

College of Arts & Sciences

David Carl Wilson, dean

College of Arts & Sciences website (external to catalog)

Mission Statement

Webster University's College of Arts & Sciences fosters free and rigorous intellectual inquiry among students and faculty in an atmosphere that respects differences in background, belief, and aspiration. We promote the values that ground an open, critically reflective, culturally diverse, and democratic society, and we prepare students to be active contributors to such a society.

As part of an international university, we encourage students to expand their horizons by learning the languages and worldviews of other cultures. We inspire students to seek the common ground upon which humans create sustainable relationships with each other and with their wider environment.

Owing to the general and fundamental nature of our various disciplines, we are committed to providing academic and intellectual support to the entire university.

We include several professional programs, which are guided by contemporary practices, appropriate accreditation standards, and the best recent scholarly activity.

International Distinction

The student must have a significant, practical, international field experience in a country other than his or her native country. This experience may be an internship, community service, volunteer work with a nongovernmental organization or other organization, paid employment in the second country, or other field experience that is proposed and approved

The approval process involves submission of the proposed plan, identifying what the student will accomplish, and who will be involved, i.e. supervisor of the actual field experience, contact person at the University, etc. The student will work with his or her advisor and the Director of the Center for International Education in developing the plan for the international field experience. Prior to the field experience, the student must receive approval of the plan from the department in which the student expects to receive her or his undergraduate degree.

Approval must also be given by the Academic Director (or appointee) of the country in which the field experience will take place. Approval forms will be available electronically. During the field experience, a journal will be kept and will be handed in at the end of the experience along with a written synopsis of the field experience. The department will determine if the experience was acceptable or unacceptable.

Students should register for ISTL 2500 for 3-5 credit hours. Grade will be pass or fail. A minimum of 10 hours and a maximum of 20 hours per week will be spent doing the field experience.

Study Abroad Distinction

Students must have completed at least one term of study (eight weeks) as a full-time student at a Webster University international campus or a Webster University affiliated campus abroad. This campus must be a campus other than the student's home campus.

Anthropology & Sociology Department

Don Conway-Long, Chair

Majors and Degrees

- Criminology (BA)

- Cultural Anthropology (BA)
- Sociology (BA)
- Women and Gender Studies (BA)

Minors

- Criminology and Criminal Justice
- Cultural Anthropology
- Multicultural Studies
- Sociology
- Women and Gender Studies

Certificates

- Diversity and Identity in the US
- Women and Gender Studies

Anthropology & Sociology website

(external to catalog)

Department Mission

The Department of Anthropology & Sociology houses majors and minors in Cultural Anthropology, Sociology, Criminology, and Women and Gender Studies; a minor in Multicultural Studies; and certificates in Diversity and Identity in the U.S. and Women's Studies. All programs analyze social and cultural dimensions of human life in the contemporary world, foster critical thinking and analytic skills among students, and seek to help students draw links between their individual lives and broader processes of political, economic, and social/cultural change. By understanding how our lives are intertwined with larger social structures and processes, students will be better able to engage in the world around them.

The Cultural Anthropology program focuses on the study of everyday lives in human cultures across the globe, with attention to human rights, immigration and urban life, and sustainability and indigenous peoples.

The Sociology program emphasizes globalization and empiricism, providing students the tools to critically analyze patterns of social behavior, with particular attention to race, gender, social class, and diversity.

The Criminology program provides special focus on transnational crime, especially terrorism and homeland security, and elite offending, especially white collar crime.

The Women and Gender Studies program engages Webster's legacy of social justice to provide students with the practical and intellectual tools to analyze gender and sexualities.

The Multicultural Studies program helps students grasp the complex ethnic and cultural patterns that make up these United States.

Departmental Academic Advising

Early in a departmental advisee's residence, a departmental faculty advisor is assigned to help assess and plan the student's program of study, focusing on the student's specific academic and career goals. The remarkable diversity of activities for which students are preparing themselves necessitates this approach: some students are seeking careers in teaching, social service, museums, historical societies, nonprofit organizational settings, or corporations, while others are preparing for admission to graduate and professional training programs.

