



UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA

University Council

September 11, 2026

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2026-2027

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Education – Melissa Freeman

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Forestry and Natural Resources – Richard Chandler

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Law – Joe Miller

Medicine – Erica Brownfield

Pharmacy – Duc Do

Public and International Affairs – Ryan Powers

Public Health – Heather Padilla

Social Work – Jennifer Elkins

Veterinary Medicine – Paul Eubig

Graduate School – Stacey Neuharth-Pritchett

Ex-Officio – Interim Provost Ron Walcott

Undergraduate Student Representative – Christa Patterson

Graduate Student Representative – Samuel Siaw

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal from the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences for a Minor in Christian Studies will be an agenda item for the September 18, 2026, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

Rodney Mauricio, Chair

cc: Interim Provost Ron Walcott

Dr. Marisa Anne Pagnattaro

PROPOSAL FOR MINOR PROGRAM OF STUDY

School/College: Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

Department/Division: Religion

Minor Name: Minor in Christian Studies

CIP: 38020300

Proposed Effective Date: Fall 2027

Which campus(es) will offer this program?: Athens

Program Description:

The Department of Religion offers a Minor in Jewish Studies and teaches courses focusing on Asian religions which count toward the Undergraduate Certificate in Asian Studies. The faculty anticipate there will also be demand among students for a Minor in Christian Studies. The minor will allow undergraduate students who are pursuing a major in Religion or a different field to build a knowledge base related to the history, ideas, writings, artistic expressions, institutions, politics, ethics, and social effects of Christianity. The objective is to increase students' religious literacy in encounters with a variety of Christian teachings and practices in the United States and globally. Students will be exposed to how the texts of the biblical canon were written and assembled, or the differences between Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant, Pentecostal, and other Christianities. Students who complete the minor will have strengthened their ability to critically analyze Christian phenomena and to evaluate the impacts of Christianity on e.g. individuality, moral norms, literature and the arts, the natural environment, social institutions, politics and law, international affairs, and interreligious relations.

Enrollment data provide strong evidence of student demand for the proposed minor. From Fall 2024 through Spring 2026, courses that would count toward the Christian Studies minor enrolled between 75.2 and 80.9 percent of all students taking Religion courses, with a combined enrollment of 5,200 students across the four semesters. Although these courses represented approximately half of the Department's course offerings during this period, they generated 78 percent of its total enrollment. This sustained and disproportionate enrollment demonstrates substantial existing interest in Christian Studies and indicates that the proposed minor would formalize and strengthen an area in which student demand is already well established.

Program of Study/Requirements

All courses used to satisfy the minor must be completed with a grade of "C" (2.0) or better. At least 3 courses must be taken in residence.

To complete the minor, choose 5 courses for a minimum of 15 hours from the following list. At least 3 of the 5 courses (minimum of 9 hours) must be at 3000-level or above. At least 3 of the 5 courses (minimum of 9 hours) must have a RELI prefix.

ARHI 3022, Art and Architecture of Byzantium - The Empire of the New Rome (3 hours)
ARHI 3032, Art and Architecture of Russia (3 hours)

