



# Religious Studies



## Special Points of Interest

- The Religious Studies Program at OU is interdisciplinary.
- Flexible degree program allows students to double major.
- Equips students with the skills needed to participate in the global community.

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## Interested in Religious Studies?

### About the Major

The Religious Studies Program at OU provides undergraduate students with a broad curriculum of study on the diverse expressions of religion. Students learn both about major religious traditions and the different approaches to understanding religion. The program, which draws courses from approximately thirty-five faculty members in departments and Colleges all across OU, is interdisciplinary, comparative, and global in scope. Religion is a major force around the world and one of the few universals of human culture. The importance of understanding its historical, social, political, intellectual, and artistic influence is self-evident.

### Study Abroad

The Religious Studies Program offers travel abroad opportunities for our students, as well as scholarship options.

#### *Past Study Abroad Opportunities*

Megiddo, Israel: June 2011-Present (an ongoing summer project)  
Turkey—March 2010  
Turkey—May/June 2009  
Ireland—May 2008  
Morocco—June 2006

### Scholarships

- Bernita L. Thompson Scholarship
- Angus Family Religious Studies
- Make A Difference Scholarship
- Junior Academic Excellence  
Senior Academic Excellence
- Rev. Larry and Mrs. Gloria Angus Religious Vocation
- Tom W. Boyd Scholarship in Religion and Education

## Religious Studies Curriculum

The curriculum involves a two-pronged academic exploration of 1) different religious traditions (e.g., Native American, African, and other indigenous traditions, Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Buddhism, Hinduism, Baha'i, etc.); and 2) different approaches to the study of religions (historical, social, political, intellectual, philosophical, scientific, literary, religious vocations and academia), but it will also help future journalists, teachers, lawyers, doctors, and business leaders operate in the complex religious milieu of the coming decades. Within the program, students first complete two introductory courses and then choose three religious traditions from three distinct cultures and perform a comparative study using principles and skills learned in the introductory course. Students choose a concentration to focus their Religious Studies major on and then complete the capstone their senior year, which brings together all of the methodologies, theories, and approaches the student has approached throughout the program.