



# Religious Studies

Gonzaga's Mission and Vision Statements identify the distinguishing characteristics of Gonzaga as Jesuit, Catholic, and humanistic. These pillars of the Jesuit tradition emphasize finding God in all things, caring for the whole person, promoting justice, and being women and men for and with others, especially the poor. The Catholic tradition affirms the centrality of Christ at work in the world, the guidance of scripture, the tradition of faith seeking understanding, the importance of social responsibility, and appreciation of religious difference. The humanistic tradition affirms humanity's creativity and intelligence reflected in its societies, cultures, and religious traditions.

## THE PROGRAM

All Gonzaga students— independent of their majors—take Religious Studies courses as part of the University Core Curriculum. These courses advance the essential values of the Gonzaga mission. They consist of one course in Christianity and Catholic Traditions, and one course in world or comparative religions.

Gonzaga's **Religious Studies major** requires 36 credits, including an eight course integrated core (24 credits) and one of two concentrations (either Christian Theology or Religious Pluralism—each 9 credits). Each concentration requires students to complete one course in three of four areas, plus a Senior Seminar. A **minor in Religious Studies** requires only six courses (18 credits). That means that all students at Gonzaga are on their way to a minor in Religious Studies simply by completing the University's Core requirements.

The Religious Studies/Law 3+3 program consists of three years in the Department and three years in the Law School, resulting in a B.A. in Religious Studies and a J.D. from the Gonzaga University School of Law in six years. This program allows students to engage in furthering justice and the common good in our complex and diverse world. Students should begin the program in their freshman year.

## OUTCOMES

Students and graduates from the Religious Studies Department can be found working in a variety of fields and studying in a wide array of graduate programs.

Religious studies is often good preparation for careers in law, counseling, education, business, health care, journalism, ministry, and the administration of hospitals, schools, and church communities. Recent graduates have joined the Jesuit Volunteer Corps and the Peace Corps, as well as other social service agencies.

Many students use their Gonzaga undergraduate studies as a springboard to prestigious graduate programs. After receiving their bachelor's degree, Religious Studies majors have attended graduate schools such as Boston College, the University of Chicago, Marquette University, and the University of Notre Dame.

## THE PEOPLE

The Religious Studies Department faculty hold the distinction of being among the most widely published in the University. They have received their doctoral degrees from some of the most prestigious institutions in both the United States and Europe. They are nationally- and internationally-known scholars who are highly sought after for presentations, workshops, conferences, and retreats. They are best known, however, for being mentors, advisors, and friends of Gonzaga students studying in their classes and chatting in their offices. They are a high-caliber, face-to-face faculty known for their work teaching and advising undergraduate students.

## Sample Faculty Publications

Dunn, Shannon. "Virtue Ethics, Social Difference, and the Challenge of an Embodied Politics." *Journal of Religious Ethics* 41.1. 27-49. (March 2013).

Hartin, Patrick J. "Divine Wisdom for Renewal." In "Give Us This Day." Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press. (February 2013).

Hauck, Robert. "Celsus." *Encyclopedia of Ancient History*. Wiley-Blackwell. (2013).

McCormick, Patrick T. "God's Beauty: A Call to Justice." Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press. (2012).

McCruden, Kevin B. "The Eloquent Blood of Jesus: The Fidelity of Jesus as A Neglected Theme in Hebrews 12:24." *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 75. 504-20. (2013).

Milos, Joy C.S.J. "Advent Meditation." In Winter's Wisdom. LaGrange Park, IL: St. Joseph Press. (Advent 2012).

Rindge, Matthew S. "Reconfiguring the Akedah and Recasting God: Lament and Divine Abandonment in Mark." Journal of Biblical Literature 131:4. 755-74. (2012).

Schearing, Linda S. and Ziegler, Valarie H. Enticed By Eden: How Western Culture Uses, Confuses, (And Sometimes Abuses) Adam and Eve. Baylor University Press. (2013).

## **FACULTY CONTACTS & SPECIALITIES**

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