DIVINITY GRADUATE COURSES 2024-2025: Requirements for MA/AMRS and PHD Students

This is meant to be the definitive document pertaining to the Divinity School PhD Writing Requirement and the MA/AMRS Committee distribution course requirements. For students matriculating Summer 2020 and forward, PhD students have to take at least three classes that "result in a significant piece of scholarly writing" (15+ pages). If the course is listed as 'Y (optional)', it means that you will be given an option between choosing to write a final paper and another final evaluation. For Committee designations, no course ever has more than 2 Committees, but each course can only count as fulfilling one Committee requirement. MA/AMRS students must take classes in at least 3 out of the 4 Divinity School Committees of Study. Language courses do not have Committee designations and do not count toward the requirement.

Divinity Committees: Historical Studies, Constructive Studies, Literary, Media, and Cultural Studies (Cultural), Social and Cultural Sciences of Religion (Scientific)

Any questions about this document can be sent to Operations Admin Irema Hallisaz (iremahallisaz@uchicago.edu)

AUTUMN 2024

PARENT IDENT	NUMBER	SECTION	TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	PHD WRITING REQ	COMMITTEES
DVSC	30500	1	Introduction to the Study of Religion	Steckert, Jeffrey R.	n/a	n/a
AASR	64400	1	Anthropology of Public Policy and Bureaucracy	Mirsepassi, Ethan	Y	Scientific
AASR	64000	1	Ethnographic Methods	Daseddar, Alireza M.	Y	Scientific
BIBL	31000	1	Introduction to the Hebrew Bible	Chavel, Simeon B.	N	Historical, Cultural
BIBL	62215	1	Athanasius on the Incarnation	Martinez, David G.	N	Historical
BIBL	63100	1	Interpreting the Gospel According to Matthew	Mitchell, Margaret M.	Y (optional)	Historical
BIBL	53510	1	Early Jewish Interpretation of the Hebrew Bible	Chavel, Simeon B.	Y	Historical, Cultural
DVPR	33908	1	Bergson and China: Buddhist and Confucian Reboots	Ziporyn, Brook A.	Y	Historical, Constructive
DVPR	43830	1	Simone Weil: Spirituality, Metaphysics, and Politics	Hector, Kevin W.	N	Constructive
HCHR	30200	1	History of Christian Thought II: The Middle Ages	Otten, Willemien	Y (optional)	Historical, Constructive
HUD	56702	1	Arabic into Hebrew: Translation and Cultural Change during the Middle Ages	Robinson, James T.	Y (optional)	Historical, Cultural
HREL	32900	1	Classical Theories of Religion	Wedemeyer, Christian K.	N	Historical, Scientific
HREL	33400	1	Contemporary Topics in the Study of South Asian Religion	Venkatkrishnan, Anand	Y	Historical
ISLM	32651	1	Readings in Islamic Law	Naveh, Nariman	Y	Historical
ISLM	40010	1	Introduction to Arabic and Islamic Studies	Akpinar, Mehmetcan	N	Historical
RELP	30500	1	Colloquium: Introduction to Religious Leadership and Practice	Lindner, Cynthia	n/a	n/a
