

RELIGIOUS AND THEOLOGICAL STUDIES (B.A.)

Students majoring in Religious and Theological Studies complete a minimum of 120 credits to earn a bachelor's degree, including 41–44 credits of core courses (<https://catalog.salve.edu/undergraduate/curriculum-degree-programs/>) and 30 credits (10 courses) in their major. Requirements include the following:

Code	Title	Credits
RTS-225	The Quest for the Ultimate: Dialogue with Global Religious Traditions	3
RTS-262	What the Bible Really Tells Us: The Essential Course for Biblical Literacy	3
RTS-305	The Spiritual Quest	3
RTS-341	Explorations in Christian Theology	3
RTS-451	The Capstone Experience	3
Select one Scripture course:		3
RTS-316	The Satan Seminar	
RTS-358	Digging the Bible	
RTS-364	Understanding the Hebrew Scriptures	
RTS-365	The Psalms and the Prophets: A Quest for God and Justice	
RTS-372	Jesus and the Gospels: "Who do you say that I am"	
RTS-374	The Life and Letters of St. Paul	
RTS-375	Good Girls, Bad Girls: Women of the Bible	
RTS-399	Special Topics (in Scripture)	
Select one Ethics course:		3
RTS-321	Superheroes, Saints and Sinners: Spiritual Themes in Contemporary Fiction	
RTS-325	Who Is My Neighbor? Mercy in the Christian Life	
RTS-327	Technohuman? Technology, Genetics, God and the Future of Humanity	
RTS-332	Care for Creation: Religion, Spirituality and the Environment	
RTS-334	Global Ethics	
RTS-335	Social Ethics in a Volatile World	
RTS-336	Marriage and Family Life	
RTS-337	Biomedical Ethics	
RTS-338	Sexual Ethics	
RTS-339	Friendship, Love & Romance: The Call to Intimacy	
RTS-352	Religion and Genocide	
RTS-399	Special Topics (in Ethics)	
Select one non-Christian Tradition course:		3
RTS-381	Engaging the Jewish Experience	
RTS-382	Engaging the Muslim Experience	
RTS-383	Engaging the Hindu Experience	
RTS-384	Engaging the Buddhist Experience	
RTS-399	Special Topics (in a non-Christian tradition)	
Two RTS electives		6
Demonstrated proficiency in Information Literacy		
Total Credits		30

Students will craft their individual program of study in consultation with the department chair or another advisor from the department. Senior Religious and Theological Studies majors will, under the direction of a member of the department, engage in scholarly research and the development of a major thesis paper. This course is listed as Guided Research Capstone Experience (RTS-451 The Capstone Experience).

Concentrations

Both majors and minors may, but need not, choose to build their program of study around a particular area by focusing their elective courses in specific ways. The department suggests the following possible concentrations. The student would select four courses (12 credits) from any given area.

- World Religions
- Ethics
- Scripture
- Christian Theology

Note: At times Special Topics Courses (RTS-399 Special Topics) or Independent Study Courses (RTS-499 Independent Study) may appropriately fall under a particular concentration as well.

World Religions Concentration Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Select four courses from the following:		12
RTS-345	Engaging the Catholic Experience	
RTS-381	Engaging the Jewish Experience	
RTS-382	Engaging the Muslim Experience	
RTS-383	Engaging the Hindu Experience	
RTS-384	Engaging the Buddhist Experience	
Total Credits		12

Ethics Concentration Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Select four courses from the following:		12
RTS-321	Superheroes, Saints and Sinners: Spiritual Themes in Contemporary Fiction	
RTS-325	Who Is My Neighbor? Mercy in the Christian Life	
RTS-327	Technohuman? Technology, Genetics, God and the Future of Humanity	
RTS-332	Care for Creation: Religion, Spirituality and the Environment	
RTS-334	Global Ethics	
RTS-335	Social Ethics in a Volatile World	
RTS-336	Marriage and Family Life	
RTS-337	Biomedical Ethics	
RTS-338	Sexual Ethics	
RTS-339	Friendship, Love & Romance: The Call to Intimacy	
RTS-352	Religion and Genocide	
Total Credits		12