ARHI 4050/6050, Icons in Byzantium: Theory and Practice (3 hours)
ARHI 4060/6060, Image in Space: Mural Painting and Architecture in Byzantium (3 hours)
ARHI 4130/6130, Late Gothic Art in Italy (3 hours)
ARHI 4200/6200, Early Renaissance in Italy (3 hours)
CLAS 4160/6160, History of Late Antiquity (3 hours)
CMLT 4160/6160, The Bible in Western Literature and Art (3 hours)
ENGL 4225/6225, Medieval Literature, 1100-1350 (3 hours)
ENGL 4230, Medieval Literature, 1350-1500 (3 hours)
HIST(RELI) 3333, Christianity and Society from Constantine to Luther (3 hours)
HIST(SPAN) 4345, Christians and Muslims in Valencia (3 hours)
HIST(AFST) 4550/6550, Christianity and Colonialism in Africa (3 hours)
HIST 4565/6565, The Crusades (3 hours)
RELI 1001, Introduction to Judaism, Christianity, and Islam (3 hours)
RELI 1004, Introduction to Evangelical Christian Traditions: History, Beliefs, and Practices (3 hours)
RELI 1007, Reading the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible (3 hours)
RELI 1008, Reading the New Testament (3 hours)
RELI 1012, Introduction to Christian Ethics: Topics and Methods (3 hours)
RELI 2008, The Gospel of Mark (3 hours)
RELI 2009, The Gospel of Matthew (3 hours)
RELI(AFST) 3004, Global Christianity (3 hours)
RELI(HIST) 3150, Religion in the United States (3 hours)
RELI 3500, Antisemitism (3 hours)
RELI 4001/6001, Old Testament/Hebrew Bible Literature (3 hours)
RELI 4002/6002, Prophetic Literature of the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible (3 hours)
RELI 4004/6004, Psalms, Job, and Other Writings of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament (3 hours)
RELI 4009/6009, The Book of Genesis (3 hours)
RELI 4020/6020, Women in the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible (3 hours)
RELI 4040/6040, Apocalyptic Literature (3 hours)
RELI 4080/6080, New Testament Literature (3 hours)
RELI 4081/6081, Jesus (3 hours)
RELI 4082/6082, Life and Letters of Paul (3 hours)
RELI 4083/6083, The New Testament World (3 hours)
RELI 4084/6084, Gospels (4 hours)
RELI 4085/6085, The Gospel According to John (3 hours)
RELI 4086/6086, The Gospel of Luke (3 hours)
RELI 4087, Ethics of the New Testament (3 hours)
RELI 4088/6088, Topics in New Testament Studies and Early Christianity (3 hours)
RELI(GREK) 4089/6089, Biblical Greek (3 hours)
RELI 4090/6090, Trinity: The Christian Doctrine of God (3 hours)
RELI 4095/6095, Christianity and Sustainability (3 hours)
RELI 4100/6100, Reformation Theology (3 hours)
RELI 4101/6101, History of Christian Theology (Ancient-Medieval) (3 hours)
RELI 4102/6102, History of Christian Theology (Modern-Contemporary) (3 hours)
RELI 4103/6103, Perspectives in Catholic Theology (3 hours)
RELI 4104/6104, Christian Sexual Ethics (3 hours)
RELI 4105/6105, Women in Christian History (3 hours)
RELI 4106/6106, Women in Early Christian Literature (3 hours)
RELI 4107/6107, American Religious History (3 hours)

RELI 4108/6108, Christian Feminist Theology (3 hours)
RELI 4109/6109, Human Nature in Christianity (3 hours)
RELI(ANTH) 4110/6110, Anthropology and American Religion (3 hours)
RELI(ANTH) 4111/6111, Theologically Engaged Anthropology (3 hours)
RELI 4120/6120, Figures in American Catholicism (3 hours)
RELI(AFAM) 4201/6201, African American Religious History (3 hours)
RELI(AFAM) 4202/6202, Southern Religious History (3 hours)
RELI(AFAM) 4203/6203, The Bible in the Black Church (3 hours)
RELI 4204/6204, Martin Luther King, Jr. and Religion (3 hours)
RELI 4250/6250, Christian-Muslim Relations (3 hours)
RELI 4530/6530, Theology and Culture (3 hours)
RELI 4540/6540, Christianity and the Natural Sciences (3 hours)
RELI 4560/6560, Religion and Art (3 hours)
RELI 4602/6602, Readings in Popular Theology (3 hours)
RELI 4902/6902, Topics in the Study of Christianity (3 hours)

Total = 15 hours

Documentation of Approval and Notification

Proposal: Minor in Christian Studies

College: Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

Department: Religion

Proposed Effective Term: Fall 2027

School/College:

- Head of the Department of Religion, Dr. Derrick Lemons, 4/20/2026
- Franklin College of Arts and Sciences Associate Dean, Dr. Dan Bara, 8/19/2026

Use of Course Notification:

- Head of the Department of Classics, Dr. Mario Erasmo, 9/10/2026
- Lamar Dodd School of Art Associate Director of Undergraduate Curriculum, Dr. Christina Hanawalt, 9/10/2026
- Head of the Department of History, Dr. Kevin Jones, 9/10/2026
- Lamar Dodd School of Art Director, Professor Joseph Peragine, 9/10/2026
- Head of the Department of English, Dr. Roland Végső, 9/10/2026
- Head of the Department of Comparative Literature and Intercultural Studies, Dr. Frans Weiser, 9/10/2026