RELP	31150	1	Arts of Religious Leadership and Practice: Ritual and Speaking	Lindner, Cynthia	n/a	n/a
RELP	40600	1	Field Work Practicum I	Darnfeld, Erika	n/a	n/a
RETH	30702	1	Introduction to Environmental Ethics	Fredericks, Sarah E.	Y (optional)	Constructive
RETH	31000	1	Good Hands: Research Ethics	Doloth, Laurie	N	Constructive
RETH	50900	1	Collective Agency and Responsibility	Fredericks, Sarah E.	Y	Constructive
RLVC	36077	1	American Jewish Literature	Jelen, Sheila E.	Y (optional)	Cultural
RLVC	43400	1	Salvage Poetics: Literature as Ethnography	Jelen, Sheila E.	Y	Cultural
THEO	51023	1	Self-Deception: What is it and How is it Possible?	Wood, William D.		Constructive
THEO	30600	1	Black Theology: A Second Generation	Hopkins, Dwight N.	Y	Constructive
THEO	41816	1	Hope in Theological, Philosophical, and Political Perspective	Hector, Kevin W.	N	Constructive
RLST	32100	1	Introduction to Religious Studies	Rosengarten, Richard A.	n/a	n/a
RLST	22401	1	Jan Before Zen: Chan Buddhism in China	Ziporyn, Brook A.	N	Historical, Constructive
RLST	23150	1	Capitalism and Doing Good?	Hopkins, Dwight N.	n/a	n/a
RLST	23304	1	Abolitionist Theologies	Bueton, Olivia	n/a	n/a
RLST	24100	1	Philosophy and Literature in India	Venkatkrishnan, Anand	n/a	n/a
RLST	25591	1	Never Forget? Memorialization and the Ethics of Memory	Taylor, Zachary J.	n/a	n/a
RLST	26304	1	Religion and Abortion in American Culture	Crews, Emily D.	n/a	n/a
RLST	26635	1	Liberatory Violence	Daseddar, Alireza M.	Y (optional)	Scientific
RLST	27657	1	Rethinking Pilgrimage: Pop-Culture Tourism and Religious Travel	Winkelman, Bruce	n/a	n/a
RLST	28447	1	It's the End of the World as We Know It: Apocalypticism and Religious Thinking about the End Times	Cunningham, Marshall	n/a	n/a
RLST	29024	1	The Election Race of 2024: Ethics, Religion, and the American Polity	Doloth, Laurie	n/a	n/a
RLST	30068	1	Christianity and Consumer Culture in the United States	Simon, Hannah R.	n/a	n/a
BIBL	31000	1	Introductory Biblical Hebrew I	Thomassen, Emily J.	n/a	n/a
BIBL	35100	1	Introductory Koine Greek I	Noffer, I. Doug	n/a	n/a
NEHC	20201	1	Islamicate Civilization I: 600-950	Palomba, Cecilia	n/a	Historical
PHIL	25122	1	Modern Philosophy of Religion: A Historical Perspective	Bradley, Daniel	n/a	Constructive
ARAB	30301	1	High Intermediate Classical Arabic I	Akpinar, Mehmetcan	n/a	n/a
CLAS	42424	1	Ancient Carthage	Bartsch, Shadi and Lopez-Ruiz, Carolina	n/a	n/a
HIST	25613	1	Saints and Sinners in Late Antiquity	Payne, Richard E.	n/a	Historical
RDIN	22600	1	Race, Justice, and the Assemblage of American Moralities	Choudhury, Samah	n/a	Historical, Cultural
RDIN	22700	1	Diasporic Literature and Modern Islam in the Imperial Core	Choudhury, Samah	n/a	Historical, Cultural
NEHC	30022	1	Documentary Cultures in Early Islamicate Societies	Palomba, Cecilia	n/a	Historical
ANTH	25305	1	Anthropology of Food and Cuisine	Palmie, Stephan	n/a	Scientific

