

RELIGIOUS STUDIES (BA)

Curriculum

At least five (5) of the 12 courses required for the major must be at the 300-level or higher.

Code	Title	Hours
Christian Traditions		
Select one of the following:		3
THEO 100	Christian Theology ¹	
THEO 185	Christian Ethics	
THEO 232	New Testament	
THEO 265	Sacraments and the Christian Imagination	
THEO 267	Jesus Christ	
THEO 279	Roman Catholicism	
THEO 281	Christianity Through Time	
THEO 317	Christian Thought: Ancient-Medieval	
THEO 318	Christian Thought: Reformation to Modern	
Non-Christian Traditions		
Select three of the following:		9
THEO 272	Judaism	
THEO 282	Hinduism	
THEO 295	Islam	
THEO 297	Buddhism	
THEO 299	Religions of Asia	
Religious Comparisons or Themes Course		
Select two of the following:		6
THEO 107	Introduction to Religious Studies	
THEO 278	Religion & Gender	
THEO 186	Global Religious Ethics	
THEO 192	Topics in Moral Problems (various titles)	
THEO 393	Seminar (various titles)	
Religious Studies Elective Courses		
Select five elective courses ²		15
Capstone		
THEO 353	Religious Traditions ³	3
Total Hours		36

¹ Eligible students may substitute HONR 101 Western Traditions - Antiquity to the Middle Ages/HONR D101 Developments Western Thought I Discussion, THEO 190 Loyola's Mission: Ignatian Traditions, or PHIL 190 Loyola's Mission: The Philosophical Vision for THEO 100 Christian Theology.

² Up to three (3) courses may be taken outside of the Theology department with prior permission from the undergraduate program director.

³ With prior approval from the undergraduate program director, students may replace THEO 353 Religious Traditions with THEO 373 Theology Capstone.

THEO 280 Theology & Interdisciplinary Study may be taken to fulfill a major requirement, depending on the course topic. Please consult your department for more information.

Suggested Sequence of Courses

Course	Title	Hours
Freshman		
Fall		
	Religious Comparison Course (THEO 107)	3
	Religious Comparisons Course (THEO 185)	3
Hours		6
Spring		
	Christian Traditions Course (200-Level or higher)	3
	Non-Christian Traditions Course #1 (200-Level or higher)	3
Hours		6
Sophomore		
Fall		
	Non-Christian Traditions Course #2 (200-Level or higher)	3
	Non-Christian Traditions Course #3 (200-Level or higher)	3
Hours		6
Spring		
	THEO 200-Level or higher Elective Course	3
	THEO 300-Level or higher Elective Course	3
Hours		6
Junior		
Fall		
	THEO 300-Level or higher Elective Course	3
Hours		3
Spring		
	THEO 300-Level or higher Elective Course	3
Hours		3
Senior		
Fall		
	THEO 300-Level or higher Elective Course	3
Hours		3
Spring		
THEO 353	Religious Traditions	3
Hours		3
Total Hours		36

Transfer-Student Residency Requirement

At least 18 credit hours of RELS-BA requirements must be completed at Loyola

Double-Dipping Policy

This department observes the CAS Double-Dipping Policy (<https://catalog.luc.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/#policiestext>) regarding unique credits required for each declared major/minor.

College of Arts and Sciences Graduation Requirements

All Undergraduate students in the College of Arts and Sciences are required to take two Writing Intensive courses (6 credit hours) as well as complete a foreign language requirement at 102-level or higher (3 credit hours) or a language competency test. More information can be found here (<https://www.luc.edu/cas/college-requirements/>).

Additional Undergraduate Graduation Requirements

All Undergraduate students are required to complete the University Core, at least one Engaged Learning course, and UNIV 101. SPCS students are not required to take UNIV 101. Nursing students in the Accelerated BSN program are not required to take core or UNIV 101. You can find more information in the University Requirements (<https://catalog.luc.edu/undergraduate/university-requirements/>) area.

Learning Outcomes

Students completing the **Religious Studies Major** should be able to:

- Demonstrate conceptual understanding of the general concept of religion and specific knowledge of key features of two or more religions. For example:
 - Delineate the key features of a religion and discuss how they interact.
 - Describe and compare the central elements of two or more world religions.
 - Demonstrate knowledge of the major scriptures, doctrines and practices of two or more religions.
- Know and use academic and analytical scholarly methods and terminology employed in the field of Religious Studies. For example:
 - Demonstrate knowledge of a range of scholarly methodologies
 - Accurately use the academic and scholarly terminology used in the field of religious studies
 - Be able to apply scholarly methodologies to research questions
- Analyze how a religion's components interact with the culture to which it belongs, explaining how it shapes and is shaped by the surrounding society. For example:
 - Articulate how religions shape aspects of people's everyday lives. Discuss aspects such as: family organization and relationships, social structure, food choices, clothing choices, ethical behavior, or gender roles.
- Describe how religions interact with popular culture (as evidenced by literature, visual arts, film, music, TV, the Internet, etc.) and how that interaction functions to influence public opinion and belief.
- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of religious approaches to ethics and ethical issues.