



Library Services Course Guide ~ Religious Studies

About our Course Guides:

Each page is dedicated to the areas covered by the courses offered here at RPCC. Each page lists various types of resources, including printable guides and handouts, suggested databases for research, selected e-books and books in our collection, and links to relevant online resources.

For more information on course offerings, visit the following web pages:

Catalogs: <http://www.rpcc.edu/catalogs.cfm>

Technical Programs: <http://www.rpcc.edu/technicalPrograms.cfm>

Suggested Databases:

Click on any **Databases** link on the Library website to access these. Please note that access from off-campus will require your Library User ID (or Alt ID) & PIN, or, for some resources, a different User ID & Password. See our page on [Using Online Library Resources From Home](#).

- **Academic Search Complete**
- **Biography Resource Center**
- **Encyclopædia Britannica Online**
- **JSTOR - The Scholarly Journal Archive**
- **Oxford Reference Online**
- **Religion and Philosophy Collection**

Selected E-Books:

The **eBook Collection** from EBSCOhost is our largest provider of e-books (electronic copies of printed books PDF format), available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. **eBook Collection** has an easy-to-use search interface. You will be prompted to login with your 12-digit Library User ID to access these e-books from off-campus. Please see our Tutorials on eBook Collection from EBSCOhost for more information.

General Reference:

- *A Companion to the Philosophy of Religion*, 1999, by Philip L. Quinn.
- *The Hutchinson Dictionary of World Religions*, 2005.
- *Major World Religions: From Their Origins to the Present*, 2003, by Lloyd Ridgeon, Ed.
- *Religious Studies: A Global View*, 2008, by Gregory D. Alles, Ed.

Special Topics in Religion:

- *Between Sacred and Profane: Researching Religion and Popular Culture*, 2007, by Gordon Lynch.
- *Disciples of All Nations: Pillars of World Christianity*, 2008, by Lamin O. Sanneh.
- *Religion in American Life: A Short History*, Updated Edition, 2008, by Jon Butler.
- *Religions in the Modern World: Traditions and Transformations*, 2002, by Linda Woodhead, et al, Eds.
- *Religions View Religions: Explorations in Pursuit of Understanding*, 2006, by Jerald D. Gort.
- *The Temple of Jerusalem: Past, Present, and Future*, 2008, by John M. Lundquist.
- *Voices of Islam*, 2007, by Vincent J. Cornell.

Visit our eBook Collections, <http://library.rpcc.edu/ebooks.html>, for links to eBook Collection from EBSCOhost and other e-book collections. Please note that books that are still protected by copyright may not be available online in full-text from the free sources.

Locations of subject Resources in the Library:

Subject-related topics can be found in resources located in these Library of Congress call number ranges:

- **BL1 to BL2790** - Religion. Mythology.
 - **BL1 to BL50** - Religion (General).
 - **BL61 to BL65** - Philosophy of religion.
 - **BL74 to BL99** - Religions of the world.
 - **BL660 to BL2680** - History and principles of religions.
- **BM1 to BM990** - Judaism.
 - **BM150 to BM449** - History.
 - **BM545 to BM582** - Principles of Judaism (General)
- **BP1 to BP610** - Islam.
 - **BP50 to BP68** - History.
 - **BP174 to BP190** - The practice of Islam.
- **BQ1 to BQ9800** - Buddhism.
- **BR1 to BR1725** - Christianity.
 - **BR140 to BR1510** - History.
- **BS1 to BS2970** - The Bible.
 - **BS410 to BS680** - Works about the Bible.
 - **BS500 to BS534.8** - Criticism and interpretation.
 - **BS701 to BS1830** - Old Testament.
 - **BS1901 to BS2970** - New Testament.
- **BX1 to BX9999** - Christian Denominations.
 - **BX800 to BX4795** - Catholic Church.
 - **BX4800 to BX9999** - Protestantism.

Selected Books in the Library:

General Reference:

- *Merriam-Webster's Encyclopedia of World Religions*
Call number: **BL 31 .M47 1999 REF**
- *The Oxford Dictionary of World Religions*
Call number: **BL 31 .O84 1997**
- *The Religion Book: Places, Prophets, Saints, and Seers*
Call number: **BL 31 .W55 2004**
- *Religions of the Ancient World: A Guide*
Call number: **BL 687 .R47 2004**

Special Topics in Religion:

- *Contemporary American Religion*
Call number: **BK 2525 .C65 2000 REF**, in 2 volumes.
- *Islam: A Short History*
Call number: **BP 50 .A69 2000**
- *The Oxford Companion to the Bible*
Call number: **BS440 .M434 1993 REF**

- *The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church*, 3rd Edition.
Call number: BR 95 .O8 1997 REF
- *The Oxford Dictionary of the Jewish Religion*
Call number: BM 50 .O84 1997 REF
- *The Rivers of Paradise: Moses, Buddha, Confucius, Jesus and Muhammad as Religious Founders*
Call number: BL 72 .R58 2001

Online Resources:

The following resources have been reviewed and selected in collaboration with relevant faculty. Please note that websites outside of RPCC are beyond our control. We strive to ensure that the sites that we recommend are reliable and valid sources of high-quality information. Please let us know if you find any consistently dead links.

- **BBC: Religions,**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/>

this section of BBC: Religion, provides background information on numerous religious beliefs. On **BBC: Religion**, <http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/>, one can find a History of the World Timeline, a database of images searchable by location, theme, culture, etc., sponsored by the British Museum. The site also offers numerous images and other resources.

- **infoplease-Encyclopedia: Philosophy and Religion,**

<http://www.infoplease.com/encyclopedia/philosophy-religion.html>

Offers background information from respected sources.

- **Answers.com: Judaism,**

<http://www.answers.com/topic/judaism>

Provides dictionary and encyclopedia articles on Judaism from various sources. See also **Answers.com: Religion & Spirituality**, <http://www.answers.com/main/religion.jsp>, for similar resources on other religious studies topics.

- **The Bible Collection,**

<http://www.bartleby.com/people/Bible.html>

The American Bible Society's King James Version from Bartleby.com, offers "full-text searchability, content-based tables of contents and a quick verse finder," in addition to other related resources.

- **Sacred: Discover What We Share,**

<http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/features/sacred/homepage.html>

An online exhibition from the British Library that includes interactives, videos and more.