WINTER 2025

PARENT IDENT	NUMBER	SECTION	TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	PHD WRITING REQ	COMMITTEES
DVSC	30600	1	Theory and Method	Walsh, Erin G.	n/a	n/a
DVSC	51000	1	Theories and Methods in the Study of Religion	Hammerschlag, Sarah Z.	N	n/a
AASR	53000	1	Problems in the Anthropology of Religion	Hee, Angie	N	Historical, Scientific
AASR	62808	1	Cold War Religion	Hee, Angie	Y (optional)	Historical, Scientific
BIBL	32500	1	Introduction to the New Testament: Texts and Contexts of Interpretation	Walsh, Erin G.	Y	Historical, Cultural
BIBL	44608	1	The Book of Hosea	Chavel, Simeon B.	Y (optional)	Historical, Cultural
BIBL	51000	1	Papyrology and Early Christian Backgrounds	Martinez, David G.	N	Historical
DVPR	30100	1	Dialectics and its Afterlives: Hegel and Derrida	Coyne, Ryan D.	Y	Constructive
HCHR	30300	1	History of Christian Thought III	Macfarlane, Kirsten	N	Historical
HREL	37702	1	Music and Love in South Asia	Venkatkrishnan, Anand and Schultz, Anna C.	N	Historical
HREL	50000	1	The Divinity School, The Study of Religion, and Society in the Long American 20th Century	Wedemeyer, Christian K. and Rosengarten, Richard A.	Y (optional)	Historical, Scientific
HREL	52200	1	Problems in the History of Religions	Wedemeyer, Christian K.	N	Historical, Scientific
ISLM	30040	1	Introduction to the Qur'an	Akpinar, Mehmetcan	N	Historical, Scientific
ISLM	32419	1	Major Trends in Islamic Mysticism	Casewit, Youcef A.	Y (optional)	Constructive
ISLM	34567	1	Islamic Psychology	Casewit, Youcef A.	Y (optional)	Constructive
ISLM	39030	1	Islam, Race, and Decoloniality	Chishti, Maliha	Y (optional)	Scientific
RAME	38100	1	New Studies in African American Religion	Harris, Matthew M.	Y (optional)	Historical
RAME	39402	1	Race and Religion in the U.S.	Evans, Curtis J.	Y (optional)	Historical, Scientific
RAME	42500	1	Experiments in the Study of Religion, Solidarity, and Hope	Harris, Matthew M.	N	Scientific
RELP	30500	1	Colloquium: Introduction to Religious Leadership and Practice	Lindner, Cynthia	n/a	n/a
RELP	32600	1	An Introduction to Public Theology and Moral Action	Balch, Marshall	n/a	n/a
RELP	35202	1	Arts of Religious Leadership and Practice: Spiritual Care and Counseling	Lindner, Cynthia	n/a	n/a
RELP	40700	1	Field Work Practicum II	Darnfeld, Erika	n/a	n/a
RETH	31000	1	Reading Your Neighbor's Scripture: Scriptural Reasoning	Doloth, Laurie	Y	Constructive
RETH	37000	1	Moral Theory and Philosophical Ethics	Schweiker, William	N	Constructive
RETH	37378	1	Ethics of Rest	Fredericks, Sarah E.	Y	Constructive
RETH	42100	1	Problems in Theology and Ethics: Humanism and Anti-Humanism	Schweiker, William	Y	Constructive
RETH	52555	1	Narrating the Law: Levinas and the Talmud	Doloth, Laurie	Y	Constructive
RLVC	31700	1	Reading Religion in South Asia	Taylor, Sarah P.	Y	Historical, Cultural
THEO	45800	1	Black Ownership of Wealth	Hopkins, Dwight N.	Y	Constructive
THEO	46006	1	Approaches to Suffering: Theological Perspectives and Contemporary Meditations	Culp, Kristine	Y (optional)	Constructive
THEO	48701	1	Late Medieval Women: Sanctity, Gender, Authorship, and Authority	Otten, Willemien	Y	Historical, Constructive
THEO	52225	1	Social Entrepreneurship	Hopkins, Dwight N.	Y	Constructive
RLST	10100	1	Introduction to Religious Studies	Pinkney, Foster J.	n/a	n/a
RLST	21402	1	Japanese Zen Buddhism	Ucha, Stephen	n/a	Historical, Scientific
RLST	22655	1	Themes in the European Reformation(s)	Macfarlane, Kirsten	n/a	n/a
RLST	24116	1	Buddhism and the Good Life	Ucha, Stephen	n/a	n/a
RLST	25301	1	History, Religion, and Politics in Augustine's *City of God*	Otten, Willemien and Allen, Michael J.	n/a	Historical
RLST	25704	1	Environmental Justice in Chicago	Fredericks, Sarah E.	n/a	n/a
RLST	26620	1	Tradition and Modernity in Jewish Thought and Literature	Redfield, James A.	Y	Historical, Cultural
RLST	28280	1	*The Good Place* and the Bad Place: Judgement, Punishment, and Living a Good Life	Pinkney, Foster J.	n/a	n/a
RLST	28405	1	Religion in Anime and Japanese Pop Culture	Winkelman, Bruce	n/a	n/a
BIBL	34000	1	Introductory Biblical Hebrew II	Thomassen, Emily J.	n/a	n/a
BIBL	35300	1	Introductory Koine Greek II	Noffer, I. Doug	n/a	n/a
ARAB	30302	1	High Intermediate Classical Arabic II	Akpinar, Mehmetcan	n/a	n/a
NEHC	20202	1	Islamicate Civilization II: 950-1750		n/a	Historical
ANTH	50522	1	Reading Walter Benjamin's 'Artwork' Essay	Mazzarella, William T.S.	n/a	Scientific
RDIN	42500	1	Swine Islam and the Politics of Visual Culture	Choudhury, Samah	n/a	Cultural

