

Core Courses (24 units)	
CASC 3400 - Theory and Practice for Community Action and Social Change	4
RLGN 3xxx OR PHIL 2xxx - Service Learning (student chooses from list)	4
RLGN 3xxx OR PHIL 2xxx (student chooses from list)	4
RLGN 3xxx (student chooses from list)	4
PHIL 2xxx or 3xxx (student chooses from list)	4
HCS 4xxx Humanities Seminar I or II	4
Major Electives (8 Units) - Student Selects from List of Choices	
Lower or upper division course drawn from English, Global Public Health, History, Literature, Political Science, Philosophy, Religion, Psychology, or Sociology.	4
Upper division course drawn from English, Global Public Health, History, Literature, Political Science, Philosophy, Religion, Psychology, or Sociology.	4
Signature Work (8 units)	
CASC 3405 - Community Engaged Research Method	4
PHIL 4xxx or RLGN 4xxx Senior Project (completed under supervision of a faculty reader)	4

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COMMUNITY ACTION AND SOCIAL CHANGE

CASC 3400 SL: Theory and Practice for Community Action and Social Change (4 units)

This course provides foundational frameworks for analyzing oppression, power and privilege. Through readings, social engagement and case studies, students examine larger contexts and structures that impact individuals and diverse communities. Students learn about key theories in community engagement literature and participate directly with community to build civic skills and learn about social advocacy from local leaders. Students reflect on their own identities and civic roles in the larger society.

CASC 3405 SL: Community Engaged Research Methodology and Project Design (4 units)

This course introduces students to the research methodologies, best practices, and principles associated with the continuum of community based participatory research (CBPR) approaches in which stakeholders engage to meet community identified interests. Students will be guided to ask questions and gather information to design a community based research plan that is tailored to the context of one specific community partner, or centered around a specific, researchable community issue identified by partners and residents. As an alternative, students can also choose to collaborate with a specific community partner to design a campaign or advocacy project for the partner's community programming.

HUMANITIES AND CULTURAL STUDIES

HCS 4xxx Humanities Seminar I

An interdisciplinary course closely examining the ways self-knowledge, democracy, equity, sustainability, and/or the

natural world are conceptualized and addressed in classic and contemporary literary, philosophical, musical, and/or artistic works. While works from other countries may be addressed, the course primarily covers culturally diverse American perspectives. A variety of texts and genres are explored in this discussion-based seminar.

HCS 4xxx Humanities Seminar II

Through careful analysis and interpretation of traditional and contemporary works in translation from around the world, we consider global responses to fundamental questions about the human condition and the quest for meaning. We also consider the ways our worldview expands through engagement with translated works to include the experience of those whose worldviews are unlike our own. A variety of texts (written, musical, visual, etc.) and genres are explored in this discussion-based interdisciplinary seminar.

PHILOSOPHY

PHIL 2xxx Being Human, Human Being (4 units)

Inquiry into the enduring questions of human nature including the meaning and purpose of human life, the questions of its spiritual origin and destiny, its capacities for good and evil, the scope and limits of its freedom, the nature of knowing, and the question of immortality, drawing upon a range of Western thought. Particular attention is given to the tension between classical religious and philosophical views and those stemming from modern human sciences such as psychology, sociology, and sociobiology.

PHIL 2xxx Ethics (4 units)

An introduction to ethical theory in Western philosophy followed by an investigation of a range of contemporary ethical problems drawn from private life, public policy, law, medicine, and business.

PHIL 2xxx Environmental Ethics (4 units)

An investigation of philosophical perspectives on humanity's relation to nature, combined with an exploration of contemporary environmental issues and related political decision making.

PHIL 2xxx Ethics, Leadership, & Meaning (4 units)

An evaluation of the ethical implications of various theories of leadership and decision making within the context of personal meaning. Issues such as individual rights, collective responsibilities, formation of character, integrity, caring relationships and the common good will be addressed as the students explore their own leadership role in various organizational settings and as citizens in a democratic society.

PHIL 2xxx SL: Self, Community, & Ethical Action (4 units)

This course bridges ethical theory and ideas to action through service learning with community partner organizations, emphasizing social justice issues, their root causes, systemic solutions and the dynamic relationship between these collective concerns and our individual values and choices. (Service Learning).

PHIL 2xxxx SL: Education for Democracy (4 units)

If knowledge is power, education should be liberating no matter one's circumstances. Equally, a democracy can only thrive when people are equipped to question and challenge the status quo. Through the examination of the connection between education, democracy, and the concept of freedom, students develop critical awareness of social issues such as segregation and mass incarceration. Learning from and with community leaders, we gain skills and knowledge to advocate for a more just, inclusive society. (Service Learning)

PHIL 2xxx SL Othering and Belonging (4 units)

Examines forces that marginalize those who are different ("the Other") from the empowered majority in society. Historical examples along with current policies and discourses that perpetuate oppression will be contrasted with the power of lesser heard stories and the strength of vulnerable communities whose perspectives are vital to counter fears and dehumanization while creating more equitable structures for all.

PHIL 3xxx Virtuosity: Cultivating Moral & Political Character (4 units)

What does it mean to be morally virtuous? This course will explore a range of philosophical and scientific responses to

that question, paying particular attention to the notion that moral virtue ought to be understood as a kind of intellectual and practical expertise, or, in other words, as virtuosity.

