

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) (tbc)

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) (tbc)

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) (tbc)

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) (tbc)

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) (tbc)

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.

RELI 4005 Philosophy of Religion (3,2,1) (tbc)

This course aims to (1) raise students' awareness of the fundamental philosophical problems associated with religion; (2) introduce students to the religious views of some of the most influential philosophers who have grappled with such problems; (3) foster an appreciation of how each philosopher's solutions to these problems arises out of the presuppositions inherent in his overall approach to philosophy; and (4) stimulate students to think philosophically about their own attitudes towards religion.

RELI 4006 Comparative Philosophy: East and West (3,2,1) (tbc)

This course aims to (1) provide students with a synoptic understanding of the universal ideas shared by Eastern and Western philosophies; (2) equip students with an analytic ability to explore the contrasts between Eastern and Western philosophies; and (3) encourage students to develop analytic and argumentative skills through the process of reading, speaking, and writing about various philosophical issues.

RELI 4007 Theology and Sex in Chinese Societies (3,2,1) (tbc)

This course aims to (1) study Christian theology of sex, together with its integral relation to humanity, and provide students

with systematic and in depth understanding of Christian sexual values; (2) help establish a dynamic and dialogical relation between constructive theology and public life, and help students appreciate the wisdom of Christian perspectives and its relevance to contemporary Chinese societies; (3) enrich students' intellectual experience through interdisciplinary approach to concrete socio-cultural issues, thus providing a broader basis for critical thinking and whole-person education; and (4) help students appreciate the public relevance of Christian values and spiritualities.

RELI 4015 Mysticism and Religious Experience (3,2,1) (tbc)

This course aims to (1) become familiar with some of the most influential mystics who have interpreted their religious experiences in philosophically significant ways; (2) consider and critically assess a selection of classical and contemporary theories of the nature of religious experience; (3) encourage students to recognize a dimension of religion that goes beyond doctrinal belief and ritual practice; and (4) promote open discussion and debate regarding various controversial issues that arise in the process of trying to understand mystical world views.

RELI 4016 Selected Topics/Readings in Philosophy (3,2,1) (tbc)

This course aims at helping the student to investigate a specific philosophical theme through a detailed study of a selected text (1) arouse students' interest in the important issues concerning philosophical issues and problems; (2) engage in a close reading of a selected philosophical topic/text so as to discover the major philosophical themes and insights contained therein; (3) cultivate students' ability in critically assessing various philosophical viewpoints towards a specific topic; and (4) further aims/objectives pertaining to the selected topic/readings can be furnished here.

RELI 4017 Chinese Christianity (3,2,1) (tbc)

This course aims to (1) introduce the general history of various forms of Christianity which have entered into Chinese societies, including representatives from Oriental, Roman Catholic, Protestant and Russian Orthodox churches; (2) investigate the cultural encounters between different forms of Christianity and Chinese cultures of various periods so that the resultant effects on the development of certain kinds of Chinese Christianity can be explained; (3) provide students with a fairly thorough account of the nature and development of Christianity in modern China; (4) guide students in grasping how the faith of Chinese Christians is expressed in daily life and yearly cycles of religious festivals; and (5) arouse students' interests in the problems related to Christian faith and practice within cultural China during ancient and modern periods.

RELI 4025 Christianity and Chinese Culture (3,2,1) (tbc)

The course aims to (1) examining the deeper dynamics of cultural dialogue and cross-culture communication arising from Christianity's encounter with Chinese culture; (2) exploring the multiple tensions between Chinese culture and Western culture informed and inculcated by Christianity, locating these tensions to the fundamental religious dimension of their respective worldviews; and (3) reflecting on these tensions existentially as they occur in Hong Kong with people living on a Chinese cultural substratum yet fast assimilating Christian ideas and practice into their daily lives.

RELI 4026 Christianity, Modern Science and the Environment (3,2,1) (tbc)

This course aims to (1) enrich students' intellectual experience through a fruitful experience in inter-disciplinary studies of science and religion, and to help them understand the recent developments; (2) stimulate students' interest in the quest for meaning and truth in both science and religion; (3) stimulate students' concern for the environment by exploring the ethical and spiritual resources of the Christian religion; and (4) help students develop a critical appreciation of the creative tensions between science and religion.