SPRING 2025

PARENT IDENT	NUMBER	SECTION	TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	PHD WRITING REQ	COMMITTEES
BIBL	36000	1	The Johannine Epistles	Walsh, Erin G.	N	Historical
BIBL	40490	1	The Plagues in Egypt: Tradition and Composition	Steckert, Jeffrey R.	Y	Historical, Cultural
BIBL	40600	1	Deuteronomy	Steckert, Jeffrey R.	Y	Historical, Cultural
DVPR	43002	1	Technē and Technique	Coyne, Ryan D. and Reddy, Srikanth	Y	Constructive
HCHR	31604	1	The Reformation in Britain, 1450-1660	Macfarlane, Kirsten	N	Historical
HCHR	30800	1	Christianity and Judaism in Early Modern Europe	Macfarlane, Kirsten	Y	Historical
HCHR	43200	1	Colloquium on Ancient Christianity	Mitchell, Margaret M.	Y	Historical
HCHR	48900	1	Priesthood, Philosophy, and Power	Otten, Willemien and Bottgen, Philippe	Y	Historical, Constructive
HREL	33900	1	Esoteric Buddhism in East Asia	Ucha, Stephen	Y (optional)	Historical, Scientific
HREL	42827	1	Contemporary Theories of Religion	Ucha, Stephen	Y (optional)	Scientific
ISLM	32800	1	Power and Authority after the Prophet Muhammad	Akpinar, Mehmetcan	Y (optional)	Historical
ISLM	38101	1	Ibis: Muslim Perspectives on the Devil	Donntler, Alireax M.	Y	Historical, Scientific
ISLM	39031	1	Sufism and Coloniality	Casewit, Youcef A. and Chishti, Maliha	Y (optional)	Historical, Constructive
ISLM	42780	1	Readings: Sufism in Morocco	Casewit, Youcef A.	Y (optional)	Historical, Constructive
RAME	32418	1	The Scopes Trial in Historical Perspective	Evans, Curtis J.	Y	Historical, Scientific
RAME	35700	1	The Christian Right	Schultz, William J.	Y (optional)	Historical
RAME	50000	1	Sacred Geographies: Religion in Chicago	Evans, Curtis J. and Harris, Matthew M. and Crews, Emily D.	N	Historical
RELP	30500	1	Colloquium: Introduction to Religious Leadership and Practice	Lindner, Cynthia	n/a	n/a
RELP	35300	1	Arts of Religious Leadership and Practice: Community, Leadership, and Change	Lindner, Cynthia	n/a	n/a
RELP	40800	1	Field Work Practicum III	Darnfeld, Erika	n/a	n/a
RELP	41800	1	Senior MDiv Thesis Seminar	Lindner, Cynthia	n/a	n/a
RELP	30406	1	Advanced Seminar TBD	Yadav, Sunil	n/a	n/a
RETH	32500	1	Islamic Ethics I: Foundations	de Rande, Raissa	Y	Historical, Constructive
RETH	38300	1	Islamic Supersessionism(s)	de Rande, Raissa	N	Historical, Constructive
RETH	49700	1	The Theological Ethics of Thomas Aquinas and Karl Barth	Schweiker, William	Y	Constructive
