

Why RELS?



Religious Studies [ri-lij-uhs stuhd-ees]:

An interdisciplinary field that employs the methodologies of history, ethnography, sociology, literature, art history, gender/sexuality studies, economics, and the sciences to study how individuals make meaning of the world, in turn shaping their values, beliefs, and practices; and to study the role of religion in society.

SUCCESS & SATISFACTION:



Although the initial salaries of Humanities graduates are lower, by the time they reach their peak earning years (in their 50s), they make \$2,000 more than their friends with professional degrees.*



80-90% of graduates with Bachelor's degrees in the Humanities expressed satisfaction about their contribution to society, their degree of independence, and their level of responsibility at their job. 90% believed they were well on their way to realizing their "best possible life."**



A number of the highest earning CEOs of Fortune 500 companies earned degrees in the Humanities, some majoring in Religious Studies (e.g., Goldman Sachs, Bank of America, Amtrak, Avon, American Express, Slack, Whole Foods).

According to data from the 2016 US Census and the 2017 American Community Survey, **Religious Studies majors have the lowest unemployment rate of all undergraduate majors in the nation: 1.0%**

Why? Because they possess the skills employers want...

93%

of employers say that applicants' capacity to think critically, communicate clearly, and solve complex problems is more important than their undergraduate major.*

91%

of employers say that they value applicants who can communicate and solve problems with people from different cultural backgrounds and people whose views are different from their own.*

4 out of 5

employers say that all students should acquire broad knowledge in the liberal arts and sciences.*

OXY RELS ALUM HAVE GONE ON TO:

- Win prestigious fellowships, such as the Fulbright and Coro, and been accepted into competitive post-baccalaureate programs, such as City Year, Americorps, the Peace Corps.
- Enroll in graduate programs in the Humanities, Law School, Medical School, Public Health, and Business School at some of the most respected institutions, including Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Stanford, University of Chicago, Emory, Claremont Graduate University, New York University, USC, and UCLA.
- Embark on careers in humanitarian/non-profit work, tech and venture capitalist firms, political campaigns & government service, education, museums, environmental organizations, media and publishing, entertainment, and more!

Questions? Email us at rels@oxy.edu