

integration, as a mold of popular culture, and as a form of ideological communication.

3 Lecture hours and 2 Practicum/Lab hours. *Prerequisites:* 3 credit units 100-Level RLST or 18 credit units at the university level.

RLST 280.3 — 1/2(3L)
METHODOLOGIES AND APPROACHES TO STUDY OF RELIGIONS

An introduction to theories and approaches in the academic study of religion. Origins and development of social scientific, historical, phenomenological and comparative approaches will be examined.

Prerequisites: 3 credit units RLST or 18 credit units university level.

RLST 284.3 — 1/2(3L)
RELIGIONS AND NON VIOLENCE

An examination of the ideal of non-violence according to the scriptures of the world religions, with examples of historical and contemporary application in Asia and the west.

Prerequisites: 3 credit units RLST or 18 credit units university level.

RLST 285.3 — 1/2(3L)
RELIGIONS AND ETHNICITY

A systematic exploration of the contribution of religion to ethnic identification and ethnic community organization.

Prerequisites: 3 credit units RLST or 18 credit units university level.

Students with credit for RLST 381 may take this course for credit.

RLST 298.3 — 1/2(3L)
SPECIAL TOPICS

Offered occasionally by visiting faculty and in other special situations to cover, in depth, topics that are not thoroughly covered in regularly offered courses.

RLST 301.3 — 1/2(3L)
Apocalyptic Then and Now

This course investigates apocalyptic thought and literature in Judaism and Christianity. The primary focus is the religious perspectives and social functions of apocalyptic, with a brief discussion of contemporary Muslim apocalyptic. It will also survey the appropriation of apocalyptic themes throughout history in millenarian movements and in artistic forms such as art, fiction, and film, with special attention to apocalyptic in contemporary culture.

Prerequisites: 6 credit units RLST or 24 credit units at university level.

RLST 303.3 — 1/2(3L)
Goddesses in Myth and History

Investigates the role of goddesses in religion from prehistory to the present, east and west. Combines historical and thematic approaches, focussing on the many roles of the female divine. Ancient goddesses, goddess worship in world religions, and contemporary feminist goddess spirituality, including Wicca, will be examined.

Prerequisites: 6 credit units in RLST or WGST or 24 credit units at the university level.

RLST 314.3 — 1/2(3L)
Issues in Contemporary Catholicism

An analysis of contemporary Roman Catholicism with emphasis on the second Vatican Council (1962-1965) and its effects. Themes include identity of and membership in the church, liturgical renewal, post-conciliar forms of spirituality and community, social doctrine, and moral issues.

Prerequisites: 6 credit units in RLST or 24 credit units university level.

RLST 321.3 — 1/2(3L)
Gender and God Talk

An overview of feminist theological perspectives, both as critiques of traditional culture and theology and as constructions of new visions and ways of religious life.

Prerequisites: 6 credit units in RLST or WGST or 24 credit units at the university level.

RLST 328.3 — 1/2(3L)
Jewish Christian Relations in Historical Perspective

Christianity emerged out of Judaism, and this course examines the relationships that have existed between the two religions through the ages. Both Christian and Jewish sources will be examined to develop a critical perspective on this important aspect of western religious heritage.

Prerequisites: 6 credit units in RLST or 24 credit units university level.

RLST 330.3 — 1/2(3L)
DAOISM

Intensive reading and discussion of major texts (in translation) and religious practices of Daoism in China. Compares Daoism to other forms of religion in China: Confucianism, Buddhism, and Popular Religion.

Prerequisites: 6 credit units in RLST or 24 credit units university level.

RLST 359.3 — 1/2(3L)
Helpmates Harlots Goddesses and Heroines

Examines the multifaceted portrayals of women in biblical texts and contexts, the Hebrew Goddess and the female divine, women as biblical interpreters and writers, and feminist biblical interpretation.

Prerequisites: 6 credit units in RLST or WGST or 24 credit units at the University level.

RLST 361.3 — 1/2(3L)
Rabbinic Literature

A study of post-biblical Jewish religious literature, including legal, ethical and theological material. Emphasis will be placed on both methodology and content, with illustrative texts read in English.

Prerequisites: 6 credit units in RLST or 24 credit units university level.

RLST 362.3 — 1/2(3L)
Monsters and Mischief Makers

This class will examine the construction of morality in religious texts by using the outsider/insider (or neighbor/stranger) question. We will investigate this question further by asking how do the people and things we consider to be like us or not like us help us to determine how to behave, and/or what to believe.