RLVC	38717	1	The Veil and the Vision: Image and Cover in the Western Artistic Tradition	Ebner, Jas	Y	Cultural
RLVC	38802	1	Art and Pilgrimage from Antiquity to Christianity	Ebner, Jas	Y	Cultural
RLVC	47100	1	The History of Criticism: Dante to Hegel	Rosengarten, Richard A.	Y	Historical, Cultural
RLVC	47724	1	Diasporism in Modern Judaism	Hammerschlag, Sarah Z.	Y	Constructive, Cultural
THEO	42001	1	Feminist Theory and Theology	Culp, Kristine	Y (optional)	Constructive
THEO	44510	1	Platonic Theologies	Hector, Kevin W.	N	Constructive
RLST	22812	1	Introduction to Hinduism	Taylor, Sarah P.	n/a	n/a
RLST	23200	1	Faith: A Conceptual History	Coyne, Ryan D.	n/a	n/a
RLST	23300	1	Religion and Psychiatry	Joure-Coughlan, Owen P.	n/a	n/a
RLST	25507	1	Power and Responsibility in the Anthropocene	Weaver, Colin B.	n/a	n/a
RLST	23599	1	Christian and Anti-Christian: Kierkegaard and Nietzsche on Religion and Morality	Schweiker, William	Y	Constructive
RLST	23698	1	Worshipping the God that Dances: Embodied Forms of Knowledge, Self, and Divinity	Berger, Jesse	n/a	n/a
RLST	24002	1	Is Religion Bad for Women?	Jones, Hannah	n/a	n/a
RLST	24240	1	Buddhism and Science: A Critical Introduction	Berger, Jesse	n/a	n/a
RLST	25510	1	Christianity, Nonviolence, and Realism	Pinkney, Foster J.	n/a	n/a
RLST	26001	1	Religion and Visual Culture in the Late Antique Mediterranean	Bowen, Kerin	Y (optional)	Historical, Cultural
RLST	27107	1	Frankenstein: Making Monsters in Science and Religion	Matthews, Alex	n/a	n/a
RLST	27653	1	Judaism and Ethnography	Redfield, James A.	Y	Cultural, Scientific
RLST	28498	1	Myth and its Critics	Lopez-Ruiz, Carolina	n/a	n/a
RLST	28511	1	*Star Wars* and Religion	Johnson, Russell F.	n/a	n/a
RLST	28929	1	Cabal, Cult, and Crisis: Religion and Contemporary Conspiracy Theory	Smolin, Justin N.	n/a	n/a
RLST	29300	1	Asceticism: Forming the Self	Walsh, Erin G. and Taylor, Sarah P.	Y	Historical, Cultural
NEHC	30303	1	Islamicate Civilization III: 1750 to Present	Miscellaneous	n/a	Historical
ARAB	30303	1	High Intermediate Classical Arabic III	Akpinar, Mehmetcan	n/a	n/a
SANS	30300	1	Third-Year Sanskrit III	Venkatkrishnan, Anand	n/a	n/a
TIBTN	47902	1	Advanced Tibetan	Wedemeyer, Christian K.	n/a	n/a
EALC	23000	1	The Spirit of Reality: TV in East Asia	Heo, Angie; Long, Hoyt	N	Scientific
ANTH	58370	1	Divination	Mazzarella, William T.S.	n/a	Scientific
CCTS	32000	1	Religion, Medicine, and Human Flourishing on the South Side of Chicago	Yoon, John; Le Chevallier, Michael	n/a	n/a