

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

pcc.edu/programs/religious-studies/

DESCRIPTION

Religious Studies, as an interdisciplinary field, investigates human religious experience in its various forms. You will gain a broad understanding of religion in Religious Studies classes, as you critically reflect on the various founders, history, myths and doctrines, rituals and traditions, and social and personal ethics of the religions. Religious Studies classes use techniques drawn from the arts, humanities, social, and physical sciences. Work in Religious Studies prepares you for work and study in disciplines such as religion and ministry, social services, archaeology, education, law, linguistics, and political science. Knowledge of religious belief and practice is helpful if you are going to work with people in any career, but is particularly recommended for those in health care and social services.

PCC offers four Religious Studies courses. The basic course is World Religions, R 210, which fulfills both General Education and Cultural Literacy requirements, as does the more focused course, Asian Religions, R 201. Both classes can be used to meet requirements for the Asian Studies Focus Award. Introduction to Old Testament, R 211 and Introduction to New Testament, R 212 investigate the translated texts of the Hebrew (Jewish) and Greek (Christian) Bibles, and offer overviews of the religious background to Western culture, as well as meeting prerequisites for students transferring to several local private colleges and universities.

If you are an AAOT student interested in earning a bachelor's degree in Religious Studies, you should take related courses in areas such as anthropology, history, literature, and philosophy. Be sure to check for the specific requirements of the bachelor's program to which you intend to transfer. The interdisciplinary nature of the field allows you to customize your educational goals while providing a solid foundation for future learning.