

JUDEO-CHRISTIAN STUDIES

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The Minor in Judeo-Christian Studies (18 credits)

The Judeo-Christian studies minor provides an opportunity for students to explore the religious heritage of our culture. Certain courses are designed to focus upon the Jewish faith, emphasizing the study of sacred scripture, the development of its traditions, and the struggle of its people down through the ages; other courses focus upon Christianity, including the study of the New Testament writings and the historical development of the church and its teachings. The Judeo-Christian tradition is related to the social, historical, and political context throughout the curriculum. The importance of the tradition is particularly displayed in a number of special courses, designed to examine the significance of its influence upon western civilization in providing an indelible mark upon the social, economic, and political landscape.

The minor is intended for those who wish to critically examine this tradition from a diversity of academic disciplines. It is intended for those who wish to explore the prevailing spiritual forces of their culture and grapple with the religious message in addressing the ultimate questions of life and the practical needs of society.

Program Objectives:

1. To provide a deeper understanding of Judaism and Christianity through the analysis of sacred texts and the study of religious communities in their development.
2. To examine the cultural significance of the Judeo-Christian tradition within western civilization.
3. To expand the horizons of the students by providing interdisciplinary approaches to the study of religion.

Program Requirements

1. RSTD 232 and 265;
2. Select four courses (12 credits) from the following list of electives;
3. Certain independent studies, special topics and study abroad courses may be substituted for items in the program requirements listed in number one and two as determined by the director.

THE CURRICULUM IN JUDEO-CHRISTIAN STUDIES

The following course descriptions appear in appropriate sections throughout the catalog.

Core

RSTD 232	Visions of Christianity
RSTD 265	Visions of Judaism

Electives

GREK xxx	One semester of Greek may be presented
RSTD 319	Religion and American Identity
RSTD 321	The Church and the State
RSTD 361	Hebrew Bible
RSTD 362	New Testament
PHIL 308	Philosophy of Religion
PHIL 451	The Great Philosophers (Subject to the approval of the Director)
POLS 320	Religion and Politics in America
SOCL 313	Sociology of Religion