

# RELI 121

## Introduction to Religion and Culture



What are religions made of? Is it possible to uncover building blocks that underlie most religions? What role does culture play in the making of religious life? This course explores religions at their most basic levels. It focuses on elementary components of religion to allow us to ask big questions about how religions are structured, staged, and lived. We will explore the role of prohibition in structuring religions, and the role of performance in staging and living them. Similarly, we will explore basic distinctions common to religions around the world, like the distinction between sacred things and everyday things, the distinction between humans and animals, and the distinction between the living and the dead. The goal of this course is to teach you how to explore religion, and to give you terms, tools, and techniques for thinking and writing about religion in new ways.

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**Mondays & Wednesdays**  
10:10AM - 11:00AM

**General Education Requirements: PH**