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Biological Sciences Department

Stephanie Schroeder, Chair

Majors and Degrees

- Biology (BA)
- Biology (BA) with an Emphasis in Education
- Biology (BA) with an Emphasis in Health Sciences
- Biology (BA) with an Emphasis in Biodiversity
- Biological Sciences (BS)
- Biological Sciences (BS) with an Emphasis in Health and Medicine
- Biological Sciences (BS) with an Emphasis in Research and Technology
- Biological Sciences (BS) with an Emphasis in Chemistry
- Exercise Science (BS)

Minors

- Biology
- Chemistry
- General Science

Certification

- Certification in Secondary Education

Pre-professional Programs

- Pre-Medical
- Pre-Dental
- Pre-Veterinary

Biological Sciences Department website
(external to catalog)

Department Mission

The Department of Biological Sciences provides a rigorous and applied learning experience that integrates the fundamental sciences of biology, chemistry, and physics. We serve a highly diverse student population coming from a range of ethnic and educational backgrounds. As a department, we focus on a personalized approach to education, tailoring each experience to meet the academic and career goals of the individual student. By maintaining small class sizes and emphasizing group activities, our students interact directly with the faculty and with each other on a regular basis.

The degrees offered in the biological sciences are designed to prepare students for rewarding careers as scientists, educators, professionals, and global citizens. The department currently offers two baccalaureate programs (a BA in Biology and a BS in Biological Sciences, each with associated emphases) and three minor programs (biology, chemistry, and general science). We also offer individual courses satisfying the requirements for general education and special interest courses in environmental studies, education, and health science.

Given the importance of independent research and experimentation in science, the department faculty are committed to providing hands-on research opportunities to all majors in the biological sciences. Our curriculum includes extensive laboratory experience, ensuring that each student will develop proficiency in a wide range of lab techniques, as well as in the analysis, interpretation, and presentation of scientific data.

Special Requirements

Science courses taken more than 10 years ago may not count as the prerequisite for certain advanced courses.

Students in Pre-professional Programs such as Pre-Med, Pre-Vet, and Pre-Dental should take Human Anatomy & Physiology, BIOL 3010, 2011 and BIOL 3020, 3021.

Transfer students must complete a minimum of 18 credit hours at Webster University within the Biological Sciences Department. This must include BIOL 4400, BIOL 4430, and 12 credit hours of 3000-4000 level courses in biology or chemistry. Required courses must be completed at Webster University once the student begins to matriculate at Webster University. Transfer courses taken prior to enrollment at Webster University may be used to substitute for required courses if accepted by the chair.

No more than 6 credit hours of independent study and/or reading courses may count toward the required biology hours. Coursework completed with a grade of "D" may not be counted toward the fulfillment of departmental requirements.

English Department

Steven Lattimore, Chair

Majors and Degrees

- English (BA) with an Emphasis in Creative Writing
- English (BA) with an Emphasis in Literature, Society, and Politics
- English (BA) with an Emphasis in World Drama and Playwriting

Minors

- English
- Professional Writing
- Drama Studies

Certificate

- Professional Writing

English Department website
(external to catalog)

Department Mission

The curriculum of the English Department is designed to demonstrate the interaction of literature with every area of human values and human concern. The central works of English and American literature are emphasized, but they are joined by other great literatures studied in translation. In upper-division courses, instead of treating together works widely varied in style, content, and theme because they were written in the same century, the department has cut across historical lines to place side by side works dealing with the same subjects or themes, or works that belong to the same genre.

The student with a major in English selects an emphasis in creative writing; literature, society, and politics; or world drama and playwriting. All courses listed in the catalog are offered on a regular basis, though some upper-division courses are taught only in two-year rotation.

