

**RELI 3006 Major Streams in Chinese Philosophy (3,2,1) (C)**

This course aims to (1) provide students with a basic understanding of the major themes addressed in Chinese philosophical traditions from ancient times through the 20th century; (2) enable students to become acquainted with the character of Chinese philosophical thinking as embodied in its different major sub-traditions; and (3) provide students with sufficient background so that they may have a deeper understanding and appreciation of their own intellectual and spiritual heritage, including philosophically significant texts within Chinese religious traditions.

**RELI 3007 Philosophy, Meaning and Knowledge (3,2,1) (C)**

This course aims to (1) help develop students' ability to tackle methodological problems through reflection on various philosophical issues in relation to the philosophy of language and epistemology; (2) enable students to acquire basic knowledge concerning methodology; (3) examine critically various philosophical views concerning language and knowledge; and (4) tackle methodological problems concerning religion.

**RELI 3015 Existence and Reality (3,2,1) (E)**

This course aims to (1) enrich students' understandings of the answers and justifications offered by various religious traditions regarding issues relating finite life to transcendent realms; (2) help students explore religious responses to the human condition affected by free will and determining factors such as suffering and death; (3) guide students in understanding religious conceptions of divine or transcendent realms and to be able to articulate how various religious representatives claim that people may attain these realms; and (4) provide opportunities for students to compare and weigh different religious claims and justifications about their views of the relationship between existence and reality.

**RELI 3016 Philosophy, Morality and Society (3,2,1) (C)**

This course aims to (1) introduce students to major philosophical concepts, problems and theories of moral philosophy; (2) help develop students' critical ability to tackle philosophical problems through studying the major philosophical concepts, problems and theories of moral philosophy; and (3) elucidate moral and socio-political implications of some religious traditions by means of relevant concepts, distinctions, and theories in moral philosophy.

**RELI 3017 A Survey of Jewish and Christian Scriptures (3,2,1) (E)**

This course aims to (1) acquire a basic understanding of the history of the formation of the Jewish and Christian Scriptures; (2) acquire a proper understanding of the content and historical message of the Jewish and Christian Scriptures against the historical situations from which they sprang; and (3) articulate knowledge correctly, clearly and systematically.

**RELI 3025 Biblical Theology and Moral Life (3,2,1) (E)**

This course aims to (1) study the intersection of selected theological and moral themes in the Old and New Testaments; (2) examine major moral and socio-political themes of Jewish and Christian traditions; and (3) acquire basic knowledge of Christian ethics and a better understanding of the issues in ethics; and (4) to sharpen the skill of moral reasoning and the art of moral discernment.

**RELI 3026 Contemporary Theology and the Public World (3,2,1) (E)**

This course aims to (1) help students understand contemporary Christian thought in light of their socio-cultural settings, thus cultivating students' interest in contemporary theology; (2) help develop a critical appreciation of the creative tensions in contemporary Christian thought, and of the relevance of contemporary theology to the public world; and (3) help students appreciate the relevance of contemporary Christian intellectual tradition to our modern life and the public world.

**RELI 3027 Existentialism and Nihilism (3,2,1)**

This course aims to (1) enable students to understand the basic ideas of the major existentialists and their relevance to contemporary life; (2) deepen students' reflective attitude toward human life and toward the meaning of their own existence; (3) help students develop a critical appreciation of existentialists' reflections on life, especially the religious dimension of these reflections; and (4) provide students with an opportunity to explore the salient issues which constitute the mystery of human existence, and to stimulate them to formulate their own answers to these issues, especially the challenge of nihilism.

**RELI 3035 Philosophical Issues in Chinese Religion (3,2,1)**

This course aims to (1) encourage students to seek for an understanding of Chinese religion from a philosophical point of view; (2) encourage students to reflect critically on the philosophical implications of important conceptions and teachings of Chinese religion; (3) introduce students to various philosophical issues related to Chinese religion and the arguments for or against various philosophical theses related to Chinese religion; (4) help the students to arrive at their own judgment of these religious philosophical ideas in a critical and rational manner; and (5) help the students to apply these Chinese philosophical and religious ideas in understanding modern problems or real life issues, reflect on and assess their personal values and beliefs, and seek to appreciate religious traditions different from their own.

**RELI 3036 Christian Social Thought (3,2,1)**

This course aims to (1) extend one's understanding of Christianity by examining its social teachings; (2) understand how a religious faith shapes or accommodates to a culture; and (3) examine the contemporary social relevance of the Christian faith.

**RELI 3037 Christian Spirituality (3,2,1)**

This course aims to (1) draw on the rich spiritual heritage of Christianity, and to become familiar with its major representatives and sources; (2) understand the main concepts of spirituality and to critically appreciate their significance for contemporary Christian life; and (3) provide the foundation for a thorough understanding of the relationship between the intellectual and experiential dimension of Christian faith.

**RELI 3045 Contemporary Ethical Problems (3,2,1)**

This course aims to (1) have an in-depth study of some contemporary ethical problems on the basis of what the students have learned in an earlier more elementary ethics course; (2) sharpen the skill of moral reasoning and the art of moral discernment; (3) have a better understanding of the nature of issues in Applied Ethics.

**RELI 3046 Hermeneutics (3,2,1)**

This course aims to (1) raise students' awareness of the ubiquity of interpretation throughout human life in general and religious studies in particular; (2) introduce students to the essential lexical aids that can facilitate an in-depth approach to biblical studies; (3) familiarize students with some key philosophical problems associated with the task of interpreting texts; and (4) give students 'hands-on' practice in applying various hermeneutic principles to the interpretation of specific religious and/or philosophical texts.

**RELI 3047 Islam (3,2,1)**

This course aims to (1) demonstrate analytical skills related to religious studies as applied to studies of Islam; (2) evaluate the central significance of divine revelation and prophecy within Islamic communities; (3) demonstrate a general understanding of Islamic institutions and forms of life, especially within their significance with specific Middle Eastern cultures during certain historical periods; and (4) appreciate the major contributions of Islamic culture to various civilizations, including past and present Chinese civilization.