



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
WHITEWATER

ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT

WORLD RELIGIONS MINOR

MISSION STATEMENT

The Religious Studies program promotes critical and appreciative inquiry into the diversity of religious expression. Through the examination of histories, ethical principles, ritual systems, cultural context and social structures, students engage questions of enduring human concern, a project fundamental to a liberal education. The interdisciplinary minor in World Religions prepares students to engage responsibly and intelligently in their local and global communities by fostering awareness of and respect for multiple perspectives.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Student learning outcomes (SLOs) are statements of what a student will know or be able to do when they have completed a program. They represent the knowledge and skills a program has determined are most important for students to gain from that program. The most useful SLOs are specific and measurable so the program can accurately assess the degree to which students have achieved each outcome, and they align with college and institution mission and values. Data on achievement of SLOs is used to make improvements in the program and increase student success.

Students who graduate from UW-Whitewater with a minor in World Religions will meet the following student learning outcomes:

- Have a basic understanding of the world's major religious traditions: Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Daoism, Confucianism, and Shinto.
 - Describe the historical origins, key dates, philosophies, practices, ethics, symbols and major thinkers;
 - Summarize the fundamental teachings;
 - Critically appraise the relationship between these religious traditions and their social and cultural contexts; and
 - Recognize the diversity of philosophies and practices.
- Analyze religious writings, symbols, and practices using recognized scholarly and hermeneutical principles.
- Recognize presuppositions underlying different ethical systems and worldviews, including students' own.