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 Halilovic (iremahalilovic@uchicago.edu).

AUTUMN 2024

PARENT IDENT	NUMBER	SECTION	TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	PHD WRITING REQ	COMMITTEES
DVSC	30500	1	Introduction to the Study of Religion	Stackert, Jeffrey R.	n/a	n/a
AASR	44400	1	Anthropology of Public Policy and Bureaucracy	Mireshghi, Elham	Y	Scientific
AASR	54000	1	Ethnographic Methods	Doostdar, Alireza M.	Y	Scientific
BIBL	31000	1	Introduction to the Hebrew Bible	Chavel, Simeon B.	N	Historical, Cultural
BIBL	42215	1	Athanasius on the Incarnation	Martinez, David G.	N	Historical
BIBL	43100	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
HIJD	36702	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	32451	1	Readings in Islamic Law	Aavani, 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	35150	1	Arts of Religious Leadership and Practice: Ritual and Speaking	Lindner, Cynthia	n/a	n/a
RELP	40600	1	Field Work Practicum I	Dornfeld, 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	Zoloth, Laurie	N	Constructive
RETH	50900	1	Collective Agency and Responsibility	Fredericks, Sarah E.	Y	Constructive
RLVC	46677	1	American Jewish Literature	Jelen, Sheila E.	Y (optional)	Cultural
RLVC	53400	1	Salvage Poetics: Literature as Ethnography	Jelen, Sheila E.	Y	Cultural
THEO	33023	1	Self-Deception: What is it and How is it Possible?	Wood, William D.		Constructive
THEO	40600	1	Black Theology: A Second Generation	Hopkins, Dwight N.	Y	Constructive
THEO	43816	1	Hope in Theological, Philosophical, and Political Perspective	Hector, Kevin W.	N	Constructive
RLST	10100	1	Introduction to Religious Studies	Rosengarten, Richard A.	n/a	n/a
RLST	22401	1	Zen 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	Bustion, Olivia	n/a	n/a
RLST	24200	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	Doostdar, 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	Zoloth, Laurie	n/a	n/a
RLST	29068	1	Christianity and Consumer Culture in the United States	Ozmun, Hannah R.	n/a	n/a
BIBL	33900	1	Introductory Biblical Hebrew I	Thomassen, Emily J.	n/a	n/a
BIBL	35100	1	Introductory Koiné Greek I	Hoffer, L. Doug	n/a	n/a
NEHC	20201	1	Islamicate Civilization I: 600-950	Palombo, Cecilia	n/a	Historical
PHIL	25122	1	Modern Philosophy of Religion: A Historical Perspective	Brudney, 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	Palombo, 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 E.	N	n/a
AASR	33000	1	Problems in the Anthropology of Religion	Heo, Angie	N	Historical, Scientific
AASR	42808	1	Cold War Religion	Heo, 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	43300	1	Introduction to Papyrology	Martinez, David G.	N	Historical
BIBL	44608	1	The Book of Hosea	Chavel, Simeon B.	Y (optional)	Historical, Cultural
DVPR	50100	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, Yousef A.	Y (optional)	Constructive
ISLM	34567	1	Islamic Psychology	Casewit, Yousef 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	Hatch, 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	Dornfeld, Erika	n/a	n/a
RETH	33300	1	Reading Your Neighbor's Scripture: Scriptural Reasoning	Zoloth, 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	Zoloth, 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	22402	1	Japanese Zen Buddhism	Licha, Stephan	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	Licha, Stephan	n/a	n/a
RLST	25301	1	History, Religion, and Politics in Augustine's *City of God*	Otten, Willemien and Allen, Michael I.	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 Koiné Greek II	Hoffer, L. 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	various	n/a	Historical
ANTH	50522	1	Reading Walter Benjamin's 'Artwork' Essay	Mazzarella, William T.S.	n/a	Scientific
EALC	25811	1	Foundations of East Asian Buddhism	Copp, Paul	n/a	Historical, Cultural
ANTH	40000	1	Adventures in Speculative Environments - Readings in Anthropology and Environment	Fisch, Michael	n/a	Scientific
LATN	25200	1	Medieval Latin	Allen, Michael I.	n/a	n/a