Prerequisites: Permission of the Department. 6 credit units RLST or 24 credit units at the university level.

RLST 363.3 — 1/2(3L)
Early Christian Literature Text and Context

A study of extra-biblical Christian writings up to 150 CE with emphasis on the beliefs of early Christianity, relationship with paganism and Judaism, and the development of internal organizational structures.

Prerequisites: 6 credit units in RLST or 24 credit units university level.
Students with credit for RLST 309 or 311 may not take this course for credit.

RLST 365.3 — 1/2(3L)
Bible and Film

An examination of the uses of the Bible in film, including epic films, contemporary retellings of biblical stories, and the use of biblical themes and motifs in cinema. Uncovers the many ways in which biblical-theological themes shape and are shaped by contemporary culture.

Prerequisites: 6 credit units in RLST or 24 credit units university level.

RLST 375.3 — 1/2(3L)
Religion and Science

Investigates the historical and transcultural approach to the relationship between religion and science. Contemporary approaches to issues at the intersection of religion and science are also analyzed with emphasis on the influence of physics, evolutionary biology, ecology, non-Western science and cosmology.

Prerequisites: 6 credit units in RLST or 24 credit units university level.

RLST 382.3 — 1/2(3L)

Sex, God and Rock n' Roll Re-Vamping the Sacred

This course on religion, music, and pop culture will investigate the intimate connections between human musicality and sexuality, and assess their impact on definitions of divinity and the sacred. Theoretical issues include the ideology of sacred/profane dichotomies, musical/sexual taboos, and the politics of gender, race and class as expressed in ritual and liturgy.

Prerequisites: 6 credit units RLST or WGST or 24 credit units at the University level.

Students with credit for RLST Special Topics: Sex, God and Rock n Roll: Re-Vamping the Sacred may not take RLST 382 for credit.

RLST 391.3 — 1/2(3S)
Readings in Western Religions

Exposes the student to primary source materials. Emphasis is placed on individual study and research.

Prerequisites: 6 credit units in RLST or 24 credit units university level.

RLST 398.3 — 1/2(3S)
Special Topics

Offered occasionally by visiting faculty and in other special situations to cover, in depth, topics that are not thoroughly covered in regularly offered courses.

RLST 412.3 — 1/2(3S)
Seminar in Religions and Culture

A critical examination of religious ideas, beliefs, and practices in varied cultural contexts.

Prerequisites: 3 credit units 300-level RLST or 18 credit units RLST or permission of the department.

Students may take this course more than once for credit, provided the topic covered in each offering differs substantially.

Students must consult the Department.

RLST 413.3 — 1/2(3S)
Seminar in Religious Thought

An advanced seminar in contemporary religious thought focusing on an important theme such as the nature of religious belief, the problem of suffering and evil, or religious pluralism.

Prerequisites: 3 credit units 300-level RLST or 18 credit units RLST or permission of the department.

Note: Students may take this course more than once for credit, provided the topic covered in each offering differs substantially.

Students must consult the Department.

**Register through PAWS
or for more information call 306-966-8900**



ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN



ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

RELIGION AND CULTURE

RLST OFFERINGS AT ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE

RLST 111.3 — 1/2(3L)

ASIAN RELIGIONS

Main concepts, beliefs and practices in Asian religious societies are the subjects of this course. The course includes an overview of and consistent integration with academic approaches to the study of religion. The course covers beliefs and practices of religions in South Asia namely Hinduism ,Jainism, Sikhism and Buddhism. The second half of the course examines religions and cultures in East Asia. These include Daoism and Confucianism in China and Korea, Shinto in Japan, and Buddhism in East Asia. The course concludes with an investigation of religion in contemporary world, specifically Asian religions in the United States and Canada.

Students with credit for RLST 110.6 may not take RLST 111 for credit.

RLST 112.3 — 1/2(3L)

WESTERN RELIGIONS IN SOCIETY AND CULTURE

This class is a critical survey of the history, sources and chief characteristics of major world religions, such as Judaism and Christianity, and includes brief introductions to Islam and New Religious Movements. The history, agency and practice of these religions are considered in the wider multicultural context. We will be attentive to the investigation into the phenomenon called religion, and to the relationships between religion, culture and society.

Students with credit for RLST 110.6 may not take RLST 112 for credit.

