



Set Yourself Apart!

Pre-Med & Religious Studies

Complement the prerequisites for your pre-medical field with a major or minor in Religious Studies. Religious Studies can set you apart from your peers and teach you how to better understand and communicate with patients.

Our Religious Studies graduates do amazing things! Our alumni (majors and minors) have gone on to become:

- Family Physicians
- Audiologists
- Physicians assistants in psychiatric medicine
- EMTs
- Physical therapist technicians
- Doctors of psychology

As a Religious Studies major or minor you learn skills that translate into a successful career in medicine:

- How to solve complex problems
- A nuanced understanding of the human condition
- Critical thinking & analytic reasoning
- A broad, global perspective
- How to work in diverse teams
- Cross-cultural communication
- Culturally-grounded critical judgement and decision making
- How to be an effective oral and written communicator

In my coursework and through many conversations with classmates and professors, I learned the importance of listening with patience and compassion while also developing skills of critical thinking. The study of religion expanded my perspective as I learned to integrate the worlds of science and art, a lens that has been foundational in my approach to medicine. Yet, in a manner that far exceeds any factual knowledge, the most important outcome of my formal study of religion has been an increased understanding of both life and love - invaluable components of my career in medicine.

Jake Bardell

RELS Major, Class of 2017

Resident in Urology at Kansas University in Kansas City &
Master of Divinity Candidate at Southern Seminary





First, when I started my undergraduate degree, I knew I wanted to eventually go to medical school, but what I didn't know is that I could major in whatever I wanted as long as I met pre-medical requirements... What drew me to Religious Studies was the material, course structures, assignments, and ability that the classes had to challenge me to think critically yet thoughtfully about cultures, religions, and traditions...I ideally think that Religious Studies has helped me/will help me have more cultural competence which is one of the many characteristics that medical schools look for in applicants. I also think that Religious Studies will help me communicate with peers and future patients since much of our class time focused on discussion and articulating thoughts.

Jake Curtis
RELS Major, Class of 2020
Medical Student at
University of Oklahoma College of Medicine

We Want to Meet You!



Come join our close-knit community where your personal and career aspirations will be fostered by faculty committed to your success. You can schedule a tour, talk to a professor, or even sit in on a class!

Email us at rels@ou.edu to discuss your goals.

Find us online at ou.edu/cas/rels

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