RELIGIOUS STUDIES

What can I do with this Major?

AREAS EMPLOYERS STRATEGIES

Local Ministries

Youth Ministries

Adult Ministries

Leisure Ministries

Counseling/Recovery

Religious Education

Day Care, Children and Adult

Missionary Outreach

Food Bank/Emergency Ministries

Family Life Center Management

Iournalism

Public Relations

Television, Radio and Films

Publishing

Music

Local churches, synagogues and mosques Religious organizations Denominational boards

- -Get additional training or double major in specialized areas.
- -Obtain certification for specialized areas.
- -Obtain Master's degree in Divinity or counseling.
- -Gain experience by volunteering in local church and campus religious organizations.
- -Obtain an internship at denominational headquarters.
- -Build relationships with local church and denominational leaders.
- -Get experience in communications areas and develop a portfolio.
- -Double major in music; take additional courses in religious music.
- -Get performance experience through campus groups.
- -For more information about salary, job outlook and general descriptions: http://www.bls.gov/ooh/

Social Services

Administration

Vocational Training

Retail

Public Relations

Programming

Counseling

Advocacy

Crisis Services (pregnancy, housing, etc.)

Financial/Debt Counseling

Camp Administration

Lobbying

Nonprofit organizations including United Way, RedCross, Goodwill Industries, Salvation Army, etc.

Churches, synagogues and mosques Religious hospitals and hospices

Correctional institutions

Shelters

Nursing homes

Youth organizations and camps including YMCA,

YWCA, Young Life, etc.

Adoption agencies/Foster Care

Religious political organizations e.g. Moral

Majority

-Volunteer with local organizations for experience. May need specialized training/certification for some areas.

- -Obtain excellent interpersonal and oral and written communication skills.
- -Seek summer camp experience and leadership roles, such as director or assistant director.
- -Legal experience and law degree may be required.
- -For more information about salary, job outlook and general descriptions: http://www.bls.gov/ooh/

Health and Welfare Ministries

Administration
Social Services
Residential Living
Religious Activities Programming
Chaplaincy
Counseling: Mental Health or Pastoral

Hospitals
Mental health treatment facilities
Nursing homes
Retirement homes
Assisted living homes
Children/youth homes

-Double major or minor in Business, Social Work,

-Human Services or special interest area.

-Take courses related to special populations.

-Volunteer time in related organizations.

-Obtain advanced degrees and certification for counseling and chaplaincy. May need ordination for pastoral counseling.

-For more information about salary, job outlook and general descriptions: http://www.bls.gov/ooh/

Clergy

Buddhist Catholic Jewish Protestant Local churches, synagogues, mosques Religious organizations

Denominational boards and agencies

Monasteries

-Become involved in related campus activities.

-Protestant clergy positions require denominational ordination and usually a Master of Divinity.

-Possess high moral and ethical standards.

-Develop leadership ability and self discipline.

-Obtain excellent written and verbal communication skills.

-For more information about salary, job outlook and general descriptions: http://www.bls.gov/ooh/

Chaplaincy

Military Institutional All branches of military services Hospitals, hospices Homes for children, youth, senior citizens Correctional institutions

church. After acceptance into branch of service, attend chaplaincy school.
-For more information about salary, job outlook and

-Obtain ordination and two years' service in local

-For more information about salary, job outlook as general descriptions: http://www.bls.gov/ooh/

Missions

Church and Community Development Education Medical Metropolitan Ministries Community Centers Evangelism Denominational boards or agencies Missions boards

Local churches
Religious institutions

Monastery

Evangelical organizations e.g. Billy Graham

Evangelistic Association

Police and fire departments

-Obtain any needed advanced degrees, certification or licensing for area of interest.

-Seek related volunteer or work experience.

-Obtain travel and cultural experience with group of interest. Foreign language skills are a plus.

-Develop fundraising skills and contacts.

