

# RLST 24504 – Dreaming, Religion, Psychology

This course examines the rise of psychological approaches to the nature and functions of dreaming, especially dreams with potentially religious significance.

Psychologists have proposed several different models for understanding dreams, starting with the early 20<sup>th</sup> century work of Freud and Jung and continuing into the 21<sup>st</sup> century with sleep laboratory research and cognitive neuroscience. Each of these models takes a distinctive stance towards certain recurrent forms and types of dreaming that are frequently interpreted in religious, spiritual, or existential terms. This course will look closely at how well modern psychological theories are able to account for the occurrence of such dreams as reported in historical and contemporary settings.

*Guest Instructor*  
*Dr. Kelly Bulkeley*