Religion, Globalization, and Culture

Justification:

The Religion, Globalization, and Culture major explores the connections between religion and culture, and examines how globalization has affected each of these areas. The coursework allows for the study of individual religions, cultural anthropology, the phenomenon of globalization and its effect on these areas, and theories and methods for further research. The curricular and extracurricular requirements combine classroom learning with experiential learning to put theories, methodologies, and knowledge into practice. This major will also prepare me for working within institutions that work at the intersection of religion, globalization, and culture.

I have always had a love of and interest in the cultures and religions of the world, particularly the cultures within each religion and the religions within each culture. This major will allow me to deeply study these connections and the effect that globalization has had upon religions, cultures, the culture of religions, and the religions of a culture.

General Requirements:

1. Twelve courses -- see below
2. Semester or Summer abroad -- immersion in local setting affected by religious and cultural globalization, satisfying Global Awareness requirement of Odyssey. (Rwanda, Spring 2012)
3. Internship -- immersion in community or institution affected by religious and cultural globalization, satisfying Internship and Professional Leadership Development Odyssey requirement. (Rwanda, Spring, 2012)
4. Service Project -- satisfying Service to the World Odyssey requirement.

Courses Required:

1. World Religions (RELI 110)*
2. Introduction to Cultural Anthropology (ANTH 100)*
3. Buddhism (RELI 225) or Hinduism (RELI 223)
4. Judaism (RELI 216) or Contemporary Islamic Thought (RELI 339)
5. Globalization and Religion (RELI 314) or Interreligious Dialogue (RELI 339)
6. Globalization and Transnationalism (ANTH 360)
7. Picturing Society (ANTH 365) or Anthropological Theory (ANTH 365)
8. Sociological Research Methods (SOCI 335)*
9. Theories and Research in Religion (RELI 395)
10. Senior Colloquium (RELI 497)
11. Elective (300-level or above, chosen in consultation with advisor)
12. Elective (300-level or above, chosen in consultation with advisor)

*Classes already taken or currently taken

Senior Capstone Experience: centers upon this completion of RELI 497, in the context of which I will complete a research project, utilizing methods acquired in Theories and Research in
Religion, Anthropological Theory, and Sociological Research Methods. The grade will be determined by the quality of my research project as evaluated by my advisor and faculty consultants.

Major Advisor: Dr. Jay McDaniel

Faculty Consultant: Dr. Anne Goldberg

Faculty Consultant: Dr. Jane Harris