RLST 200.3 — 1/2(3L)

RELIGIONS IN CANADA

This course traces the origins of diverse religious and faith groups in Canada by examining the many ways in which members of these groups developed their collective imaginaries, maintain their inherited beliefs and practices, and reformulate their religious traditions in a distinctly Canadian context. Focusing on history, origin, beliefs, and practices of the world religions and Indigenous traditions that make up the religious landscape of Canada, the course does not espouse a specific understanding of “religion,” or a single theological paradigm. Rather, it engages a variety of academic perspectives to explore intersections of religion and identity in our Canadian context.

Prerequisites: 3 credit units RLST or 18 credit units at the university level

RLST 210.3 — 1/2(3L)

RELIGION AND ECOLOGY

This course explores the interplay between a number of religious traditions and ecology by taking a cross-disciplinary approach to the evaluation of issues of complicity, responsibility, guilt, reconciliation and restoration in human-earth relations.

Prerequisites: 3 credit units in RLST or 18 credit units university level.

RLST 216.3 — 1/2(3L)

RELIGION AND POLITICS ON FILM

This course offers 1) a basic introduction to cinematic depictions of the dynamics between political ideologies and certain religious movements that have engaged with such ideologies to inspire social and doctrinal reform; 2) a basic introduction to critical lenses from film theory that can be used to analyse the politics of representation at work in these filmic depictions of religio-political conflicts. The selected films also serve to illustrate religion’s thoroughgoing enmeshment in broader political and cultural agendas within the public sphere: e.g., Religion and Imperialism, Religion and Economics, Religion and Globalisation, Religion and Post-Colonialism, Religion and Sexual Politics.

Prerequisites: 3 credit units RLST or 18 credit units at the university level.

RLST 217.3 — 1/2(3L)

BUDDHIST RELIGIOUS TRADITION

An examination of Buddhist religious history with emphasis on its socio-cultural dimensions. Topics include early Buddhism and its Indian evolution; culture contact and the spread of Buddhism to southeast Asia, China, Japan and Tibet; Buddhism and change in modern Asia and the west.

Prerequisites: 3 credit units RLST or 18 credit units at the university level.

RLST 219.3 — 1/2(3L)

BIBLE AND WESTERN CULTURE

Explores the influence of the Bible on the culture of the west, ancient and modern, with a particular focus on the role of biblical themes, symbols and characters in art, literature, music and popular culture.

Prerequisites: 3 credit units RLST or 18 credit units at the university level.

RLST 220.3 — 1/2(3L)

WOMEN IN WESTERN RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS

Study of women in major western religious traditions: influence of conceptual systems and language; women’s embodiment and religion, feminine spirituality, women’s contributions to western faiths, and feminine aspects of divinity.

Prerequisites: 3 credit units RLST or WGST courses or 18 credit units at the university level.

RLST 221.3 — 1/2(3L)

INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIANITY

A systematic examination of the beliefs, practices and doctrinal debates in Christianity, with emphasis on diverging theories of

revelation, incarnation, redemption and ritual efficacy that shift over time in response to surrounding political and socio-cultural forces.

Prerequisites: 3 credit units RLST or 18 credit units at the university level.

RLST 225.3 — 1/2(3L)

PERSPECTIVES ON JESUS

The findings of modern biblical and historical research will be applied to the figure of Jesus as presented in the New Testament, and to the development of doctrine in Christianity.

Prerequisites: 3 credit units RLST or 18 credit units at the university level.

RLST 226.3 — 1/2(3L)

RELIGION GLOBALIZATION AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

This course offers: 1) a preliminary survey of the destructive and constructive interplay between world religions and forces of globalization; 2) an introduction to ancient and contemporary elements/proponents of social justice within five religious traditions; 3) an elaboration of tentative, interreligious ethical criteria that might guide the evaluation of religio-political developments in our global context.

Prerequisites: 3 credit units RLST or 18 credit units at the university level.

RLST 228.3 — 1/2(3L)

JUDAISM, JUSTICE AND PROPHECY

This class is an introduction to Jewish understandings of justice and prophecy by looking at the concepts of God, Torah, and Israel in Jewish Scripture and in the thinking of major Jewish philosophers.

Prerequisites: 3 credit units RLST or 18 credit units at the university level.

RLST 229.3 — 1/2(3L)

RELIGION AND SPORT

This course explores the interplay between religion and sport. These two endeavors represent the ultimate concern for a number of people around the world. We will analyze their similarities and differences in relation to how sport and religion serve as a total identity for some people. We will also map some of the influence and expression of religious traditions in sport. Case studies will include reviewing arguments for considering the Montreal Canadiens and the Saskatchewan Roughriders as religions in their own right.

