40567 REL 100-A, COR: Journey to Religious Maturity  
Prof. P. Beisheim  
The course takes an interdisciplinary approach to examining the process by which a person achieves an adult faith in Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. Drawing from psychology and anthropology, we explore the phases of religious development in relation to myths and symbols, and we apply that understanding to a specific person and to a theological issue, while also considering how to read, critically and analytically, a non-religious text through the lens of religion. Only open to students that have not completed the Religious Studies Cornerstone requirement.

40568 REL 100-B, COR: Subject Question of God  
Prof. T. Clarke  
Religious traditions were established before humans were aware that they were subjects. With awareness of subjectivity, religious traditions have to be reconstructed on what we know today about the brain and universe. How is this possible in an atheistic universe? Beyond atheism, the very significance of the human as a subject open to freedom is the question of God. Only open to students that have not completed the Religious Studies Cornerstone requirement.

40569 REL 100-C, COR: Abrahamic Faith  
40570 REL 100-D, COR: Abrahamic Faith  
Prof. P. DaPonte  
This course is an investigation of the religious dimension of human experience, especially as it has been lived, understood and cherished among the three Abrahamic traditions of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Its guiding focus is the centrality of "faith" as a relational response to God who, in line with Abraham's foundational claim, is experienced as living. The course considers significant questions in conversation with some of the most important writings in the tradition of Western religious thought, as well as some of the basic questions that arise in the academic investigation of religion: What is the nature of religious experience? How does religion provide motivation and direction for the life of individuals and communities? How does religion nurture or inhibit human development and well-being? Only open to students that have not completed the Religious Studies Cornerstone requirement.

40571 REL 100-E, COR: Gods, Myths, and Rituals  
40572 REL 100-F, COR: Gods, Myths, and Rituals  
Prof. N. DesRosiers  
This class investigates the diverse religions of the ancient Mediterranean world (ca. 600 BCE-400CE), including Greek and Roman religions, formative Judaism, and the earliest Christianity. The course explores the history and development of these traditions by examining topics related to issues of ritual, myth, sacred space, gender, and concepts of divinity within each group. Particular focus is placed on the ways in which these groups influenced one another and reshaped cultural and religious landscapes through competitive interaction. Through a critical analysis of the sources students will begin to understand the practices, beliefs, and experiences of the Greco-Roman world and the communities that produced them. Only open to students that have not completed the Religious Studies Cornerstone requirement.

40573 REL 100-G, COR: Religions of the World  
Prof. R. Gribble, CSC  
This course will examine the way religion has been studied as an academic discipline. We will explore both Eastern and Western religious traditions in their historical contexts and will focus primarily on how various religious concepts are understood and practiced in these major world religions. These will include the concepts of the Holy, revelation, sacred writings, good and evil, forgiveness, creation, the human condition, salvation, and ethics. In our study of religions we will explore a variety of practices in different historical contexts but common ground will be sought to illustrate how the sacred texts of each religious tradition define and illustrate how and why these groups practice the above mentioned concepts. Only open to students that have not completed the Religious Studies Cornerstone requirement.

40574 REL 100-H, COR: The Religious Quest  
40575 REL 100-I, COR: The Religious Quest  
Prof. C. Ives  
This course explores pilgrimage in Christianity, Islam, and Buddhism in light of theories of pilgrimage, ritual, and sacred space. The primary focus will be on the pilgrimages to Lourdes, Santiago de Compostella, Mecca, and Buddhist sites in Japan and India.
The course also considers how for many people - even those who do not consider themselves religious - pilgrimage serves as a model for living a meaningful life. Only open to students that have not completed the Religious Studies Cornerstone requirement.

40577    REL 100-K, COR: Deviance and the Divine  
Prof. S. Lowin  
This course will use the concept of deviance as the lens through which we will study the three major monotheistic traditions of the world - Islam, Judaism and Christianity. What are the major tenets and beliefs of each? What do they share and where are the conflicts? What does each consider normative and why? When does a belief or practice cross the line in deviance? Ultimately, are they all simply deviants of one another? In our investigation, we will also look to some lesser known religious traditions as foils, such as Scientology, Raelianism, the Nation of Islam, Jews for Jesus, Mormonism, and Christian Science. Only open to students that have not completed the Religious Studies Cornerstone requirement.

40579    REL 100-N, COR: Religion as Pharmakon  
40580    REL 100-O, COR: Religion as Pharmakon  
Prof. G. Shaw  
For the ancient Greeks pharmakon meant both cure and poison depending on the context. Religion functions in the same way: it can heal us but can also poison us. We will explore the ambiguity and the power - both healing and destructive - of religious traditions. Only open to students that have not completed the Religious Studies Cornerstone requirement.

40582    REL 100-Q, COR: Pilgrimage and Passage  
Prof. S. Wilbricht, CSC  
The course begins with the premise that all religions are at their best when they are "betwixt and between," living in the threshold, open to new and unexpected horizons. After a close reading of the Book of Exodus, which will provide the opportunity to identify various themes associated with ritual passage, we will concentrate primarily on the study of the three chief monotheistic religions of Semitic origin: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The course will end with a brief exploration of Hinduism and Buddhism. Through comparative analysis of these religions, we will strive to determine similarities and differences in particular approaches to God, worship, institution, and moral conduct. Only open to students that have not completed the Religious Studies Cornerstone requirement.