

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Complete at VCCS				Complete at VCU		
BACHELOR'S DEGREE REQUIREMENT		SATISFIED BY		BACHELOR'S DEGREE REQUIREMENT		
Course	Credits	CC Course	Notes	Course	Credits	Notes
UNIV 101	1-2	SDV 100 College Success Skills or 101 Orientation		RELS 338	0-3	Not needed if REL 237 is taken at VCCS.
UNIV 111-112	3	ENG 111 College Comp I	UNIV 111 is waived and students receive 3 credits for UNIV 112.	RELS 339	0-3	Not needed if REL 238 is taken at VCCS.
UNIV 200	3	ENG 112 College Comp II		RELS 340/INTL 341	3	
RELS 108	3	REL 230 Religions of the World		RELS 490	3	
General Education	3	Any UCGS Art or Literature course (Block II)		Upper-level RELS electives	9-12	Only three classes are required if REL 233 is taken at VCCS.
General Education	3	Any UCGS Social & Behavioral Science (Block III-not History)		Select two religion, society and culture electives	3-6	Only one class is required if REL 240 is taken at VCCS
General Education	3	Any UCGS history (Block VI)		WRLD 495	0	World ePass Portfolio. Students create a personalized online portfolio, highlighting academic and experiential learning achievements and articulate post-graduation goals.
General Education	4	Any UCGS Natural Sciences (Block IV)		Experiential learning	0-3	Students must fulfill an experiential learning requirement through an approved internship, service-learning course or study-abroad program.
General Education	3-5	Any UCGS Math (Block V)		Upper-level electives (300- or 400-level)	15	Consider a minor or second major.
General Education	3-4	Any UCGS transfer course		Open electives	15	
General Education	3-4	Any UCGS transfer course				
RELS (major)	6	Select two:				

		REL 233; REL 237; REL 238; or REL 240			
VCU equivalents	6-8	Foreign language 101-102 (or transfer electives if eligible for a language waiver).	The foreign language requirements can be waived if students completed 3 or more years at high school.		
VCU equivalents	11-14	Additional transfer electives.	Select any additional courses from UCGS or courses that could potentially apply to a minor or second major at VCU. Recommend taking remaining two classes from: REL 233, REL 237, REL 238, or REL 240.		
CREDITS PRE-TRANSFER: 60-62				CREDITS POST-TRANSFER: 58-60	

TRANSFER GUIDANCE

This degree program is covered by VCU's Guaranteed Admission Agreement.

By meeting the following criteria, you are guaranteed admission to the BA in Religious Studies:

- Earn a transfer associate degree.
- Earn a minimum GPA of 2.5 for your associate degree. VCU will recognize the cumulative GPA as recorded on the VCCS transcript and not recalculate based on multiple course attempts.
- Complete a minimum of 30 credits at VCCS institution.
- Earn grades of "C" or higher in all community college courses.

IMPORTANT LINKS & DATES:

- **University Transfer Center:** <https://transfer.vcu.edu/>.
- **Admission Application:** By March 15 for fall admission and November 1 for spring at <https://www.vcu.edu/admissions/apply/>.
- **Financial Aid:** <https://semss.vcu.edu/our-services/financial-resources-and-guidance/>.
- **FAFSA - Free Application for Federal Student Aid:** March 1 for fall semester at <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>.
- **Letter of Interest form:** <https://ugradadmissions.vcu.edu/register/letterofinterest>.

WHAT SHOULD I CONSIDER WHEN SELECTING COURSES?

- Complete your English courses and start your math sequence in your first year.
- Create a schedule for all required courses, pay attention to prerequisites and when courses are offered. For help, see Transfer Steps and Resource Center at www.TransferVirginia.org.

- Connect with an advisor at your community college and the VCU Transfer Center (<https://transfer.vcu.edu/>) in your first semester.

IS THIS DEGREE RIGHT FOR ME?