-For more information about salary, job outlook and general descriptions: http://www.bls.gov/ooh/

Education

Teaching
Research
Counseling
Administration/Staff
Chaplaincy
Religious Life
Programming
Campus Ministry

Religiously affiliated schools
Preparatory schools
Private, public or religiously affiliated colleges
and Universities
Schools of theology/seminaries
Organizations such as Fellowship of Christian
Athletes, Campus Crusade for Christ, Muslim
Student Association, Hillel
Buddhist Monasteries such as Chuang Yen

-May require certification/licensure to teach.

-Ph.D. usually required for teaching, research and administration in colleges and Universities.

-Complete Master of Divinity plus additional training for campus ministry.

-Master of Divinity and Ph.D., D.Min. or Th.D. usually required for teaching, research and administration in seminaries and schools of theology.

-May require multiple skills such as providing ministerial services as well as administration, teaching, coaching, etc.

- -Become involved in specific campus ministry organizations.
- -Seek leadership positions and internships or summer employment opportunities.
- -For more information about salary, job outlook and general descriptions: http://www.bls.gov/ooh/

Business

Administration/Management Human Resources Building Management Research Local churches, synagogues and mosques Religious bookstores Religious publishers Denominational boards/agencies Seminaries/schools of theology Religiously affiliated schools Denominational hospitals, homes, schools, boards and agencies

- -Double major or minor in Business.
- -Get related experience.
- -Dual degree in engineering helpful.
- -Develop research and writing skills.
- -For more information about salary, job outlook and general descriptions: http://www.bls.gov/ooh/

Communications

Writing
Editing
Publishing
Television/Film
Radio
Advertising
Public Relations
Sales
Commercial Art

Denominational boards/agencies
Interdenominational organizations
Local churches, synagogues and mosques
Denominational publishing houses of books and
magazines
Secular publishing houses
Secular radio, television and film industry

- -Consider freelance positions. Permanent positions are limited.
- -Take courses in English, social sciences and journalism. Develop excellent writing skills.
- -Submit articles for publication for religious and nonreligious papers and journals.
- -Learn desktop publishing techniques.
- -Obtain specialized technical training such as a double major or minor in Broadcasting.
- -Develop artistic talent.
- -Take courses or double major in Graphic Design/Illustration
- -Obtain related experience through internships.
- -For more information about salary, job outlook and general descriptions: http://www.bls.gov/ooh/

Religious Communities

Denominational groups including: Roman Catholic (Nuns and Monks)Episcopal, and Greek Orthodox Buddhist

- -Apply to religious order for admittance.
- -Requires self-discipline.
- -Desire to combine career with life/living arrangements.
- -For more information about salary, job outlook and general descriptions: http://www.bls.gov/ooh/

General Information:

- -People interested in religious vs. secular work possess deep faith, want more than filling own personal needs, and want to make a difference
- -Bachelor's degree provides broad background for careers in many fields including many religious-affiliated organizations
- -An undergraduate degree prepares students for professional and graduate study in business, law, medicine, counseling, higher education and other fields
- -Dual majors are required for some specialized areas
- -Master of Divinity required for most clergy positions, plus denominational ordination
- -Obtain general knowledge of practices, procedures, guidelines and doctrine of one's faith
- -Possess understanding of human spiritual and social needs.
- -Ph.D., Th.D. or D. Min. required for college/university/seminary teaching, research and administration.
- -Obtain part-time, summer, internship, volunteer experience in religious institution or bookstore, or other related activity in working with and helping people
- -Develop counseling and communication skills due to the nature of the field and working with people.
- -May be more opportunities for specific ministries in urban areas and large religious institutions.
- -Obtain experience and contacts through extensive involvement in campus organizations. Leadership on the local, state and regional level is crucial
- -Obtain camp experience to improve organization and counseling skills as well as network within the denominational/organizational structure.
- --For more information on your major visit: http://www.onetonline.org/

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