

# ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN STUDIES MINOR

The Orthodox Christian Studies minor is an interdisciplinary minor focusing on the faith, history, and cultural significance of the Orthodox Christian tradition.

No matter your major, critical study of the Orthodox Christian tradition offers insights and context for understanding some of the world's most significant issues:

- You'll find a rich trove of artistic, cultural, historical, literary, philosophical, and religious resources for exploring the human condition past and present.
- Orthodox Christian studies acts as a cultural bridge, connecting religious traditions from throughout Asia Minor, the Balkans, Eastern Europe, the Middle East, and Russia.
- You'll gain a greater familiarity with the range of modern Orthodox cultures—from Moscow to Baghdad—that is essential for success in today's global environment.

Students are required to take Byzantine Christianity and can choose from elective courses\* across several disciplines, including art and music history, classics, history, languages and cultures, philosophy, and theology. Courses could include:

- Byzantine and Western Art
- Understanding Historical Change: Medieval
- Russian Short Fiction
- Byzantium and the West
- Hospitality and Cosmopolitanism
- The Crusades

\*Courses that meet general college requirements or other major/minor requirements may be applied toward the completion of the Orthodox Studies minor. For example, THEO 3316 Byzantine Christianity, currently fulfills the sophomore theology core requirement.

Fordham University is the only university in the United States that offers a minor in Orthodox Christian Studies, supported by the Orthodox Christian Studies Center. The center's mission is to foster intellectual inquiry by supporting scholarship and teaching in a way that is relevant to the ecclesial community, public discourse, and the promotion of Christian unity. The center serves as the locus of all curricular, research, and outreach activities related to the interdisciplinary study of Orthodox Christian traditions.

## Requirements

The minor consists of the following six courses:

Course	Title	Credits
THEO 3316	Byzantine Christianity <sup>1</sup>	3
One course with the attribute OCAH: Art History		4
One course with the attribute OCHS: History/Social Science		3 to 4
Select three additional electives <sup>2</sup>		9 to 12

<sup>1</sup> The required course, in general, is offered by the theology department every year.

<sup>2</sup> No more than two electives can be from any one discipline. A list of elective courses, courses with the OCST attribute, can be found on our course listing page.

## Art History courses

*Courses in this group have the OCAH attribute.*

Course	Title	Credits
ARHI 2305	Gods, Monsters, Heroes, and Mortals: Narrative in Greek Art	4
ARHI 2315	Roman Art	4
ARHI 2341	Medieval Desire and Devotion	4
ARHI 2360	Illuminated Manuscripts	4
ARHI 3316	Art and Architecture of Rome	4
LACU 3076	Great Russian Minds: Mikhail Bakhtin	4
LACU 3085	The Russian Icon in Literature, Theology, Avant Garde Art, Film, Music, Museums and Politics	4
MVST 2360	Illuminated Manuscripts	4
THEO 4420	Early Christian Art in Context	4

## History/Social Science courses

*Courses in this group have the OCHS attribute.*

Course	Title	Credits
HIST 1300	Understanding Historical Change: Medieval	3
HIST 1700	Understanding Historical Change: Mideast	3
HIST 1750	Understanding Historical Change: Islamic History and Culture	3
HIST 3270	The Crusades	4
HIST 3614	Revolutionary and Soviet Russia	4
HIST 3637	Stalinism: Making the Soviet State	4
HIST 3982	The Islamic World and the Crusades, 1099-Ca.1700	4
HIST 3985	Ottoman Empire/ 1300-1800	4
HIST 3986	Religion and Politics in Islamic History	4
MVST 3552	Medieval Philosophy	4
MVST 3590	Medieval Political Philosophy	4
MVST 4009	Medieval Jerusalem	4
PHIL 3501	Ancient Philosophy	4
PHIL 3552	Medieval Philosophy	4
PHIL 3557	Confessions of Augustine	4
PHIL 3591	Medieval Political Philosophy	4
PHIL 4408	Hospitality and Cosmopolitanism	4
POSC 3651	Comparative Politics of the Middle East	4
THEO 3332	Christians, Muslims, Jews in the Medieval Period	3

Students are encouraged to apply courses that meet general college requirements or other major/minor requirements towards the completion of this minor. For example, the core course Byzantine Christianity (THEO 3316) currently fulfills the sophomore theology core requirement.

Should faculty sabbaticals or other developments create a situation that limits the availability of courses, the directors of the program would

have the authority to amend the guidelines regarding the distribution of electives.

## **Availability**

The minor in Orthodox Christian studies is available at Fordham College at Rose Hill and Fordham College at Lincoln Center. Students in Fordham's School of Professional and Continuing Studies may minor in Orthodox Christian studies only if they receive the approval of their advising dean and/or department, and their schedules are sufficiently flexible to permit them to take day courses at the Rose Hill or Lincoln Center campuses.