



University of California, Santa Barbara
Program Learning Outcomes

B.A. in Religious Studies

Students graduating with a B.A. in Religious Studies should be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge about the academic study of religion, including an understanding of the discipline's genealogy.
- Demonstrate substantive historical and cultural knowledge about the major global religious traditions.
- Analyze religious phenomena (rituals, texts, beliefs, etc.) through various methods in the study of religion (philosophy, ethnography, comparative, legal, sociological, historical, and scientific).
- Identify the relationship between religions and their historical, cultural, political, global and local contexts.
- Explain religious experience as a fundamental aspect of human cultures.
- Describe the viability and transformation of religion within modernity and secular/scientific culture.
- Describe in detail at least one set of beliefs, practices and texts from a particular religious tradition as reflected in "Cultural Areas and Traditions" structure of the major.
- Use appropriate interdisciplinary tools to facilitate the examination and study of religion.
- Read primary texts skillfully.
- Critically evaluate secondary sources.
- Research, organize and execute sustained arguments in research papers.