A special program in the School of Education for seniors who plan to teach permits them to work as apprentices at local high schools, devoting their energy to teaching, with minimal demands made on them at the University.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the program, students will be able to:

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- Interpret the canonical works and major periods of American and British literature as well as some lesser-known works within and outside that canon (including global literature).
- Demonstrate and apply knowledge of the history and conventions of literary genres, including poetry, drama, and fiction.
- Interpret individual works within their historical and cultural contexts.
- Synthesize trends, themes, and/or patterns of language use found in a range of literary texts in response to overarching questions.
- Evaluate the impact of literature on individuals, societies, and cultures.
- Analyze the motivations, needs, values, and social dynamics that give rise to literature.
- Compose thesis-driven, textually-supported literary analyses that apply the conventions of literary study, including close reading and MLA style.

Special Study Opportunities

Internships: English majors can perform writing internships with businesses, nonprofit organizations, and government agencies. These internships can earn course credit if taken as part of WRIT 3000 Professional Writing Practicum.

Departmental Honors in English: With the English Department's approval, an English major may earn recognition as an outstanding student in the department by completing the additional requirements below.

To earn departmental honors, an English major must:

- Complete at least 45 credit hours in residence at Webster University.
- Maintain a GPA of 3.5 in English coursework completed at Webster University.
- Complete at least 15 credit hours in English courses offered at the 3000 and 4000 levels.
- Complete at least two semesters of a foreign language with a grade of "B" or higher in each semester, or test out of that requirement.
- Further explore cultures other than British or U.S. in one of four ways: complete a third semester of foreign language; complete an approved course in literature in translation; complete an approved course in world literature; or participate in study abroad.
- Through consultation with an English Department advisor, secure the approval of the department to proceed with the Honors Thesis.
- Complete ENGL 4900 Thesis Workshop by writing a thesis that meets departmental standards for exceptional work. Students who complete ENGL 4900 will earn 1 credit hour, for a total of 43 credit hours.
 - a. Creative writing emphasis: original creative work by the student.
 - b. Literature, society, and politics emphasis: an original scholarly essay.
 - c. World drama and playwriting emphasis: an original scholarly essay on dramatic literature or an original play.

Admission Requirements

Applicants for a major in English are required to submit a photocopy of one graded literary analysis essay, including the instructor's comments and grade, written for a previous English class. Students applying for English with an emphasis in Creative Writing must also submit one short story, play (or portion thereof), nonfiction essay, or three poems.

History, Politics, & International Relations Department

Warren Rosenblum, Chair

Majors and Degrees

- European Studies (BA)
- History (BA)
- International Relations (BA)
- International Relations (BA) with an Emphasis in International Economics (Geneva and St. Louis)
- International Relations (BA) with an Emphasis in Migration and Refugee Studies (Geneva)
- Political Science (BA)
- Political Science (BA) with an Emphasis in Public Law

Students are not permitted to double major in the HPIR majors listed above.

Minors

- European Studies
- History
- International Relations
- Political Science

Certificate

- Migration and Refugee Studies (Geneva only)

Pre-professional Program

- Pre-Law

Department of History, Politics, & International Relations website

(external to catalog)

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the program, students will be able to:

- Express their insights and ideas clearly in writing and produce a research paper (at least 15 pages long) that uses multiple sources and contains proper source citations.
- Read scholarly books and articles, and analyze those works critically in conversations with faculty and their peers.
- Find and utilize relevant sources/resources to answer questions in their discipline.
- Understand different interpretations and theoretical perspectives in their discipline, and, further, understand how differing interpretations arise and evolve in an ongoing dialogue.
- Understand and comment upon the complex relationship between contemporary issues and historical events.

Special Study Opportunities

The History, Politics, & International Relations Department offers a diverse curriculum that combines tradition and innovation. The department is loyal to the concept of a traditional liberal arts education, and at the same time believes that a student's academic program should be preparation for a productive professional career. Within the department, students can pursue their studies through a combination of traditional courses, reading courses, practica, and internships.

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The international relations major can be pursued in Vienna, Austria; Geneva, Switzerland; Leiden, The Netherlands; London, United Kingdom; Hua Hin/Cha-am, Thailand; and on the St. Louis campus. Students who study exclusively at the international campuses are limited to the international relations major.

