

# Associate Degree in Religious Studies



An Associate in Religious Studies Degree is designed for students who plan to continue into a four-year bachelor's degree program and provides students the training and education needed to move immediately into the workforce. Workers who earn an Associate Degree increase their earning power. Our Associate in Religious Studies degree is the perfect first step to a career in religion.

## PREPARING YOU FOR YOUR FUTURE . . .

- ✓ Earning an Associate in Religious Studies Degree from SMC will prepare you for the next step in your education. It is designed to transition into a four-year degree program, including one of our five bachelor degree programs.
- ✓ With an Associate in Religious Studies Degree, you will receive a quality liberal arts education in general studies that can lead you to your passion for your four-year degree and open doors for careers in the clergy, missionary work, or faith-based charity programs.
- ✓ Research shows that people who earn an associate degree typically earn up to \$8,000 more per year than those who don't have a degree.

## Career Opportunities

Earning an Associate in Religious Studies Degree is the perfect start to continuing on to a Bachelor's Degree. It can also provide the education needed to move into several career opportunities, including:

- Missionary
- Lay leader in a church
- Charity officer
- Teacher, and more
- Youth director

## ABOUT OUR ONLINE PROGRAMS

All of SMC's online degree programs provide the same coursework, professional development program, and career-based experience opportunities as our traditional, on-campus programs. Students will learn from the same faculty who teach in our classrooms. All advising and other support functions are provided online by staff experienced in serving remote students.



**START HERE**  
*to begin your higher education journey.*



**FINISH HERE**  
*with the skills you need to succeed.*

The Associate in Religious Studies degree provides the general education courses necessary to transfer into a bachelor's degree program in religion and liberal arts. Become a well-rounded student with an Associate in Religious Studies. Instead of choosing one path and sticking to it, this General Studies degree allows you to follow your interests in several different fields. This program is a great fit for students who want to develop their knowledge in several areas or develop a solid foundation for future bachelor's degree coursework.

## Course Requirements

### Associate in Religious Studies

Subject/Course Requirement	Semester Hours
<b>English</b>	
ENGL 101	3
ENGL 102	3
<b>Computer Science</b>	
CSCI _____	3
<b>History</b>	
HIST _____ (HIST 101, 102, 112, 201 or 202)	3
HIST or Social Science* _____	3
<b>SMC Group</b>	
SMC 120	3
<b>Literature or English</b>	
Literature or English 250	3
<b>Mathematics</b>	
MATH _____ (112 or higher)	3 or 4
<b>Health and Wellness</b>	
_____ (PHED 121, HLTH 101, 201, 240)	3
<b>Public Speaking</b>	
SPCH 201	3
<b>Religion</b>	
Religion 103	3
Religion 211	3
Religion 212	3
Religion 215	3
Religion 220	3
Religion 240	3
<b>Science</b>	
Science _____	8
<b>Social Science</b>	
Social Science* _____	3
<b>Electives</b>	
Elective _____	1
Total 60 credit hours	

\*Social Science shall be interpreted to mean Anthropology 101; Economics (BSAD 201, 202); Political Science 202, 203; Psychology 101, 201; Sociology 101, 202, 203; Social Work 201; History 101, 102, 112, 201, 202, 210, 220, 230 (other than that course used for History requirement).

## Class Schedule

SMC Online offers five eight-week terms per year – August, October, January, March and May. All SMC Online courses are taught in an asynchronous format, although some courses offer voluntary synchronous sessions throughout the term.

	Start / Stop	Course 1	Course 2	Hours
<b>Fall – 12 Hours Total</b>				
August Term	Aug. – Oct.	_____	_____	6
October Term	Oct. – Dec.	_____	_____	6
<b>Spring – 12 Hours Total</b>				
January Term	Jan. – Mar.	_____	_____	6
March Term	Mar. – May	_____	_____	6
<b>Summer – 6 Hours Total</b>				
May Term	May – Jul.	_____	_____	6

### ASSOCIATE DEGREE PATHWAY

Students can earn an associate degree as a stand-alone qualification, as a stepping stone into further study, or as a guaranteed pathway into SMC's five bachelor degree programs.

### ASSOCIATE IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES PATHWAY

The Associate in Religious Studies prepares students to pursue a bachelor's degree completion program at SMC. A Religious Studies degree is based upon a core curriculum of liberal arts courses and elective hours of study in the student's interest area.

### TUITION & FEES

The SMC Online Tuition & Fees below apply to the 2023-2024 school year. Please note that all tuition and fees are subject to change at any time when circumstances so warrant.

Tuition (per credit hour)	\$335.00
Academic Resource Fee (per semester)	\$450.00