The mission of the Religious Studies Program at VCU is to advance understanding of the nature, history and diversity of religious traditions. Religious studies is guided by the idea that studying humanity's diverse and developing religious traditions is vital to understanding what it means to be human and how to live wisely as members of the world community. Students explore the artistic, ethical, literary, psychological and social dimensions of religions, as well as the relationship between religious ideas, institutions, and practices and matters of gender, sexuality, race, nationality, health, social justice, human rights and nature. Religious studies emphasizes excellence in written, oral and visual interpretation and communication, critical thinking, informed dialogue, and global citizenship. Combining classroom- and community-based learning through study-abroad programs, internships and community service, religious studies empowers students to engage intellectually and practically with diverse communities and work to build a peaceful, generous and affirming society.

WHAT IS THE IMPACT ON MY DEGREE OF WORK I HAVE ALREADY COMPLETED?

- **Associate Transfer Degree Completion:** The completion of a transfer associate degree results in all lower-division general education requirements being met when you transfer to VCU.
- **Dual Enrollment – Completion of Associate Degree in HS:** The completion of an associate degree concurrent with high school results in 60 credits of coursework applied towards your degree and VCU's general education courses will be satisfied. High school students must apply to VCU as freshman applicants for orientation and engagement purposes.
- **Credit for Prior Learning:** VCU accepts AP, IB, Cambridge, CLEP, DANTES, and military credits.
- **Catalog Year:** VCU will honor the degree requirements of the VCU Undergraduate Bulletin in effect at the time of the student's first post-high school enrollment into an appropriate

associate degree at the two-year institution. Students must stay enrolled at their community college and take no more than four years to complete their associate degree. Students must also enroll at VCU within one year of completing their associate degree.

IS THIS COLLEGE RIGHT FOR ME?

- Located in downtown Richmond, within two hours of the beach, the mountains and Washington DC, VCU provides top-ranked academic programs, research opportunities and an urban setting so students can live and learn in the real world.
- VCU is a large, public research institution dedicated to the success and well-being of students and the Richmond community.
- Diversity, inclusion and equity are deeply ingrained core values at VCU. If you are looking to connect with a broad range of people, come join us!

Learn more about our college at www.TransferVirginia.org.

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- Completing your associate transfer degree satisfies all lower division general education requirements and increases the likelihood you will complete your bachelor's degree?
- Exceeding 3 years or 90 credits at your community college could exhaust your financial aid there and reduce your future financial aid at VCU?

WHAT CAN I DO WITH THIS DEGREE?

Explore possible careers, salaries, and job outlook at www.TransferVirginia.org

PROGRAM SUCCESSES & HIGHLIGHTS

Graduates with Religious Studies degrees enter the job market with very strong analytical and writing skills. In addition, since the Religious Studies program is housed in the School of World Studies at VCU, graduates stand out for their nuanced understanding of ever-increasing

globalization in which religion plays a major factor. In our increasingly globalized economy, graduates who've had real-world experience through internships with local businesses and nonprofits and those who have learned a foreign language, especially Spanish, tend to get hired for jobs that pay more. With record low levels of unemployment, the job market for Religious Studies graduates has never been better!

WHAT ARE MY CHANCES FOR GETTING ACCEPTED?

If you apply through general application instead of through the Guaranteed Admission Agreement, you will be considered for admission with all other transfer applicants.

Learn more about applying at www.TransferVirginia.org.

DO MORE WITH YOUR DEGREE!

The Religious Studies curriculum makes it easy for double majoring, especially with International Studies and Anthropology. VCU's motto is "Make it real" and in an effort to do that, Religious Studies offers internships with religion-related agencies and enterprises in the metro Richmond area.

OTHER THAN CLASSES, ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS?

All students must complete at least one VCU "REAL" experiential learning activity in order to graduate from VCU. Examples of REAL activities include: internships, research, and service learning. This requirement may be satisfied by completing a 300-level (or higher) REAL course or through an approved REAL co-curricular experience.

Learn more at <https://real.vcu.edu/>.