Despite claims that modernity is a realm of disenchantment, contemporary American culture continues to be haunted by ghosts, possessed by demons, and visited by alien others. In this course, we examine some of the multiple appearances and meanings of the supernatural in American culture. In this course, we will not be interested in assessing the "reality" of any supernatural entities. Instead, we will focus intensely on trying to unveil the "work" that such entities do in cultural, political, individual, and social spheres. In others words, the beliefs and practices surrounding the supernatural in American culture have effects for both individuals and groups of people. In this class we will read scholarship which examines how the supernatural both reflects and works to shape the cultural field and those who interact within it.

- Cultural or Textual Analysis

Religious beliefs and cultural practices found throughout Polynesia and Oceania will be the focus of this course. Films, current events, and historical accounts will all be utilized to comprehensively study this utterly fascinating and underappreciated region of the world.

- Cultural or Historical

This course explores connections between our brain's 'inner theatre' and various cultural manifestations of spirits in drama and film. We will consider recent films related to the vengeful ghosts in Aeschylus' Oresteia (an ancient Greek trilogy), the romantic spirits in Kanami/Zeami's Matsukaze (a Japanese Noh play), the demanding patriarchal ghost in Shakespeare's Hamlet (an early modern touchstone), and the communal spirits in Thornton Wilder's Our Town (a modern American classic).

- Cultural Analysis

Liberal Studies Courses: Religious Studies faculty teach the following courses for the General Education Program:

- LBST 2101-R80: Death and The Afterlife
  Online/James Tabor
- LBST 2101-R81: Magic
  Online/Barbara Thiede
- LBST 2102-R80: Globalizing Asian Religions
  Online/Janna Shedd
- LBST 2102-R81: Sugar Slaves:Indentureship in Mauritius, South Africa, and the Carribean
  Online/Prea Persaud

For more information visit www.religiousstudies.uncc.edu
### Department of Religious Studies

#### 2019 Summer 2 Undergraduate Courses

**NOTE:** The courses below are fully online. Online courses require students to be independent learners. Students need to be strongly motivated to work independently through online materials and meet weekly assignment deadlines. Students will need reliable Internet access to complete work through the course Canvas site.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RELS 1200-080: World Religions</td>
<td>Online/Ashley Bryan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS 2000-080: Namaste, America: Gurus and Yoga in the United States</td>
<td>Online/Prea Persaud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS 2000-081: Disability and Religion</td>
<td>Online/Zannah Kimbrel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS 2000-082: Horror and The Holy</td>
<td>Online/Agah Aman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELS 2102-080 Introduction to Asian Religions</td>
<td>Online/Janna Shedd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Liberal Studies Courses

Liberal Studies Courses: Religious Studies faculty teach the following courses for the General Education Program:

- **LBST 2102-R81: Global Connections: Sugar Slaves: Indentureship in Mauritius, South Africa and the Caribbean** Online/Prea Persaud
- **LBST 2102-R83: Global Connections: Indigenous Lifeways** Online/Tina Katsanos
- **LBST 2102-R80: Global Connections: Globalizing Asian Religions** Online/Janna Shedd

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