PROGRAM DIRECTOR
Lauren Mancia
laurenmancia@brooklyn.cuny.edu

AFFILIATED FACULTY
Allan Amanik (Judaic Studies)
Andrew Arlig (Philosophy)
Jennifer Ball (Art History)
Arthur Bankoff (Anthropology/Archaeology)
Moustafa Bayoumi (English)
David Brodsky (Judaic Studies)
Ken Estey (Political Science)
Dov Fischer (Accounting)
Louis Fishman (History)
Sharon Flatto (Judaic Studies)
Bilal Ibrahim (History)
Lauren Mancia (History)
Nicola Masciandaro (English)
Andrew Meyer (History)
Rhea Rahman (Anthropology)
Sara Reguer (Judaic Studies)
Jean Eddy Saint Paul (Sociology/Haitian Studies)
Lisa Schwebel (Honors Academy)
Robert Shapiro (Judaic Studies)
Timothy Shortell (Sociology)
Brian Sowers (Classics)
Karen Stern (History)
Saam Trivedi (Philosophy)
Liv Yarrow (Classics)
"If I went back to college today, I think I would probably major in comparative religion because that's how integrated [religion] is in everything that we are working on and deciding and thinking about in life today."

Former Secretary of State John Kerry

Studies in Religion is an interdisciplinary program that brings together faculty, courses, and students from around Brooklyn College who are interested in the study of religious ideas, behaviors, values, rituals, texts, institutions, and communities. The program is taught and advised by faculty from departments around the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, including Africana Studies, American Studies, Anthropology/Archaeology, Art, Classics, English, History, Judaic Studies, Modern Languages and Literatures, Philosophy, Political Science, Puerto Rican and Latino Studies, and Sociology. The program features classes on major world religions, such as Islam or Hinduism, and courses on age-old religious movements that are less widely studied, such as Zoroastrianism or Syriac Christianity. The Studies in Religion program is not only for those interested in the theology or beliefs of a particular faith; it is also for those interested in how religions have contributed to and complicated the politics, cultures, ethics, literatures, histories, questions, and societies of the world of the past, and of today. As an interdisciplinary program, it features classes and faculty who teach topics in religion in a variety of different ways, including historical, ethnographic, philosophical, textual, ethical, journalistic, psychological, artistic, visual, and sociological approaches. The broad comparative and interdisciplinary perspective of the Studies in Religion program is one that will allow you to better understand religious histories, conflicts, and ideas. It will help you to develop your abilities as a reader, writer, researcher, and critical thinker—skills essential to a multiplicity of careers. It will inspire you to deepen your understanding of what it has meant (and still means) to be human.

**DUAL MAJOR IN RELIGION**

7 courses/21 credits total

The Studies in Religion program requires you to dual major in any other major (biology, psychology, English, accounting, history, anything!). You must take twelve credits of religion classes in residence at Brooklyn College. You may apply up to six credits from your second major to your religion courses; up to six credits from Pathways courses may also count towards the Studies in Religion program (including RELG 3003/CLAS 3246; RELG 3030/CLAS 3200; and JUST 2545).

**MINOR IN RELIGION**

5 courses/15 credits total

Nine credits must be taken in residence at Brooklyn College; up to six credits from Pathways courses can also count toward the Studies in Religion program (including RELG 3003/CLAS 3246; RELG 3030/CLAS 3200; and JUST 2545). You may also apply up to six credits from your major to your religion minor.

Come see Professor Mancia for more details about distribution requirements, methods classes, and other courses required for your Religion degree.

RELIGION GIVES YOU THE EDGE IN APPLYING TO MEDICAL, LAW, AND BUSINESS SCHOOLS:

In 2013, religion majors were found to have the second highest undergraduate GPAs nationwide. Humanities majors were among the highest-scoring cohort taking the MCAT, scoring well above the biological sciences, behavioral and social sciences, and specialized health sciences, and comparable to those achieved by students in the physical sciences. Many religion students attribute their high scores in the Critical Analysis and Reading Skills section of the test to the skills they learned during their study as a dual major or minor.

Religion majors outperformed social science majors, and performed on level with philosophy, engineering, math, and biology majors on the LSAT. Humanities majors on average did better on the GMAT than business majors; several CEOs, including John Mackey (founding CEO of Whole Foods), have been religion majors.

RELIGION DUAL MAJORS AND MINORS GO ON TO CAREERS IN A VARIETY OF FIELDS:

The median wage of a Studies in Religion major at Brooklyn College three years after completing their degree is at least as much as the median wages recorded for those majoring in the physical sciences or psychology. Brooklyn College’s religion dual majors and minors have succeeded in many professions, from medical ethicists and doctors, to lawyers and workers in public policy, to child advocates and journalists, to professors and accountants. Religion better enables you to get wherever you want to go career-wise, allowing you to stand out from among the rest of your peers along the way.