

# Religious Studies

## Introduction

Religion is among the oldest, most universal and basic of human endeavors. Thoughtful intellectual consideration of its presence and influence can contribute greatly to our self understanding and our ability to comprehend and deal with human society, behavior and culture. Religious studies in public universities denote nonsectarian, academic study about religion(s). As a distinct area of inquiry, such studies span the range of religious traditions and phenomena from world religions and the history of religions to the relationship of religion to human development, society and culture. Religious studies incorporate aspects of other academic disciplines and promote interdisciplinary approaches and perspectives.

[Guilford Catalog Information](#)

## Related Career Title for Religious Studies Majors

Local churches.  
Religious organizations.  
Denominational Boards.  
Social Services  
National and local nonprofit organizations  
Churches and religious organizations.  
Correctional institutions.  
Shelters.  
Nursing homes.  
Youth organizations and camps  
Health and Welfare Ministries  
Hospitals.  
Nursing homes.  
Retirement homes.  
Assisted living homes.  
Children/youth homes.  
Clergy  
Local churches.  
Religious organizations.  
Denominational boards and agencies.  
Chaplaincy  
All branches of military service.  
Hospitals.  
Homes for children, youth, senior citizens.  
Correctional institutions.  
Police and fire departments.  
Missions  
Denominational boards and agencies.  
Missions boards.

Local churches.  
Religious institutions.  
Education  
Religious-affiliated schools.  
Preparatory schools.  
Private, public or religious affiliated colleges  
Schools of theology.  
Business  
Local churches.  
Religious bookstores.  
Religious publishers.  
Denominational boards and agencies.  
Seminaries.  
Religious affiliated schools.  
Denominational hospitals, homes, schools, boards, and agencies.  
Journalism  
Denominational boards and agencies.  
Interdenominational organizations.  
Local churches.  
Publishing  
Denominational publishing houses  
Secular publishing houses.  
Denominational area and regional offices.  
Television/Radio/Film  
Local churches.  
Denominational boards and agencies.  
Secular radio, television, and film industry

## Related Major Skills

- ◆ People interested in religious vs. secular work possess deep faith, want more than filling own personal needs and want to make a difference.
- ◆ Bachelor's degree provides broad background in many fields.
- ◆ An undergraduate degree prepares for professional and graduate study in business, law, medicine, counseling, higher education, and other fields.

- ◆ Possess an understanding of human spiritual and social needs.
- ◆ Obtain general knowledge of practices, procedures, guidelines and doctrines of one's faith.
- ◆ Develop counseling and communication skills due to the nature of the field and working with people.

## Related Web Sites

### Job Listings/Job Search

[www.churchstaffing.com](http://www.churchstaffing.com)

[www.ministryjobs.com](http://www.ministryjobs.com)

[www.ministryconnect.com](http://www.ministryconnect.com)

### Career Planning and Information

Counseling & Career Services [career.ucsb.edu/crrlibrary/social.html](http://career.ucsb.edu/crrlibrary/social.html)

Site for Human Service, Social Service and Non-Profit [www.hscareers.com](http://www.hscareers.com)

[www.socialservice.com](http://www.socialservice.com)

The New Social Worker's Online Career Center [www.socialworker.com/career.html](http://www.socialworker.com/career.html)

### Organizations and Associations

Bread for the World [www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org)

Doctor's Without Borders [www.doctorswithoutborders.com](http://www.doctorswithoutborders.com)

Peace Corps [www.peacecorps.gov](http://www.peacecorps.gov)

AmeriCorps [www.americorps.org](http://www.americorps.org)

The Province of St. John the Baptist [www.franciscan.org](http://www.franciscan.org)