

The Department of Comparative Religion can help you prepare for a Career in Education

1. Traditional Pathway to the K-12 Teaching Credential
2. Streamlined Teacher Education Program Multiple Subject and/or Special Education Pathway to the K-12 Teaching Credential (S.T.E.P.)
3. Pathway to Teaching Religion in Private High Schools

1. Traditional Pathway to the K-12 Teaching Credential.
 - A. Complete 120 units of specified coursework in order to earn a Bachelor's degree in Religious Studies.
 - a. Complete General Education. See Center for Careers in Teaching (CCT) advisor for specific course recommendations.
 - b. See an advisor in Comparative Religion and complete course requirements for the [major in Religious Studies](#) (do NOT follow the STEP plan)
 - c. Take Credential Program prerequisites.
 - d. Demonstrate subject matter competency (via state approved tests)
 - e. Complete at least 120 units to graduate with B.A. in Religious Studies
 - f. Attend a Credential overview at least two semesters before applying to the Credential Program. Dates and times can be found at www.ed.fullerton.edu/adtep/overviews
 - B. Meet all requirements and re-apply to CSU Fullerton as a Post-Baccalaureate student and apply to the Credential Program

2. Streamlined Teacher Education Program Multiple Subject and/or Special Education Pathway to the K-12 Teaching Credential (S.T.E.P.)

STEP is designed for “early deciders.” Students earn a bachelor's degree and preliminary credential in a minimum of 135 units. Students enrolled in the Multiple Subject and/or Special Education Streamlined Teacher Education Program major in: **Religious Studies (CPRL)**, or Child & Adolescent Development, or Liberal Studies.

- A. Follow a prescribed pattern of General Education class (STEP phase 1) <http://www.fullerton.edu/cct/>
- B. See an advisor in Comparative Religion for specific major requirements (see below 27+9 units)
- C. Demonstrate subject matter competency (via state approved tests)
- D. Meet all requirements and apply to the credential program.

Students may “opt out” of the STEP program at anytime; however the requirements for graduation are different. See Comparative Religion advisor and CCT advisor.

Students in the STEP Religious Studies Major take 27 units of courses in CPRL plus 9 units cross-listed with other STEP requirements

The Religious Studies major emphasizes a comparative approach to the study of religion, incorporating the insights of history, sociology, art, geography, literary criticism, psychology and other disciplines. Course work includes the world's major religious traditions of Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, and Buddhism.

Lower Division Requirements (9 units):

1. ***Introduction to the Study of Religion (3 units)***
CPRL 105 Religion and the Quest for Meaning (3) or
CPRL 110 Religions of the World (3)
2. ***Introduction to Western Religious Traditions (3 units)***
CPRL 200 Introduction to Christianity (3) or
CPRL 201 Introduction to the New Testament (3) or
CPRL 210 Introduction to Judaism (3) or
CPRL 250 Introduction to Islam (3)
3. ***Introduction to Non-western Religious Traditions (3 units)***
CPRL 270T Introduction to the Asian Religions (3) or
CPRL 280 Introduction to Buddhism (3)

Upper Division Requirements (18 units):

4. ***Methods & Concepts (6 units)***
CPRL 300 Methods of Studying Religion (3) AND
CPRL 485T Major Religious Thinkers and Concepts (3)
5. ***Development of Western Religious Thought (6 units/2 courses from):***
CPRL 345A Hist. & Dev. of Early Christian Thought (3)
CPRL 345B Hist. & Dev. of Modern Christian Thought (3)
CPRL 346A Hist. & Dev. of Jewish Tht: Biblical & Rabbinical Eras (3)
CPRL 346B Hist. & Dev. of Jewish Tht: Medieval & Modern Eras (3)
CPRL 349A Hist. & Dev. of Islamic Thought: The Beginning to 1258 (3)
CPRL 349B Hist. & Dev. of Islamic Thought: 1259 to Modern Times (3)
CPRL 350T Major Christian Traditions (3)
HIST/CPRL 405, 406, 417B, 420, 421A, 421B, 425B, 466A, 466B, or 483
6. ***Development of Non-Western Religious Thought (6 units/2 courses from):***
AFRO/CPRL 325 African-American Religions & Spirituality (3)
AFRO/CPRL 337 American Indian Religions and Philosophy (3)
CPRL 347A Hindu Tradition to 400 B.C.E. (3)
CPRL 347B Hindu Tradition from 400 B.C.E. (3)
PHIL 350 Asian Philosophy (3)
CPRL 354T Topics in Buddhism (3)
CPRL 370 New Religious Movements in the U.S.A. (3)
HIST/CPRL 465A or 465B History of India (3)

Streamlined Teacher Education Program (STEP) Plan (9)

7. ***Diversity and Education (3)***
EDEL 325 Cultural Pluralism in Elementary Schools (3)
8. ***World History and Literature (6)***
HIST 110A World Civilizations to the 16th Century (3)
ENGL/CPLT 110 Literature of Western World from Ancient through
Medieval Times (3)

The Department of Comparative Religion will be pleased to identify articulated courses from Community Colleges to fulfill the nine units of lower division courses, if students wish to start before transferring to CSUF.

3. Pathway to Teaching Religion in Private High Schools

Some Private Religious High Schools may not require a teaching credential in order to teach religion. However, you are strongly encouraged to contact specific schools and determine their requirements for teachers.

If you are planning to teach religion in private high schools, you are strongly encouraged to prepare to demonstrate subject matter competency in an additional field (such as Social Science, English, Math, Art, Music, Physical Education, Business, or Languages other than English: French, German, Japanese, & Spanish). You will need to take courses to prepare you in the additional field and/or pursue both a bachelor's in Religious Studies as well as another subject. Consult with the Center for Careers in Teaching http://www.fullerton.edu/cct/Single_Subj/ssindex.htm .