

# C. Interdisciplinary Minors

## Labor Studies

*Co-Directors:* Vincent E. Collom (Sociology); Michael Hillard (Economics), 120 Bedford Street, Portland

*Committee:* Eagan (History); Savage (Geography-Anthropology)

The minor in labor studies examines many aspects of work and workers but focuses especially on the relationships among individual lives, work, class processes and dynamics, and capitalist development. The minor in labor studies addresses the practical problems of work, workers, and their organizations, as well as broad conceptual and theoretical issues including, but not limited to, the relationships among labor, work, and class; a critical examination of class processes and dynamics; a critical examination of capitalist development; the intersections of class with race, ethnicity, gender, and generation; and historical perspectives on all of these topics.

The minor is an interdisciplinary program drawing on faculty and courses from economics, geography, history, arts and humanities, and sociology. Courses provide substantive knowledge of these disciplines and will help to develop critical thinking and analysis skills, writing and oral communication skills, and social science and historical research methods.

Because nearly every individual and organization deal with employees and work, there is constant demand for graduates with understanding and abilities in this area. Students will be prepared for careers in the private sector, labor unions, social services, and all levels of government.

The minor in labor studies is available to students in any major within the University. Students wishing to pursue the minor must be in good standing with the University and submit a Declaration of Minor form to the USM Registrar. This form is available online at [www.usm.maine.edu/reg/forms.htm](http://www.usm.maine.edu/reg/forms.htm).

Select five of the following courses (15 credits):

ECO 220I	U.S. Economic and Labor History
ECO 322	Economics of Women and Work
ECO 323	U.S. Labor and Employment Relations
GEO 302	Gender, Work, and Space
GEO 303	Economic Geography
HTY 132I	United States History Since 1877
HTY 341	Black Women in the Americas
HTY 358	Early 20th-Century United States, 1898-1938
HTY 359	The United States Since 1939
HTY 381	Latin America and the United States
HUM 310I	French Settlement in the Northeast
HUM 330I	Labor, Literature, and the Arts
SOC 327	Social Movements
SOC 348	Sociology of Work
SOC 358	Sociology of Women's Work

Of the five courses, one must be "history-centered" (chosen from among the following: ECO 220I, ECO 323, HTY 132I, HTY 341, HTY 358, HTY 359, HTY 381); one must be "contemporary" (chosen from among the following: ECO 322, GEO 302, GEO 303, SOC 327, SOC 348, SOC 358); one must be "international" (chosen from among the following: GEO 302, GEO 303, HTY 381, SOC 327, SOC 348).

Finally, students can apply no more than six credits from their major toward the minor in labor studies.

## Religious Studies

*Interim Director:* Gary J. Johnson (CAS Dean's Office), 228 Deering Ave., Portland  
*Religious Studies Committee:* Aicher (Classics), Atkinson (Human Resource Development), Foster (University Outreach), Johnson (Psychology), McCall (University Interfaith Chaplain), Peck (Academic Council for Post-Holocaust Christian, Jewish, and Islamic Studies), Schaible (Humanities), Whitmore (History)

The religious studies program offers an opportunity to study religion from an academic, multicultural, and global point of view. The interdisciplinary courses will

expand students' knowledge beyond Western, monotheistic religions to include Eastern, African, and Native American faith traditions. Students who enroll in this minor explore the nature of religious beliefs and the role of language, metaphor, culture, and social institutions in establishing these views. The program's curriculum emphasizes the history of religious practices and how they have changed over time.

The minor in religious studies is available to students in any major who are in good standing at the University. To obtain the minor, students must successfully complete 18 credits as designated below:

1) REL 100 Religion and Human Culture 3 credits  
All students are required to complete this course with a grade of C or better.

2) Multiple Religious Systems 6 credits

Select any two of the following courses:

PHI	230	Philosophy of Religion
PSY	399	Psychology of Religion
SOC	334	Sociology of Religion
HTY	309	Religious Violence and Persecution in Early Western History
HTY	394	Ideologies of Evil
REL	399	Humanity's Spiritual Heritage

3) Non-Western Religious Systems 3 credits

Select one of the following:

HTY	377E	Chinese Thought
HTY	394	Politics, Ethics, and Religion in China
HUM	399	Cross-Cultural Poetry of Traditional and Nontraditional Spiritualities
PHI	315I	Eastern Philosophy

4) Western/Monotheistic Religious Systems 3 credits

Select one of the following:

HTY	307	Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
HTY	366	History of Religion in America
HTY	394	The Black Church Cross Culturally

5) Electives 3 credits

Select one additional course from any of the above categories or from those listed below:

ARH	322	Medieval Art
ARH	323	Renaissance Art
ARH	329	Asian Art
COR	122I	Introduction to Islamic Civilization
CLA	285I	Classical Mythology
ENG	316	The Bible
ENG	317	Studies in Ancient and Biblical Literature and Culture
HTY	152I	The Islamic Near East
HTY	305	The Historical Jesus
HTY	312	Renaissance and Reformation
HTY	334	The Holocaust: Policy, Practice, Response
HTY	394	Polytheism, Judaism, and Christianity in the Roman Empire
HTY	394	Religious Violence and Persecution in Early Western History
HUM	213	Metaphor in Literature, Science, and Religion
HUM	223	Life and Literature after Darwin

### **REL 100 Religion and Human Culture**

This course is an analytical survey of topics central to religious thought and practice. It considers religion as a worldwide human phenomenon, attempts to extract data about religion from multiple sources and contexts, and focuses upon the common func-

tions of religion from a global perspective. The course also aims to develop sensitivity to topics and issues of a sacred and secular nature as they impact the daily lives of people in a variety of social, cultural, and religious settings. Cr 3.