

## **What Can I do with a Major in Religions and Cultures**

(includes a Major in Southern India Studies and a Major in Judaic Studies).

### **Overview of the Major**

At the undergraduate level, Concordia offers a BA Major in Religions and Cultures, BA Honours in Religions and Cultures, BA Major in Southern Asia Studies, BA Major in Judaic Studies, and BA Honours in Judaic Studies. At the Graduate level, Concordia offers an MA in Religions and Cultures, an MA in Judaic Studies, and a PhD in Religion.

The focus on a deep understanding of cultural diversity, together with analysis skills honed in the humanities and social science realms of literature, history, politics, gender, sexuality, and economics, prepares students for a wide range of careers. Graduates can go on to build careers in areas such as law, medicine, government, the nonprofit sector, and business. A PhD is normally required for those wishing to teach at university, and an MA is normally required for those wishing to teach at CEGEP.

### **Examples of Jobs Acquired by Recent Concordia Graduates in Religions and Cultures**

Worker for the International Red Cross  
NGO worker for the integration of refugees  
Canadian Security Intelligence Service Investigator  
Researcher  
Writer  
Archivist  
Editor  
Curatorial Assistant  
Historian  
Art Historian  
Journalist  
Public Policy Researcher  
Chaplaincy worker  
Governmental worker  
Manager  
Medical ethics consultant  
Teacher of English as a Second Language  
Jewish community organization worker

### **More Job Titles**

Many Religions and Cultures majors work as teachers, managers and lawyers. Some work as writers, researchers, curators, archivists, military officers, businesspersons and historians. The titles below are not meant to be exhaustive but are representative of fields which history majors pursue. Keep in mind that some occupations require further education (e.g., a higher degree, second degree, diploma)  
Administrative Officer (1221) • Anthropologist (4169) • Archaeological Field Worker (4169) • Archaeologist (4169) • Bank Manager (0122) • Biographer (5121) • Broadcaster (5231) • Canadian Security Intelligence Service Investigator (6261) • Career Officer in Military Service (0643) • College Professor (4131) • Community Relations Director • Contract Historian • Cultural Advisor/Bilingual Consultant • Cultural Resources Manager • Curator (5112) • Customs Officer (1228) • Demographer

(2161) • Economist (4162) • Educational Textbook Salesperson (6411) • Election Officer (4168) • Executive Assistant for Member of Parliament (1222) • Foreign Correspondent (5123) • Foundation Staffer • Genealogist • Historical Archivist (5113) • Historical Artifact Conservator (5112) • Historical Sites Administrator (0511, 5212) • Information Broker • Information Officer (5124) • Intelligence Officer (0643) • International Relations Specialist (4164) • Journalist (5123) • Judge (4111) • Librarian (5111) • Linguist (4169) • Lobbyist (4164) • Marketing Research Analyst (4163, 4161) • Media Consultant • Mediator (1121) • Military Historian (4169) • Municipal Administrator (0012) • Museum Director (0511) • Museum Researcher • Museum Technician (5212) • Paralegal (4211) • Personal Historian (4169) • Personnel Manager (0112) • Political Historian (4169) • Political Scientist (4169) • Policy Analyst (4164, 4166) • Project Manager (Community Agency) • Public Relations Officer (5124) • Radio/ TV Researcher (5123) • Records Manager (0114) • Technical Writer (5121) • Television Production Assistant • Foreign Service Officer (4168) • Gallery Assistant (0511) • Historian (4169) • Historic Site Interpreter (5212) • Interpretive Guide (5212) • Office Assistant (1411) • Public Relations Intern • Publication Assistant • Social Scientist (4169) • Staff Writer (5123) • Tour Guide (6441) • Administrator • Affirmative Action Advisor (4164) • Announcer (5231) • Art Consultant (3144) • Biomedical Ethicist • Book Publishing Manager (0512) • Columnist (5123) • Critic (5123) • Diplomat (4168) • District Sales Manager (0611) • Employment Interviewer (1223) • Foreign Service Officer (4168) • Freelance Writer (5121) • Fundraiser (5124) • Guidance Counselor (4143) • Legislative Aide (1222) • Lobbyist (4164) • Market Research Analyst (4163) • Mediator (1121) • Novelist (5121) • Patient's Representative • Philosopher (4169) • Political Scientist (4169) • Public Relations Specialist (5124) • Publisher (0016) • Purchasing Agent • Social Worker (4152) • Speech Writer (5121) • Teacher (4131),(4141) • Technical Writer (5121) • University Professor (4121) • Volunteer Coordinator (4212)

