Dear ________________________________,

On behalf of the Religious Studies Program at East Carolina University, I am writing to invite your support of our students and our mission. Religion is studied at East Carolina University in a nonsectarian, interdisciplinary fashion, providing students with an understanding of religion as an historical and cultural phenomenon. Our program neither excludes nor promotes any religious tradition or viewpoint. It is our intent to grow the student body and the program into a full-fledged department. With your support, we can believe we can do this.

**Our mission is to:**

- Instruct students in the academic study of religion as a social phenomenon and the world's major religious traditions and engage them in the foundational questions of human existence;
- Promote awareness of and respect for diverse perspectives on religious and non-religious questions in order to develop responsible citizenship in a pluralistic society;
- Advance the discipline of religious studies by fostering critical inquiry into the relationships between religion and other aspects of society, including education, health care, science, and public policy; and
- Provide cultural enrichment of our community to promote life-long learning.

We solicit funding to support students’ scholarships, study abroad expenses, and public events, such the annual Distinguished Lecture on Religion and Culture. We rely on the generosity and support of our alumni and friends of the program to host more events and to engage the local community. We hope you will consider making a commitment to support the program by making a single donation or a recurring pledge to advance our goals of making a greater impact in the community. As a donor, you will be kept informed of our activities and opportunities for involvement and your name will be listed in our newsletter.

Please find the following donor form and envelope for your convenience. You can also contribute online at [www.ecu.edu/religionprogram/](http://www.ecu.edu/religionprogram/) under the “Give to Religious Studies” link. We look forward to your support as every donation makes a difference in our students’ lives and an impact in the community.

With warm regards,

*Dr. Mary Nyangweso*

*Director, Religious Studies Program*

*wangilam@ecu.edu*

*252-737-2422*
Did you know?

ECU offers a BA in Multicultural Studies with a concentration in Religious Studies!

ECU Religions Studies graduates have been admitted to graduate programs at such institutions as:
- Notre Dame
- Duke University
- University of Chicago
- University of Virginia
- University of Florida

Religion at ECU is studied in a nonsectarian, interdisciplinary, and historical manner.

Religious Studies students acquire 6 semester hours of credits for study abroad experiences in India and Kenya. Alumni and community members are invited to participate.

“If I went back to college today, I think I would probably major in comparative religion, because that’s how integrated it is in everything that we are working on and deciding and thinking about in life today.” - United States Secretary of State John F. Kerry

www.ecu.edu/religionprogram/