

# MEANING AND PURPOSE

## WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE

or not to be? What makes life worth living? What values have stood the test of time? By studying the classics of various religious and philosophical traditions, you will learn to think and question in ways that foster inner peace and contentment.

Maryhurst provides an academic framework for religious insights and questions, examined in an atmosphere of acceptance. The BA program is designed to help you find meaning in life and service, now and in the future, as you seek personal enrichment and professional growth.

## CAREER PATHS

Graduates are employed in a variety of settings, including hospitals, social service agencies, educational institutions and corporations concerned with ethical issues. The BA in Religious Studies also provides a strong foundation for graduate-level coursework, such as Maryhurst's Master of Arts in Applied Theology and its Doctor of Ministry cooperative program.

## THE PROGRAM

Maryhurst's interdisciplinary approach provides you with a solid background in ethical, philosophical and religious studies encompassed in a broader liberal arts education.



The program's flexibility – 33 of the major's 61 credits are electives – allows you to design a curriculum to meet your personal goals. The Religious Studies Chair will advise you in choosing a minor, or coursework, in other academic disciplines to prepare for your chosen career.

You will combine your life experience with classroom learning in lectures, readings and conferences, small group discussion, reflective writing, artistic expression, guided imagery, pastoral practice, spiritual guidance, internships, research papers and special projects.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

**Comprehend** the cultural foundations, literary expressions and ethical teachings of religious or philosophical systems;

**Identify** your spirituality in relation to historical spiritual traditions; and

**Apply** spiritual and philosophical values and knowledge to personal, social, political, international, economic or interfaith situations.

## OTHER STUDY OPTIONS

Maryhurst offers a Pastoral Care Certificate Program as well as professional development seminars to keep you updated in your career. Consult our catalog or contact the Office of Admissions for more information.

## COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS

The Religious Studies department has developed partnerships with several Spiritual Life Centers, such as Shalom and Mercy Center, to provide you with training to be a spiritual guide.

OUTSTANDING FACULTY

Our faculty members come from numerous spiritual traditions. Each shares his or her personal and professional experiences in an intimate environment of intellectual and spiritual freedom.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 180 total quarter credits  
61 credits required for major

**Religious Studies Core Courses** (28 credits)

- Fundamentals of Religious & Philosophical Studies...1 cr.
- A Psychology of Religious Experience.....3 crs.
- Foundations of Philosophy:
  - Makers of the Modern Mind .....3 crs.
- Making Ethical Decisions: Theories & Models.....3 crs.
- Applied Ethics: Daily Life, Medicine,
  - Business, Humanities .....3 crs.
- Spirituality & Mysticism: Western Religions.....3 crs.
- Introduction to Hebrew Bible: Old Testament or  
Introduction to Christian Bible: New Testament .....3 crs.
- Torah: Pentateuch, First Five Books of the Bible or  
Gospels: Stories of Unique Christian Communities ...3 crs.
- Comparative Religions:
  - Origins & Development of World Religions.....3 crs.
- Senior Research Paper, Project or Internship .....3 crs.

**Electives** (33 credits)

*Choose from general elective courses, professional seminars, spiritual development offerings and/or travel study.*

**TOTAL** 61 CREDITS

Please see our catalog for complete information.

WEB-BASED LEARNING

Known for its innovative programs and flexible scheduling, Marylhurst makes higher education accessible to all – on campus and off. You can take courses on the World Wide Web 24 hours a day, from anywhere. In fact, you can complete some degree programs without ever setting foot in a classroom. Visit our Web site at [www.marylhurst.edu](http://www.marylhurst.edu) for more information.

NEXT STEP

Personalized academic advising is the key to creating the optimal plan for your academic success. Contact Marylhurst University today. Our helpful staff will answer questions about designing your academic program and provide you with information on admissions, transfer credits, financial aid, scholarships, on-campus housing and prior learning assessment.

Marylhurst courses have scheduling flexibility to fit within your busy personal and professional life. Choose from day, evening, weekend and Web-based courses.



Marylhurst University is a liberal arts university located 10 minutes south of Portland between Lake Oswego and West Linn. Founded in 1893, Oregon's oldest Catholic university welcomes students of all faiths and backgrounds. Marylhurst is accredited by the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges.

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