Scripture Concentration Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Select four courses from the following: 12		
RTS-262	What the Bible Really Tells Us: The Essential Course for Biblical Literacy	
RTS-316	The Satan Seminar	
RTS-358	Digging the Bible	
RTS-364	Understanding the Hebrew Scriptures	
RTS-365	The Psalms and the Prophets: A Quest for God and Justice	
RTS-372	Jesus and the Gospels: "Who do you say that I am"	
RTS-374	The Life and Letters of St. Paul	
RTS-375	Good Girls, Bad Girls: Women of the Bible	
Total Credits		12

Christian Theology Concentration Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Select four courses from the following: 12		
RTS-315	Thomas Aquinas: Background, Thought, and Legacy	
RTS-324	Women Mystics & Social Justice	
RTS-326	Learning Theology with C.S. Lewis	
RTS-328	Disability, Vulnerability and Human Flourishing	
RTS-340	Church in the Twenty-First Century	
RTS-341	Explorations in Christian Theology	
RTS-345	Engaging the Catholic Experience	
RTS-347	Symbol, Icon and Beauty in Religious Traditions	
RTS-355	Christian Jewish Relations: From Hostility to Hope	
RTS-356	Contemporary Christian Spirituality	
Total Credits		12

Degree Plan for Religious and Theological Studies (B.A.)

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
Fall		
FYT-101	First Year Studio	1
UNV-101	University Seminar	3
Core Course		3
Core Course		3
Core Course		3
Core Course		3
Credits		16
Spring		
UNV-102	University Seminar II	3
RTS-225	The Quest for the Ultimate: Dialogue with Global Religious Traditions	3
Core Course		3
Core Course		3
Core Course		3
Credits		15
Second Year		
Fall		
GST-098	Sophomore Studio ¹	1
RTS-262	What the Bible Really Tells Us: The Essential Course for Biblical Literacy	3
Select one Scripture Course:		3
RTS-364	Understanding the Hebrew Scriptures	

RTS-365	The Psalms and the Prophets: A Quest for God and Justice	
RTS-372	Jesus and the Gospels: "Who do you say that I am"	
RTS-374	The Life and Letters of St. Paul	
RTS-375	Good Girls, Bad Girls: Women of the Bible	
RTS-399	Special Topics	
Core Course		3
Core Course		3
Elective		3

Credits		16
Spring		
PHL-225	Quest for the Good Life	3
Select one Non-Christian Tradition Course:		3
RTS-381	Engaging the Jewish Experience	
RTS-382	Engaging the Muslim Experience	
RTS-383	Engaging the Hindu Experience	
RTS-384	Engaging the Buddhist Experience	
RTS-399	Special Topics	
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3

Credits		15
Third Year		
Fall		
RTS-341	Explorations in Christian Theology	3
RTS Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3

Credits		15
Spring		
RTS-305	The Spiritual Quest	3
RTS Elective		3
Select one Ethics Course:		3
RTS-321	Superheroes, Saints and Sinners: Spiritual Themes in Contemporary Fiction	
RTS-325	Who Is My Neighbor? Mercy in the Christian Life	
RTS-327	Technohuman? Technology, Genetics, God and the Future of Humanity	
RTS-332	Care for Creation: Religion, Spirituality and the Environment	
RTS-334	Global Ethics	
RTS-335	Social Ethics in a Volatile World	
RTS-336	Marriage and Family Life	
RTS-337	Biomedical Ethics	
RTS-338	Sexual Ethics	
RTS-339	Friendship, Love & Romance: The Call to Intimacy	
RTS-399	Special Topics	
Elective		3
Elective		3

Credits		15
Fourth Year		
Fall		
RTS Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Credits		15
Spring		
RTS-451	The Capstone Experience	3
Elective		3

Elective	3
Elective	3
Elective	3
Credits	15
Total Credits	122

¹ This weekend workshop may be taken in either the fall or spring semester of sophomore year.