

Department of Religion

Dunton Tower 2121
Telephone: 788-2100

The Department

Chair of the Department:

J.G. Ramisch

Departmental Supervisor of Graduate Studies:

J.P. Dourley

The Department of Religion offers programs of study leading to the degree of the Master of Arts.

Master of Arts

Admission Requirements

The minimum requirement for admission to the master's program is an honours bachelor's degree in religion (or the equivalent) with at least high honours standing.

Applicants who do not hold an honours degree in religion (or the equivalent) will be required to register in a qualifying-year program before proceeding to the master's program.

The regulations governing the qualifying year are outlined in the general section of this calendar.

Program Requirements

The student will choose a program of study concentrating on one of the following major areas: comparative religion, with special emphasis on one of the major traditions; biblical and ancient near eastern studies; and modern religious thought and culture. Candidates must follow either a thesis or non-thesis program. The specific requirements are as follows:

Thesis Program

- Seminars equivalent to one full course in major area
- Seminars equivalent to one full course, selected from one or both of the other areas
- Tutorial in major area for one-course credit
- Thesis (equivalent to two full courses) on a topic in major area, which must be defended at an oral examination

Non-Thesis Program

- Seminars equivalent to three full courses; of these, at least two half-course seminars must be from the major area, at least two from a second area, and at least one from the remaining area

- Comprehensive reading course in major area
- One additional course in major area

The student's program will be worked out in consultation with, and with the approval of, the department's supervisor of graduate studies and its committee on graduate studies. The prescribed program will take into account the student's background and special interests, as well as the research interests and competence of the staff.

Deadlines

Thesis Proposal: In the case of the thesis program, full-time students will normally submit their thesis proposal to the thesis proposal board by the end of the first month of their second term in the M.A. program.

Thesis: The candidate will inform the thesis supervisor two weeks in advance of the date on which he intends to submit copies of his thesis. The date of the defence will be set upon submission of the thesis and will take place no sooner than two weeks after the date of submission. This assumes a minimum of four weeks between the candidate's statement of intent and the defence.

Language Requirements

The student will be required to acquire, or to demonstrate that he/she already has, a reading knowledge of whatever language is essential to his/her research.

Students are advised to consult the departmental handbook for further regulations.

Graduate Courses*

- Religion 34.512T2, S2
Tutorial in Comparative Religion

- Religion 34.513F1, W1, S1
Directed Studies in Comparative Religion
Seminar for additional study in this area.

- Religion 34.520F1
Seminar in Biblical and Ancient Near Eastern Studies
Topic for 1994-95: Critical Theory and the Bible
An exploration of trends in biblical scholarship

* F,W,S indicates term of offering. Courses offered in the fall and winter will be followed by T.
The number following the letter indicates the credit weight of the course: 1 denotes a half-course credit, 2 denotes a full-course credit, etc.

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theory and the philosophy of language. Selected biblical texts from Deuteronomy through 2 Kings are interpreted according to these new approaches.

Also offered at the undergraduate level, with different requirements, as 34.486A, for which additional credit is precluded.

(Also offered as Comparative Literary Studies 17.582)

- Religion 34.521W1

Seminar in Biblical and Ancient Near Eastern Studies
Topic for 1994-95: Jews and Christians in the Roman World

A study of the political, social and cultural context of early Judaism and early Christianity. Emphasis will be placed on how the Romans viewed Jews and Christians and how Jews and Christians accommodated themselves to Roman rule.

Also offered at the undergraduate level, with different requirements, as 34.486B, for which additional credit is precluded.

- Religion 34.522T2, S2

Tutorial in Biblical and Ancient Near Eastern Studies

- Religion 34.523F1, W1, S1

Directed Studies in Biblical and Ancient Near Eastern Studies

Seminar for additional study in this area.

- Religion 34.530F1

Seminar in Modern Religious Thought and Culture
Topic for 1994-95: The Impact of Feminist Research on the Study of Religion

The seminar will explore the diverse contributions feminist theory and practice have made to the study of religion during the past two decades. From early questions about content and focus, to later more fundamental paradigm shifts in method and theory, feminist work will be examined, and the impact it has had upon the sub-disciplines of religious studies will be assessed.

Also offered at the undergraduate level, with different requirements, as 34.488B, for which additional credit is precluded.

- Religion 34.531W1

Seminar in Modern Religious Thought and Culture
Topic for 1994-95: Jung's *Answer to Job*

The course will use Jung's late work, *Answer to Job*, to develop the religious and philosophical implications of Jung's understanding of the psyche and its relation to alternative western religiosities manifest in mysticism, alchemy, gnosis and in his thought on quaternary and synchronicity.

Also offered at the undergraduate level, with different requirements, as 34.488B, for which additional credit is precluded.

- Religion 34.532T2, S2

Tutorial in Modern Religious Thought and Culture

- Religion 34.533F1, W1, S1

Directed Studies in Modern Religious Thought and Culture

Seminar for additional study in this area.

- Religion 34.590T2, S2

M.A. Comprehensive Reading

Not open to students pursuing a thesis program.

- Religion 34.599F4, W4, S4

M.A. Thesis

Courses Not Offered in 1994-95

34.510 Seminar in Comparative Religion

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