Prerequisites: 3 credit units RLST or 18 credit units at the university level.

RLST 235.3 — 1/2(3L)

JAPANESE RELIGIONS

This course provides a historical and thematic overview of the

principal religious traditions of Japan. We will initially focus upon the practices, rituals, worldviews, institutions, and teachings related to Buddhism and the worship of the indigenous gods (kami) in early and medieval Japan. Next, we will explore how the people of Japan, from early modern to contemporary times, share a common awareness of religion that provides worldly benefits. This course will therefore place a particular emphasis on the understanding of religion as it has been and continues to be practiced in everyday life for individuals, families, communities, and the state. This means we must consider religion and culture not as abstract, monolithic and ahistorical phenomena, but as expressions of the social realm. Class readings will center on primary materials in English translation and selected secondary scholarship so that each student will consider for themselves the sectarian categories of Buddhism, Confucianism, Shintoism, New Religions, and so forth.

Prerequisites: Permission of the Department, 3 credit units RLST or 18 credit units at the university level.

RLST 237.3 — 1/2(3L)

LIFE AFTER DEATH IN WORLD RELIGIONS

This course explores the ideas, beliefs and practices associated with life after death as they are expressed in various religious traditions. The course begins with a survey of afterlife beliefs in ancient cultures (especially Egypt and Mesopotamia), and moves on to afterlife concepts in Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Chinese Religions. The course will also introduce afterlife beliefs in Spiritualism, and contemporary scholarship on Near Death Experiences.

Prerequisites: 3 credit units RLST or 18 credit units at university level.

RLST 240.3 — 1/2(3L)

INTRODUCTION TO ISLAM

This course aims to provide a deeper understanding to the fundamental concepts, schools of thought, and mystical tradition within the Islamic religion. It will examine the formation of Islam in Late Antiquity, the analyses of the Qur’an and the Hadith, the development of theology and legal schools, and the modern reforms. The course concludes with contemporary Islamic political movements and Muslim debates on pluralism, liberalism, and feminism.

Prerequisites: 3 credit units RLST 100-level or 18 credit units university level.

RLST 243.3 — 1/2(3L)

ISLAM IN HOLLYWOOD

This course will examine the representations of Islam and Muslims as they appear or are portrayed in the Hollywood film industry.

From the early twentieth century up until the present era of the global War on Terrorism, Hollywood has manufactured images of Islam that have been closely intertwined with the dynamics of political and economic interests and ideological motives to dominate Other. Through lectures, discussion, and the screening of selected movies – from the classic Lawrence of Arabia (1962) to post 9/11 films such as The Kingdom (2007) – we will closely analyze what has changed in the representations of Islam, what persists, and why. This course is not an entirely movie-based review and analysis. However, in order to present the images of Hollywood’s Islam in the lectures and discussion, the screening of selected movies is inevitable. This course will be divided into three themes: classical Oriental depictions of Islam (which portrayed Muslims as exotic, sensual, and irrational); national security concerns, from the post-1979 Iranian revolution to the Gulf War, and; the global War on Terrorism after 9/11.

Prerequisites: 3 credit units RLST 100-level or 18 credits university level

RLST 253.3 — 1/2(3L)

INTRODUCTION TO OLD TESTAMENT

A basic introduction to the Old Testament, focussing on the historical, literary and theological characteristics of the various writings. Scholarly methods by which they are studied, and their relationship to the history of Israel will also be examined.

Prerequisites: 3 credit units RLST or 18 credit units university level.

Students with credit for RLST 250 may not take this course for credit.

RLST 254.3 — 1/2(3L)

INTRODUCTION TO NEW TESTAMENT

A basic introduction to the New Testament, focussing on the historical, literary and theological characteristics of the various writings. Scholarly methods by which they are studied, and their relationship to Christianity will also be examined.

Prerequisites: 3 credit units RLST or 18 credit units university level.

Students with credit for RLST 252 may not take this course for credit.

RLST 258.3 — 1/2(3L)

RELIGION AND CULTURE IN BOLLYWOOD FILM

This course examines the extent to which the popular culture of India and of the Indian diaspora has been shaped by the films produced by the Bollywood film industry in Mumbai, India. Bollywood films are the most common form of entertainment for the masses in India as well as diasporic Indians in many parts of the world. Films of different genres and times will be seen, understood and critiqued for their significance. The genres include: religious; historical; 7 social; action, crime and suspense films; art cinema; and diasporic films. Bollywood cinema will be examined as a form of entertainment, as a creator of national