

Cultural Anthropology and Religious Studies, BA (Boston)

The Department of Sociology and Anthropology and the Department of Philosophy and Religion offer an interdisciplinary combined major in anthropology and religious studies. Students in the combined major integrate the study of culture and social structures with the study of religious traditions and praxis.

Program Requirements

Complete all courses listed below unless otherwise indicated. Also complete any corequisite labs, recitations, clinicals, or tools courses where specified and complete any additional courses needed beyond specific college and major requirements to satisfy graduation credit requirements.

Universitywide Requirements

All undergraduate students are required to complete the Universitywide Requirements (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/university-wide-requirements/>).

BA Language Requirements

All BA students are required to complete the BA degree language requirements, for a total of 12 semester hours of language study or demonstrated equivalent proficiency, as described in Additional Requirements for BA students (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/nupath/ba-requirements/>). Successful demonstration of proficiency does not reduce total minimum semester hours of study required to earn the BA degree.

NUpath Requirements

All undergraduate students are required to complete the NUpath Requirements (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/university-academics/nupath/>).

Cultural Anthropology Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Foundation Courses		
ANTH 1101	Peoples and Cultures	4
ANTH 2305	Global Markets and Local Culture	4
ANTH 3410	Ethnographic Field Experience	4
ANTH 3421	Foundations of Anthropological Theory	4
Area Courses		
Complete two area courses in the range from ANTH 4101-ANTH 4520 not used to satisfy other requirements; one study abroad course may be substituted as an area studies course with prior permission from the department; additional area courses taken may count as anthropology electives.		8
Capstone		
Students are expected to complete the following course in spring of their senior year:		
ANTH 4600 or ANTH 4100	Senior Seminar Making Anthropology Public	4
Electives		
Complete three 4-semester-hour courses between ANTH 1999-ANTH 4000 not used to satisfy other requirements. One study-abroad course may also count toward this requirement with prior permission from the department.		12

Religious Studies Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Required Foundational Course		
PHIL 1110	Introduction to Religious Studies	4
Lived Religion Electives		
Complete one of the following courses that is not used to satisfy another requirement:		4
PHIL 1133	Selling Spirituality	
PHIL 1220	The Meaning of Death	
PHIL 1260	Apocalypticism in Film	
PHIL 1271	Sex in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam	
PHIL 1280	Islam: Rituals, Traditions, and Debates	
PHIL 1667	Science Fiction and Film: Moral Dilemmas and Ethical Analysis	
PHIL 2230	Music and Religion	

PHIL 2390	Cults and Sects
PHIL 2410	Possession, Sacrifice, and Divination in African Diasporic Religions
PHIL 2619	Race and Religion in Film
PHIL 3100	The Religious Worlds of Boston: Faith and Devotion in Urban Life
PHIL 3512	Religion, Race, and Politics

Comparative Religion Elective

Complete one of the following courses that is not used to satisfy another requirement: 4

PHIL 1111	Introduction to World Religions
PHIL 1130	Comparative Ethics
PHIL 1220	The Meaning of Death
PHIL 1271	Sex in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
PHIL 1275	Hinduism, Buddhism, and Beyond
PHIL 1290	Chinese Philosophy and Religion
PHIL 1667	Science Fiction and Film: Moral Dilemmas and Ethical Analysis
PHIL 2395	Japanese Buddhism
PHIL 3100	The Religious Worlds of Boston: Faith and Devotion in Urban Life

Electives

Complete five of the following courses that have not been used to satisfy another requirement in the combined major. At least one must be at the 2000 level or above and at least one must be at the 3000 level or above: 20

PHIL 1104	Goddesses, Witches, Saints, and Sinners: Women and Religion
PHIL 1111	Introduction to World Religions
PHIL 1120	Understanding the Bible
PHIL 1130	Comparative Ethics
PHIL 1133	Selling Spirituality
PHIL 1220	The Meaning of Death
PHIL 1260	Apocalypticism in Film
PHIL 1271	Sex in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
PHIL 1275	Hinduism, Buddhism, and Beyond
PHIL 1280	Islam: Rituals, Traditions, and Debates
PHIL 1285	Jewish Religion and Culture
PHIL 1290	Chinese Philosophy and Religion
PHIL 1666	The Problem of Evil in Film
PHIL 1667	Science Fiction and Film: Moral Dilemmas and Ethical Analysis
PHIL 2230	Music and Religion
PHIL 2390	Cults and Sects
PHIL 2395	Japanese Buddhism
PHIL 2619	Race and Religion in Film
PHIL 3100	The Religious Worlds of Boston: Faith and Devotion in Urban Life
PHIL 3512	Religion, Race, and Politics

Seminar

PHIL 4903	Seminar in Religion	4
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Integrative Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
One integrative course is required for each discipline. Courses taken as electives above may not be used as integrative courses:		8
ANTH 2315	Religion and Modernity	
PHIL 2410	Possession, Sacrifice, and Divination in African Diasporic Religions	

Cultural Anthropology GPA Requirement

Minimum 2.000 GPA required in all anthropology courses

Religion GPA Requirement

Minimum 2.000 GPA required in all religion courses

Cultural Anthropology and Religion Major Credit Requirement

84 semester hours required in the major

Experiential Liberal Arts

All students in this College of Social Sciences and Humanities program are required to complete the Experiential Liberal Arts Requirement (<https://catalog.northeastern.edu/undergraduate/social-sciences-humanities/#ela>).

Program Requirement

128 total semester hours required

Plan of Study

Sample Plan of Study

FOUR YEARS, TWO CO-OPS IN SUMMER SECOND HALF/ FALL

Year 1

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
ANTH 1000 or PHIL 1000		1 ANTH 2305		4 Elective		4 Elective	4
ANTH 1101		4 Lived religion elective		4 Elective		4 Elective	4
PHIL 1110		4 PHIL elective		4			
PHIL elective		4 ANTH elective		4			
ANTH elective		4					
	17		16		8		8

Year 2

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
Comparative religion elective		4 ANTH 3410		4 Elective		4 Co-op	0
ANTH elective		4 ANTH 3421		4 Elective		4	
ANTH area course		4 Elective		4			
PHIL elective		4 PHIL elective		4			
	16		16		8		0

Year 3

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours	Summer 1	Hours	Summer 2	Hours
Co-op		0 PHIL elective		4 Elective		4 Co-op	0
		ANTH area course		4 Elective		4	
		Elective		4			
		Integrative course		4			
	0		16		8		0

Year 4

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Co-op		0 ANTH 4600 or 4100	4
		PHIL seminar	4
		Integrative course	4
		Elective	4
	0		16

Total Hours: 129