### **Potential Work Settings**

Many Religions and Cultures majors work in the private sector, in the educational sector and for the government. They work commonly for NGOs, Governmental organizations, publishing houses, corporate bodies, law firms, museums, historical sites, archives, public policy organizations, and marketing agencies. And they work on their own as writers, consultants, artists, and teachers. To research specific employers who hire those in the field, there are many resources available in such locations as the Career Resource Centre, the Webster Library, Vanier Library and the Internet. • Advertising Agencies • Art Councils • Art Galleries • Banks • Book Publishers • Canadian Overseas Agencies • Census Department • Community Service Agencies • Book Stores • Civic Organizations • Colleges & Universities • Community & Social Services • Consulting Firms • Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade • Embassies/ Consulates • Federal Government Agencies • Historical Societies/Associations • History Consulting Firms • Housing Agencies • Interest Groups • International Companies • International Organizations • Investment Companies • Labour Unions • Law Firms/Legal Services • Libraries • Lobbying Firms • Media Firms • Multinational Corporations • National Parks • Newspapers & Magazines • Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) • Non-Profit Organizations • Police Departments • Political Bodies • Provincial & Municipal Government Bodies • Public Interest Groups • Public Relations Firms • Radio and Television Industries • Research Institutes • Schools • Tourist Attractions • Transportations Agencies • Travel Agencies • Universities

### **Skills and Characteristics**

Primary abilities needed for success in the field include good communication, problem solving, research, and analytical, writing and organizational skills. The knowledge of international, cultural, social, and religious traditions, and especially of cultural diversity, gained during the study for a degree Religions

and Cultures will be a job hunting asset. Finally, students will find the following skills, interests, values and other characteristics valuable for career success. • Ability to Analyze Information • Ability to Analyze primary evidence, including literary and popular culture sources • Ability to Argue Analytically • Ability to Explain the present in relation the past • Ability to Make Sense of Conflicting Information • Communication Skills (Oral and Written) • Creativity • Curiosity About People • Decision Making • Detail Oriented • Explaining Ideas • Idea Analysis Skills • Independence • Intellectual Capacity • Interpersonal skills, including interview skills • Keen Observation • Objectivity • Persuasion • Presentation Skills • Problem Investigation Skills • Problem Solving Skills • Proficiency in Examining Evidence • Proficiency in Reading • Quick Mind • Report Writing Skills • Research • Sound Judgment • Time Management Ability • Understanding of major components of human experience, including sex, gender, death, and ritual.

#### Professional Association and Other Links

Making wise career decisions requires exploring your field. A multitude of Internet sites and other resources will help you do this to the best of your ability. Professional association sites, in particular, are very useful for their career descriptions and job hunting tips. Moreover, these authoritative sites frequently provide links to Internet sites which announce job openings and list potential employers. A few recommended sites are included below

American Academy of Religion  
[www.aarweb.org](http://www.aarweb.org)

Canadian Society for the Study of Religion  
<http://www.cssrscer.ca/>

Society of Biblical Literature  
<https://www.sbl-site.org/>

Association for Jewish Studies  
<http://ajsnet.org/>

Canadian Association for Jewish Studies  
<http://www.csjs.ca/>

Association for Asian Studies  
<http://www.asian-studies.org/>

American Council for Southern Asian Art  
<https://acsaa.us/symposia>