Internships: The State Government Internship Program allows students to work closely with state legislators, usually in Jefferson City, Missouri. Additional History, Politics, & International Relations students' internship placements have included the State Legislature of Missouri, KETC-TV Channel 9, United Nations Association, Latin American Solidarity Committee, Anheuser-Busch, Legal Services of Eastern Missouri, the Missouri Historical Society, and the American Civil Liberties Union.

Institute for Human Rights & Humanitarian Studies

Lindsey Kingston, Director

Fellows

- Daniel Aguirre, History, Politics, & International Relations (London)
- Bill Barrett, Electronic & Photographic Media
- Don Conway-Long, Behavioral & Social Sciences
- Lionel Cuillé, International Languages & Cultures
- Daniel Hellinger, History, Politics, & International Relations
- Michael Hulsizer, Behavioral & Social Sciences
- Danielle MacCartney, Behavioral & Social Sciences
- Margaret McMillion, History, Politics, & International Relations (Thailand)
- Yossi Mekelberg, History, Politics, & International Relations (London)
- Andrea Miller, Behavioral & Social Sciences and Philosophy
- Paul Moriarty, Philosophy
- Chris Parr, Religious Studies
- Kate Parsons, Philosophy
- Kelly-Kate Pease, History, Politics, & International Relations.
- Amanda Rosen, History, Politics, & International Relations
- Warren Rosenblum, History, Politics, & International Relations
- Elizabeth Sausele, Philosophy
- Marie Thompson, Behavioral & Social Sciences (Leiden)
- Peter Van Krieken, History, Politics, & International Relations (Leiden)
- Alexandre Vautravers, History, Politics, & International Relations (Geneva)

Major

- International Human Rights (BA)

Minor

- International Human Rights

Certificate

- International Human Rights

Institute for Human Rights & Humanitarian Studies website
(external to catalog)

Institute Mission

The Institute for Human Rights & Humanitarian Studies is the interdisciplinary academic home for the international human rights program and combines curricular and co-curricular programming to support human rights education.

International Languages & Cultures Department

Silvia Navia, Chair

Majors and Degrees

- French (BA)
- German (BA)
- German Studies (BA)
- International Studies (BA)
- Spanish (BA)

Minors

- French
- German
- German Studies
- Japanese
- Spanish

Certificates

- German
- International Languages
- International Studies
- Japanese
- Latin American Studies
- Spanish

International Languages & Cultures Department website
(external to catalog)

Department Mission

In keeping with the mission of Webster University as a whole, the Department of International Languages & Cultures encourages creativity and critical thinking while preparing students for global citizenship, individual excellence, and the competitiveness of today's global marketplace. Personalized instruction from faculty trained in different areas of international languages and cultures increases students' awareness of their own values and paradigms as well as those of others.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the program, students will be able to:

- Recognize and appraise the complexities of a culture or cultures different from their own.
- Identify multiple cultural perspectives based on original texts and cultural materials.
- Critically analyze their own culture and its place in the world.
- Question cultural stereotypes.
- Demonstrate successful and sensitive communication, both orally and in writing, with people from another culture through an understanding of their language and culture (according to linguistic level).
- Relate their personality, values, and complex thoughts in a language other than their native one (according to linguistic level).

Special Study Opportunities

The department integrates technology with linguistic and cultural skills that will give students an edge in Webster-based internship and study abroad programs as well as post-graduation job opportunities. In language courses, communication in the target language is the primary goal with all four basic skills (reading, writing, speaking, and listening) practiced from the very first day. Although cultural lessons are also an integral part of the language courses, other interdisciplinary courses (in both the target language and in English) focus on specific themes in regional

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cultures. Literature courses introduce students to contemporary literary theories in the context of individual socio-historical and linguistic communities.

The International Languages & Cultures Department offers a full range of courses in English as a Second Language, French, German, and Spanish, and courses in Japanese for the minor. When there is sufficient interest, other languages are also offered, such as Arabic, Dutch, Chinese (Mandarin), Italian, Latin, Russian, and Thai.

