

EDGEWOOD COLLEGE

RELIGIOUS STUDIES DEPARTMENT



Rooted in the Catholic and Dominican traditions where “faith seeks understanding,” Religious Studies at Edgewood College provides exciting opportunities to examine the religious experience and its multiple expressions.

Through academic inquiry, scholarly research, community-based learning, and intellectual reflection, students and faculty explore the religious dimensions of human experience, harmonize their own religious commitments and traditions with their intellectual, critical, and cultural development, and deepen their own spiritualities with a vision toward justice and peace.

The Religious Studies Department welcomes women and men of diverse backgrounds, religious affiliations, ethnic and racial identifications, and sexual orientations—indeed the entire community—to join us in the Dominican search for truth.

MAJORS

Religious Studies

Religious Studies with concentrations in:

- *Biblical Studies*
- *Pre-Theological Studies*
- *Christian Ministries*
- *Social & Ecological Justice*

MINORS

Religious Studies

Students interested in the *Biblical Studies* concentration may focus on Hebrew Scriptures and/or Christian Scriptures.

Those considering graduate school or seminary complete *Pre-Theological Studies*.

The *Christian Ministries* concentration includes additional coursework, practica, and internships in religious education, youth ministry, campus ministry, family ministry, pastoral ministry, liturgical ministry, pastoral musicianship, social justice ministry and/or church administration.

Social and Ecological Justice, like the Religious Studies major and other concentrations, helps prepare students for careers in justice advocacy, environmentalism, political activism, law, journalism, social work, government, education, business, and public policy.

A second major or minor in religious studies provides students studying history, peace and conflict studies, political science, or religion and public life with a better understanding of religious communities and the many longstanding ideological conflicts that have shaped the contemporary world.

SAMPLE OF COURSES

RS 147 - Spirituality and Justice

While focusing on your own Spirituality, this course examines the worldviews, beliefs, values and practices that characterize the spiritualities of Jesus of Nazareth and others who have been inspired by his vision of justice throughout history. Includes opportunities to observe and collaborate in local efforts and ritual celebrations advocating racial, ethnic, gender, economic and/or ecological justice. How is your own spirituality involved in building a more just and compassionate world?

RS 248 - Spirituality in the 21st Century

This course invites you to explore answers to the deepest questions: Who am I? Where did I come from? Where am I going? What gives life meaning, purpose and direction? What part do I play in the world around me? Examine the world in which you live and begin to discover the unique ways your deepest identities engage the needs of contemporary society. We will reflect personally and theologically on Jesus of Nazareth and explore the implications in own spiritualities for building a more just and compassionate world in the 21st century.

RS 450 - Perspectives on Science and Religion

Science seeks insight into the natural world. Religion looks for value and meaning within this world and the life it sustains. Explore the relationship between Science and Religion from a historical perspective and examines their interaction in the modern world. Identify perspectives on this relationship that demonstrate how each has implications for the other, the places where developments in one may benefit the other, and the possibility that Religion & Science can work together to build a just and compassionate world.

For a complete list of courses and course descriptions, please visit www.edgewood.edu/catalogue.aspx.

FACULTY

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"The courses have forced me, in a good way, to read extensively about different religions and exposed me to new, unforeseen ideas. That's allowed me to discover a part of myself that I never knew before."

Viet Hoang '11
Religious Studies Major