



## Bachelor of Arts

# RELIGIOUS STUDIES

In the Department of Religious Studies, students explore the religions and cultures that have shaped human civilization. The intellectual skills they acquire in this exploration make them sophisticated cultural interpreters.

The department offers courses centered on how religion has historically shaped and continues to influence cultures and institutions worldwide. Coursework prepares students to engage perennial religious and ethical questions in a thoughtful, humane, historically broad and intellectually rigorous manner.

Students graduate with the ability to reflect upon, appreciate and be open to criticism, practices, beliefs and institutions of other cultures as well as their own. Through this exposure, students come to better themselves, the world and their place in it.

Religious studies students work closely with faculty who have in-depth expertise covering diverse aspects of the field. The faculty exemplify Pacific's teacher-scholar model, excelling in both academic research and in the classroom.

## PROGRAM FEATURES

**Field Trips**

**Colliver Lecture Series**

**Study Abroad Opportunities**

UNIVERSITY OF THE  
**PACIFIC**

**Department of Religious Studies:**

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Please visit [Pacific.edu/ReligiousStudies](https://pacific.edu/ReligiousStudies) for more information



I would encourage anyone interested in anything about the world around them to pursue a major in religious studies. Religious studies isn't just about churches or karma; it's about people and myths, history and culture—and Star Wars. Without religious studies, we literally wouldn't have Star Wars.

**ZIADELYN MERCADO**  
BA Religious Studies

### **The Major**

Students majoring in religious studies take courses that examine various religious traditions and sacred texts in order to understand the role of religion in human history, experience, thought and action. A historical approach is coupled in these classes with a view of the lasting effects of these things on the modern world.

### **The Experience**

The Department of Religious Studies challenges students to study the religious practices, beliefs, institutions and texts of ancient and modern societies. Through these studies, students learn about the religious phenomena that have shaped human civilizations. In addition to deep knowledge of this religious and cultural activity, our students acquire intellectual skills that serve them throughout their educational endeavors and beyond.

Religion has historically shaped and continues to influence cultures and institutions worldwide. It is useful to explore spiritual traditions in order to examine ultimate religious and ethical questions. Our coursework provides perspectives that prepare citizen-leaders to engage these matters in a thoughtful, humane, historically broad and intellectually rigorous manner.

A typical course includes students from various backgrounds and academic disciplines, which offers significant opportunity for interdisciplinary discussions.

### **OUTCOMES**

Religious studies provides a foundation for students to become citizen-leaders in a variety of careers including teaching, religious vocations, journalism, publishing, film, law, government, business, nonprofit organizations, social work, nursing and medicine.

### **DEGREES OFFERED**

Bachelor of Arts

### **MAJORS OFFERED**

Religious Studies

### **MINORS OFFERED**

Religious Studies

Ancient Studies

For more information, please visit:

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