The department employs teaching assistants from Argentina, France, Germany or Austria, and Japan. There is an exchange of students as assistant instructors between Webster University and the Universidad Nacional de Cuyo in Mendoza, Argentina, and between Webster and the Université de Toulouse, France. Advanced students of Spanish and French have the opportunity to apply for these assistantships. There are summer business internship possibilities in Germany, Japan, and Mexico. Webster University offers a dual degree program with Kansai University in Japan. The department also provides unique study abroad programs in France, Argentina, Austria, and Germany.

Specific scholarships are available for the study of French, German, or Spanish. Consult with admissions for more information.

Language Recognition Credit

Language Recognition Credit is designed for new students who already have proficiency in a second language. Students who enroll in their first 3-credit language course (other than 1070/1080 and 1090) at Webster, and complete the course with a grade of "B" or better (not "B-"), will be awarded recognition credit. Up to 12 recognition credit hours can be earned. These credit hours are the same as would be awarded if the student took the corresponding course. These credit hours also share the same general education coding (Cultural Understanding) as the corresponding courses. Please contact the department for more information.

English as a Second Language (*St. Louis only*)

The English as a Second Language (ESL) program at Webster University in St. Louis combines instruction in English with coursework in other academic disciplines. Courses offered in the ESL program are labeled ESLG in this catalog and in University course listings. With the help of an academic advisor, students enroll in appropriate ESLG courses along with an additional course offered in cooperation with the St. Louis ESL program. This combination of ESL coursework with study in another discipline is designed to increase the students' fluency while providing them with practical experience in using and understanding academic English.

The courses offered in conjunction with the ESL program are drawn from a variety of academic areas. Based on their placement test scores, students in St. Louis may take two or three semesters of ESLG courses. These courses are offered at the intermediate, upper intermediate, and advanced levels. Undergraduate students can use ESLG classes as elective credits, and a record of their achievement in all ESLG courses is posted on their official University transcripts.

Students whose primary language is not English may be tested upon arrival in order to determine their proper academic placement, based on prior standardized test scores. Students may then be enrolled in ESLG courses, other academic courses, or a combination of the two. See the St. Louis ESLG course listings in the Course Description section

Special Requirements

Courses completed with a grade lower than "C" do not count toward fulfilling the specific course requirements of the major. Courses at the 3000 level may only be taken as pass/fail with permission of the chair of the department.

Teacher certification courses (e.g., ILC 4060) may not be used to satisfy upper-level coursework in the appropriate language.

Students whose primary language is not English must take English as a Second Language (ESLG) courses until they pass their English Language Proficiency requirements.

Admission Requirements

All language majors must petition the International Languages and Cultures Department for formal acceptance into their desired major. This petition should be in letter form and submitted after completion of the first 3000-level course in the target language at Webster. Requirements for admission are:

- Successful completion of at least one course in advanced grammar and one course in literature, both in the language of the major. If transfer students have taken these courses at another university, they must complete at least one upper-division course in the language of their major at Webster University before requesting admission. The cumulative grade average in all upper-division courses in the language of the major must be "B" or above.
- Demonstrable intermediate level proficiency in reading, writing, listening, and speaking according to ACTFL guidelines.

Students will be notified in writing of their acceptance. This decision is made in consultation with the students' advisor(s) and the other full-time members of the department.

Legal Studies Department

Robin Higgins, Chair

Major and Degree

- Legal Studies (BA)

Minor

- Legal Studies

Certificate

- Paralegal Studies

Pre-professional Program

- Pre-Law

Legal Studies Department website
(external to catalog)

Department Mission

Knowledge of the law and the legal system can assist individuals in a wide variety of careers: paralegal/legal assistant, human resource manager, law enforcement officer, insurance claims adjuster, probation and parole officer, court administrator, union representative, health administrator, government agency worker, etc. The Legal Studies Department provides students the tools needed to move successfully into law-related fields or graduate work. The department is committed to engaging students in critical thinking and analysis, practical applications,

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substantive understanding, and to exposing students to technology encountered in the legal arena.

