

Consider the RELIGIOUS STUDIES MAJOR OR CERTIFICATE

- to build skills and knowledge for identifying and interpreting how religions, worldviews and other forms of meaning-making impact societies, individual and social decision-making, views of the natural world, etc.
- as preparation for any profession and a way to distinguish yourself in a competitive pool of applicants with common qualifications. Religion is an important but often under-examined and understood factor in human systems and interactions. Fields from public health to politics and more are acknowledging the need to understand religious perspectives and worldviews.
- to build key skills and experience that employers find desirable: written and oral communication, project organization and implementation, complex multi-pronged analysis, cross-cultural and inclusive perspective.
- because RS students say it's fascinating and alums say it "enriches life" personally and professionally long after graduation.

90% of all UW RS alumni respondents ranked Program satisfaction as "very high" and valuable for professional life. Graduates from the past six years ranked it at 95%. *RS majors, overall, have the lowest unemployment rate of all college graduates in the nation.*

RS alums are educators, doctors, business people, veterinarians, tech experts, scientists, architects, social workers, librarians, ministers; the list goes on.

Here's what some say about RS:

- *The analytical and critical thinking skills I picked up have been immensely helpful in my job as a software tester.*
- *RS has given me a different perspective than other professionals in social work. I feel more comfortable discussing religion with my clients and what is meaningful to them.*
- *RS equipped me with empathy, adaptability, and cross-cultural sensitivity, making me an expert communicator and facilitator.*
- *I work with immigrants and refugees; my training in RS allows me to be more compassionate, aware and globally-minded.*
- *As a military officer I have an enhanced appreciation and understanding of the dynamics of religious traditions in defining a culture.*
- *As a physician, I deal with death, dying, and crises on a daily basis. Studying religion and how it shapes human interaction has been, in many ways, more valuable to me than any science or math class I took in college.*
- *Got me a job right out of college.*

Requirements

The Major

Gateway Course: RS 101, 102, 103, or 104 (3 cr) *Topics include health, sexuality, etc.*
Capstone Sequence: RS 600 (3 cr) + RS 601 (4 cr-*for a project you construct*)
Additional 20 RS credits of your choosing (following L&S guidelines)

RS offers honors-in-major, which awards 13 credit hours for a student-designed project

The Certificate

Gateway course: RS 101, 102, 103 or 104 (3 cr)
Capstone Course: RS 600 (3 cr)
Additional 12 RS credits of your choosing

RS students have completed for-credit, paid internships with local organizations and other experiential learning opportunities.

Many RS Majors are double-majors. It's do-able, flexible & complements work in other fields. Talk with us about how it can work in your 4-year plan.

For more information contact
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