PHIL 3xxx Gender: Ethics & Politics (4 units)

A survey and critical analysis of contemporary scholarship on the ethical and political implications of gender. The course will explore the distinctions between the various forms of feminism, such as liberal, socialist, radical, lesbian, and postmodern, as well as studies on the nature of masculinity. It will address such concepts and topics as gender socialization, gender in relation to race and class, inequality, oppression, violence, work, families, mothering and fathering, intimacy and sexuality, health and medicine, and ethics.

PHIL 4xxx Senior Project (4 units)

Research-based culminating project guided by a faculty mentor.

RELIGION

RLGN 3xxx Prophets, Psalms, & Social Justice (4 units)

Early in human civilization scribes, prophets, psalmists and philosophers determined that the world was not just. Cross culturally and across religious perspective a common language and a series of ethical images and motifs develop to express the human longing for order and justice in daily life. We will explore the common roots of Western religion and ethics around the human urge to improve the lot of the "other." We will study the classical references and texts in the Hebrew Bible including the Torah literature and the multiple voices of the prophets with emphasis upon Amos, Hosea, Micah and Isaiah. We will discuss the implications and applications of these texts to our leaders, our society and to ourselves.

RLGN 3xxx Jewish & Christian Origins (4 units)

Survey of the early history, scriptures, beliefs, and cultures of Judaism and then of Christianity intertwined with it, with special attention to the development of concepts of justice in socio-political context.

RLGN 3xxx Understanding Islam (4 units)

Survey of the history, scriptures, beliefs, cultures, and internal divisions of Islam and of its relationship to other movements, including Judaism, Christianity, secularism, and democracy, with attention to instances of conflict, cooperation, and coexistence.

RLGN 3xxx Religion & Social Theory (4 units)

Working from classic social theory this course examines religious consciousness within a general theory of human action. Historical and comparative frameworks are used to identify the role religious expression and activity has played in society and social organization. Themes include: secularization, modernization, religion and politics, civil religion, religious movements, rise of fundamentalism, and civility and religion. Examples of contemporary religious activity will be drawn from cross-cultural and cross-national perspectives.

RLGN 3xxx Religion & Globalization (4 units)

With close attention to diversity and social justice concerns, this course considers the historical dimensions of globalization (empire, trade, population migration) and the impact of globalized connections and movements on different facets of religious traditions, as well as the resurgence and impact of various religions on an increasingly globalized world.

RLGN 3xxx SL: Liberation Theologies (4 units)

This course surveys the ideas and practices behind various religion-based social justice projects emerging from and in solidarity with the poor of Latin America, North American feminists, and the African American Christian community. Bridging theory and practice, students work with marginalized groups in our local community (Service Learning).

RLGN 3xxx SL: Faith-based Social Teachings (4 units)

A study of the literature of social teachings drawn from various religions and an investigation of the ways in which people of different faiths have attempted to change the world for the better. (Service-learning)

RLGN 3xxx Contemporary Catholic Thought (4 units)

A critical investigation of contemporary Catholic thinking as pertains to issues such as war and peace; social, economic, and environmental justice; ecumenism and collegiality; and sexuality and gender.

RLGN 3xxx Art and the Sacred (4 units)

Analyzes ways that religions and the arts illuminate each other while providing insight into human experiences, including alienation and injustice. May include community engagement.

RLGN 3xxx Women, Religion, & Sexuality (4 units)

A cross-cultural study of the impact of traditional religious teachings about sex on society's perception of women's role and status and on women's own self-perception, with particular attention to the historical origins of female subordination.

RLGN 3xxx SL: Meditation & Mindful Action (4 units)

Analyzes diverse beliefs about and practices of meditation, contemplation, including various forms of mysticism, especially as combined with the pursuit of mindful service toward others. (Service Learning)

RLGN 3xxx Ecology and Religion (4 units)

A comparative study of the beliefs and values of religions, wisdom traditions, and indigenous lifeways from around the world pertaining to the interrelationships of humans, Earth, cosmos, and the sacred. Particular attention is paid to the ways these can inform the task of developing and sustaining an ecologically sound relationship to the Earth. May include engagement with community partners, such as work in a garden or local farm.

RLGN 3xxx The Rhetoric of Belief (4 units)

An investigation of God language in the speeches and writings of outstanding politicians, novelists, poets, philosophers, and religious activists from around the world, this seminar aims at deepening our skills as communicators, sharpening our capacity for critical analysis, and understanding the complex relationship between language and belief.

RLGN 3xxx The Power of Compassion and Forgiveness (4 units)

Using an interdisciplinary framework, this course draws from research that highlights the magnitude of the life-affirming dimensions and powerful consequences of compassion and forgiveness. As recent research from various fields demonstrates, and as wisdom traditions have traditionally attested, the benefits of compassion and forgiveness include personal and spiritual transformation, as well as enhanced health, well-being, and creativity. The ultimate objective of this course is to deepen our understanding of the power of compassion and forgiveness and, ideally, to improve our own life and the lives of other.

RLGN 4xxx Senior Project (4 units)

Research-based culminating project guided by a faculty mentor.

