

WHAT IS TRS?

We are a multi- and inter-disciplinary department that studies the vital, pervasive, richly complex and multi-faceted reality of religion.

We offer a range of courses that reflect the intellectual diversity of our faculty. Our courses in theology explore the relationship of God and the world from a Christian perspective. Our courses in biblical studies combine history, archaeology, and literary criticism to study the sacred texts of Judaism and Christianity. Ethics courses invite students to reflect on the pressing moral issues of our day in view of religious belief. Students explore the development of Christian teachings and practices through our classes in Christian history. Courses in religious studies bring an inter-disciplinary, comparative, and cross-cultural perspective to the phenomenon of religion across the world.

Our students are as diverse as our faculty. Some study TRS because it informs their personal understanding and practice of faith. Others study TRS because it deepens their knowledge of humankind. Many find that TRS complements their other courses of study at SMC.

All are welcome!

Department of Theology & Religious Studies

Located in Dante Hall, Floor 3

www.stmarys-ca.edu/theology-religious-studies

For more information about our program, contact any TRS faculty member or the TRS chairperson at TRS.Chair@stmarys-ca.edu

Theology & Religious Studies

Completing your TRS Minor

SAINT
MARY'S
COLLEGE
of CALIFORNIA

CORE TRS COURSES FOR ALL UNDERGRADS

As part of the SMC core curriculum, most undergraduate students take **two** TRS courses:

First, for their “Christian Foundations” core requirement, students take either

TRS 97 The Bible & Its Interpretation

OR

TRS 189 The Bible & Its Interpretation – Great Themes
(for transfer students only)

Second, for their “Theological Explorations” core requirement, students take an upper-division TRS course of their choosing. Some regular course options include

- Medical Ethics
- Gender & Religion in American Culture
- Religions of India
- Life Stories & Theology
- Medieval Christianity
- Wealth & Poverty in the Bible
- Spiritual, Not Religious
- Colonialism, Race, and Religion
- Sustainability, Religion, and Spirituality
- Feminist Theologies
- Liturgy & Sacrament
- Breath of Life: Faith & Science in Dialogue
- Dante & the Divine Comedy
- The Gospel of Mark

REQUIRED COURSES FOR YOUR TRS MINOR

After taking two TRS courses to fulfill the core, earning a TRS minor requires students to take **only THREE more courses, for a total of TRS five courses**. This makes it a feasible addition to almost any student’s curriculum. You’ll need:

The **two courses** for all undergrads

- TRS 97 or TRS 189
- An upper-division TRS course of your choosing

The **additional three courses** should include

- TRS 129 or TRS 169
- An Intensive Inquiry course (TRS 190-196)
- An upper-division TRS course of your choosing

WHY MINOR in TRS?

Explore life’s big questions about the relationship of God, self, and others; about the role of religion in society; about one’s own religious practice; about dynamics of culture and power; about the meaning and purpose of life.

Enrich your current studies and future career by pairing TRS with your studies in politics, psychology, ethnic studies, women’s & gender studies, English, business, philosophy, history....

Sharpen your abilities to think critically, dialogue across history and cultures, understand and grapple with texts, and discuss contentious issues.

COMPLETING THE CORE WITH YOUR TRS MINOR

You can complete your TRS minor expediently by double- or triple-dipping your classes with the college core curriculum.

Talk with your advisor about upcoming TRS courses that fulfill the college core and keep an eye out for some of the following courses:

American Diversity:

- TRS 117: Wealth and Poverty in the Bible
- TRS 123: Feminist Theologies
- TRS 166: Spirituality in Practice: Catholics in America
- TRS 171: Gender and Religion in American Culture
- TRS 175: Race and Religion of the Americas

The Common Good:

- TRS 117: Wealth and Poverty in the Bible
- TRS 123: Feminist Theologies
- TRS 143: Catholic Social Teaching
- TRS 174: Theologies of Liberation
- TRS 175: Race and Religion of the Americas

Community Engagement:

- TRS 141: Christian Ethics
- TRS 143: Catholic Social Teaching

Global Perspective:

- TRS 152: Islam
- TRS 153: Eastern Religions
- TRS 154: Hinduism
- TRS 155: Buddhism
- TRS 156: Religions of India

For more information about becoming a TRS minor, contact any TRS faculty

member or our chairperson,
at TRS.Chair@stmarys-ca.edu