

RELIGIOUS STUDIES AND THEOLOGY

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

In Viterbo University's religious studies and theology program, you will explore how theology grapples with and sheds light on the complexities of our modern world, bridging cultures and deepening spiritual insights within a rich and inclusive academic environment. With a dedicated focus on social justice, our faculty will mentor and guide you through an exploration of Christian scriptural, historical, systematic, and practical theology, enriched by insights from the profound Franciscan tradition. This exploration unfolds within a global context, fostering vibrant dialogue and understanding among diverse religious traditions, with an emphasis on Judaism and Islam.

COMMON CAREERS

- Youth minister
- Church leadership
- Religious education
- Social justice advocate
- Nonprofit leadership
- Parish administration director

SCHOLARSHIPS

- Phillip G. and Lois F. Roets Award for Biblical Studies
- Father Michael C Braun Scholarship
- Clare of Assisi Scholarship
- Paula Ripple Comin Spirituality Scholarship



Theology,
Ministry, and Social
Justice Curriculum

Internship and Job Shadow
Opportunities with Non-profits
and Parishes

Engagement with Theology
on (Root Beer) Tap and
Campus Ministry



VITERBO
UNIVERSITY

www.viterbo.edu

Sample Four-year Plan for Religious Studies and Theology

Note: The four-year plan is for example purposes only. Students should refer to the catalog in effect upon their entry to Viterbo for more specifics on requirements of the core curriculum, major, and degree. Some courses have certain semester rotations that may or may not be reflected below. Your advisor will assist you with actual registration planning to accommodate these rotations. For complete information, see the current undergraduate catalog.

Fall Semester – First Year		Spring Semester – First Year	
ENGL 103/104/105 – CCF Written Communication	3–4	ENGL 104/105/195 – CCF Written Communication	3–4
VUSM FVT – Franciscan Values and Traditions	3	CCF Quantitative Literacy	3
RLST 160 – Theology in Contemporary Culture (CCWOT Theological Inquiry)	3	CCWOT (Recommend Historical Analysis)	3
RLST 181 – Theological Research Methods	1	RLST 222 – Survey of Biblical Literature	3
Language Requirement ¹	3	RLST 181 – Theological Research Methods	1
		Language Requirement ¹	3
TOTAL CREDITS	13–14	TOTAL CREDITS	16–17
Fall Semester – Second Year		Spring Semester – Second Year	
CCWOT (Recommend Natural Science)	4	VUSM LDW – Living in a Diverse World	3
RLST Elective ²	3	CCWOT (Recommend Literary Analysis)	3
RLST 181 – Theological Research Methods	1	CCWOT (Recommend Philosophical Inquiry)	3
Language Requirement ¹	3	RLST Elective ²	3
General Elective/Minor ³	3	RLST 181 – Theological Research Methods	1
General Elective/Minor ³	3	General Elective/Minor ³	3
TOTAL CREDITS	17	TOTAL CREDITS	16
Fall Semester – Third Year		Spring Semester – Third Year	
RLST 331 – The Historical Search for Truth	3	CCWOT (Recommend Artistic Engagement)	3
RLST 343 – Theology of Justice and Peace (VUSM SJE)	3	CCWOT (Recommend Social Sciences))	3
RLST 487 – Internship/Experiential Learning Requirement	3	RLST 348 – Franciscan Theology	3
General Elective/Minor ³	3	RLST 425 – Christology: The Person and Mission of Jesus the Christ	3
General Elective/Minor ³	3	General Elective/Minor ³	3
TOTAL CREDITS	15	TOTAL CREDITS	15
Fall Semester – Fourth Year		Spring Semester – Fourth Year	
RLST 433 – Contemporary Practice in World Religions (CCWOT Integrating Faith and Practice)	3	VUSM TEL – The Ethical Life	3
RLST 465 – Contemporary Moral Issues	3	RLST 450 – Foundations of Ritual and Worship	3
RLST 481 – Capstone: Interpreting Religion	1	RLST 481 – Senior Thesis Seminar	2
General Elective/Minor ³	3	General Elective/Minor ³	3
General Elective/Minor ³	3	General Elective/Minor ³	3
General Elective/Minor ³	3		
TOTAL CREDITS	16	TOTAL CREDITS	14

NOTES:

¹BA requirement: Three classes (minimum nine credits) of world language (no more than two languages).

²Six credits of RLST are required. Electives include RLST 235 – Leading Lives that Matter, RLST 261 – Assisi Franciscan Leadership, RLST 382 – Christianity Economic Equality.

³A minor is encouraged. Students must complete 120 credits (including 40 credits upper division) for BA degree.