Special Study Opportunities

Internships: Students have the opportunity to participate in an internship course which allows students to connect classroom learning with practical experience.

Students may participate in a summer hybrid study abroad program dedicated to the study of law in Leiden, the Netherlands, the most prominent hub of international law in the world. During this study abroad program, students visit such locations as the International Court of Justice in the Peace Palace, the International Criminal Court, the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, and other law-related governmental agencies, e.g. Eurojust, the judicial arm of the U.N. agencies.

Departmental Academic Advising

Early in a departmental advisee's residence, a departmental faculty advisor is assigned to help assess and plan the student's program of study, focusing on the student's specific academic and career goals.

Nursing Department

Mary Ann Drake, Chair

Major and Degree

- Nursing (BSN)

Nursing Department website

(external to catalog)

Department Mission

The bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) program is designed for the registered nurse who wishes to advance his or her knowledge in nursing, the sciences, and the liberal arts. The program helps the registered nurse develop analytic and communication skills for professional excellence.

The BSN curriculum focuses on holistic health promotion for the individual student, the profession, the individual client, the family, groups, and the community. There is a strong emphasis on the nurse's personal development, the needs and future of the profession, and the broad, accountable nursing role that is needed and expected by today's health care consumer. The program prepares the registered nurse for generalist nursing practice. The faculty strives to create a dynamic, interactive learning environment. A variety of faculty members, student experiences, and learning environments are used to meet program and individual student goals. The BSN program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, 3343 Peachtree Road NE, Suite 850, Atlanta, GA 30326.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the program, students will be able to:

- Utilize information technology in professional nursing practice.
- Apply principles of health promotion and prevention to individuals, groups, and populations.
- Integrate research and evidence-based practice in professional nursing practice.
- Apply leadership principles to promote a culture of quality care and patient safety.

- Demonstrate basic understanding of the impact of health policy; finance; and social, political, and regulatory processes on the healthcare system.
- Collaborate with clients and other healthcare professionals to promote quality care.
- Demonstrate professionalism in nursing practice.
- Partner with individuals, families, and communities to advocate for high-quality health care in a diverse, global society.

Special Study Opportunities

Full-time and part-time evening study is available. BSN courses are offered in Kansas City and St. Louis throughout the calendar year in eight-week sessions. A student can complete the program requirements in two and one-half years on a part-time basis.

Special Requirements

Prior to application to the program, all RN applicants must have a preplanning academic advising interview with BSN program personnel. Students are expected to demonstrate a minimum GPA of 2.5 on prior college coursework for admission to the BSN program. The student must also hold current licensure as a registered nurse or, for new graduates, a scheduled NCLEX exam within three months of beginning the program.

To progress through the program, nursing courses (NURS) must be completed with a grade of "C" or higher. In addition, in courses with a clinical component, students must receive a grade of "Satisfactory" in the clinical portion of the course in order to pass the course. Unsatisfactory completion of the clinical component of the course results in automatic failure of the course. Students may repeat a specific nursing course only one time and no more than two nursing courses may be repeated during the program.

Philosophy Department

Britt-Marie Schiller, Chair

Majors and Degrees

- Philosophy (BA)
- Philosophy (BA) with an Emphasis in Ethics and Society

Minor

- Philosophy

Certificate

- Practical and Interdisciplinary Ethics

Philosophy Department website

(external to catalog)

Department Mission

The Philosophy Department cultivates habits of thinking critically and communicating effectively about significant matters to help people live more meaningful, creative, and productive lives.

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Psychology Department

Heather Mitchell, Chair

Majors and Degrees

- Psychology (BA)
- Psychology (BA) with an Emphasis in Mental Health

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- Psychology (BS)

Minor

- Psychology

Psychology Department website
(external to catalog)

Department Mission

The Department of Psychology provides students with a solid foundation in the major theoretical perspectives of psychology and its scientific approach. By studying psychology at Webster, students attain a broad understanding of and appreciation for the complexity and diversity of human behavior within a global context.

