Electives		4-12
Students need to take at least four credits of electives. Some courses that may be considered are listed below. Additional courses may be counted on a case by case basis. The syllabus must be presented to the certificate administrator prior to taking the course for approval.		
ARCH 369	Religions of Israel and the Near East	
BITH 221	Old Testament Literature in Three Traditions	
BITH 348	Jewish Biblical Interpretation	
BITH 386	Qur'an and Bible	
CORE 303	AIS: Making the Modern Middle East ¹	
CORE 318	AIS: Faith, Reason, and Politics in Islam ¹	
CORE 335	AIS: The Holocaust and Contemporary Jewish Experience ¹	
CORE 339	AIS: Remembering Africa's Oral Past ¹	
CORE 356	AIS: Global Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations ¹	

CORE 388	AIS: Israel/Palestine: Historical & Theological Perspectives ¹
HIST 293	Introduction to Asian Studies
HIST 331	African History
HIST 365	Modern Middle East
PHIL 226	Asian Philosophy
PHIL 227	Asian Philosophy
PHIL 315	Philosophy of Religion
SOC 366	Sociology Of Religion
Total Credits	24

¹ Optional elective. Per college-wide policy, students may only take one AIS course total while at Wheaton.