The bachelor degrees in psychology prepare students for a wide range of professional career opportunities. Students also attain the necessary prerequisites for graduate education in psychology or for professional training in related fields such as counseling, education, social work, criminal justice, law, medicine, business, or management. In addition, students who successfully complete the psychology program will have critical thinking, research, and data analysis skills to navigate the wealth of information present in our society.

Through the psychology curriculum, students learn about both the scientific and applied areas of psychology from a range of perspectives including biological, clinical/counseling, cognitive/learning, lifespan developmental, and social/cultural. Students take the Careers in Psychology class soon after entering Webster and have the opportunity to explore professional opportunities through specialized courses highlighting applied subfields (e.g. Introduction to Clinical Psychology, Social Work, or Counseling).

Students can also further tailor their learning through individualized coursework, international experiences, and collaborative research with faculty members. As a capstone experience, students have the opportunity to either conduct their own research projects in the Senior Thesis course or further prepare for post-graduate opportunities in the Senior Overview course.

The degree opportunities in the Psychology Department were designed according to the most recent research on the scholarship of teaching and learning within the field of psychology. Curriculum is constantly updated to meet the best practices advocated by the American Psychological Association.

Special Study Opportunities

The psychology program at Webster is unique. What distinguishes it from other programs across the country is the importance placed on examining psychology from a global perspective and the emphasis placed on infusing international human rights throughout the curriculum. To that end, psychology is one of the few programs with a full complement of courses available at all of Webster's sites in Europe and Thailand. Students are strongly encouraged to take advantage of these opportunities.

Webster provides students with a wide variety of methods for pursuing their goals. In addition to traditional coursework, the curriculum includes independent study, practica, research, and supervised reading courses. Students will leave Webster having learned material in a fashion that reflects the diversity of opportunities in the real world.

Departmental Academic Advising

Early in a departmental advisee's residence, a departmental faculty advisor is assigned to help assess and plan the student's program of study, focusing on the student's specific academic and career goals. A student's individual academic plan is flexible and may change as he or she fine-tunes his or her goals and interests. To that end, there are three different psychology majors to assist students in meeting their career ambitions: Psychology (BA), Psychology (BA) with an Emphasis in Mental Health, and Psychology (BS). These majors are designed to prepare students for a variety of career options and graduate opportunities.

Religious Studies Department

Chris Parr, chair

Majors and Degrees

- Religious Studies (BA)
- Religion and Global Society (BA)

Minor

- Religious Studies

Certificate

- Buddhist Studies

Religious Studies Department website
(external to catalog)

Department Mission

Religious studies is an academic field in which beliefs and practices are studied from a variety of disciplinary approaches such as anthropology, history, sociology, literary studies, and international relations.

Religious studies examines different aspects of religion such as their historical developments, myths, religious texts, spirituality, social and political organizations, rituals, art, meditation, and festivals.

The Department of Religious Studies offers expert guidance in the study of these aspects in a wide range of religions like the religions of small-scale societies, Hinduism, Buddhism, religions of East Asia, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and New Religious Movements.

The religious studies programs transform students into true global citizens through encounters with different beliefs and practices.

The Religious Studies major is designed to prepare students for a wide range of career paths by helping students to:

- Develop abilities that are highly sought after in all professions, such as critical thinking, problem-solving, and effective oral and written communication.
- Learn information that is highly valuable in the contemporary world such as how to deal with differences in beliefs and cultural practices.
- Cultivate strategies for respecting points of view that contrast from one's own.

Special Study Opportunities

Departmental Honors in Religious Studies: A Religious Studies major may earn departmental honors by completing the additional requirements below.

To earn departmental honors, a Religious Studies major must:

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- Maintain a GPA of 3.5 in religious studies coursework.
- Complete at least 15 credit hours in religious studies courses offered at the 3000 and 4000 levels.
- Complete 3 or more hours through a domestic or international field experience: RELG 3600 or RELG 3605.
- Complete the senior honors project courses: RELG 4600 and RELG 4700.