SPRING 2025

PARENT IDENT	NUMBER	SECTION	TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	PHD WRITING REQ	COMMITTEES
BIBL	36000	1	The Johannine Epistles	Walsh, Erin G.	N	Historical

RARL	10430	1	The Pagans in Egypt: Tradition and Comparison	Rochert, Jeffrey R.	Y	Historical Cultural
RARL	10430	1	Cosmonomy	Rochert, Jeffrey R.	Y	Historical Cultural
RAPR	10550	1	Ritual and Technique	Coyne, Ryan D. and Reddy, Debashi	Y	Communal
RCHR	13555	1	The Reformation in Britain, 1850-1688	MacFarlane, Kirsten	N	Historical
RCHR	12550	1	Christianity and Judaism in Early Modern Europe	MacFarlane, Kirsten	Y	Historical
RCHR	13250	1	Colloquium on Ancient Christianity	Mitchell, Margaret M.	Y	Historical
RCHR	10550	1	Priesthood, Philosophy, and Power	Olden, Wilhelmus and Rietjen, Philippe	Y	Historical Communal
RREL	13550	1	Esoteric Buddhism in East Asia	Usha, Stephen	Y (optional)	Historical Scientific
RREL	10507	1	Contemporary Theories of Religion	Usha, Stephen	Y (optional)	Scientific
RSEM	13550	1	Power and Authority after the Prophet Muhammad	Aljamar, Mahmoudan	Y (optional)	Historical
RSEM	19501	1	Reform and Coloniality	Caswell, Yousaf A. and Lincoln, Martha	Y (optional)	Historical Communal
RSEM	10780	1	Weddings: Sufism in Morocco	Caswell, Yousaf A.	Y (optional)	Historical Communal
RSMR	13438	1	The Gospel Trial in Historical Perspective	Fearis, Curtis J.	Y	Historical Scientific
RSMR	10780	1	The Christian Right	Sahuda, William J.	Y (optional)	Historical
RSMR	10550	1	Sacred Geographies: Religion in Chicago	Fearis, Curtis J. and Hardy, Matthew M. and Crews, Emily	N	Historical
RSLP	10550	1	Colloquium: Introduction to Religious Leadership and Practice	Lindner, Cynthia	n/a	n/a
RSLP	11550	1	Arts of Religious Leadership and Practice: Community, Leadership, and Change	Lindner, Cynthia	n/a	n/a
RSLP	10560	1	Field Work Practicum III	Dornfeld, Erika	n/a	n/a
RSLP	12450	1	Senior MDiv Thesis Seminar	Lindner, Cynthia	n/a	n/a
RSLP	10450	1	Spiritual Care at the End of the World: Loss, Vulnerability, and Grief	Yeates, Sunil	n/a	n/a
RSTH	13550	1	Islamic Ethics I: Foundations	deRanelle, Patricia	Y	Historical Communal
RSTH	18350	1	Islamic Supersessionism(s)	deRanelle, Patricia	N	Historical Communal
RSTH	19750	1	The Theological Ethics of Thomas Aquinas and Karl Barth	Schweiker, William	Y	Communal
RSVC	19717	1	The Self and the Vision Image and Cweir in the Western Artistic Tradition	Elsner, Jas	Y	Cultural
RSVC	10650	1	Art and Pilgrimage from Antiquity to Christianity	Elsner, Jas	Y	Cultural
RSVC	17150	1	The History of Criticism: Dante to Hegel	Ravenscroft, Richard E.	Y	Historical Cultural
RSVC	11750	1	Christian Icon in Modern Judaism	Hammerschlag, Sarah S.	Y	Community Cultural
RWEC	10550	1	Feminist Theory and Theology	Culp, Kristine	Y (optional)	Communal
RWEC	10450	1	Womanist Theologies	Hecker, Kevin W.	N	Communal
RWIT	13550	1	Introduction to Hinduism	Taylor, Sarah P.	n/a	n/a
RWIT	13350	1	Faith: A Conceptual History	Coyne, Ryan D.	n/a	n/a
RWIT	13360	1	Religion and Psychiatry	Joynt Coughlan, Owen P.	n/a	n/a
RWIT	13350	1	Power and Responsibility in the Anthropocene	Weaver, Calli B.	n/a	n/a
RWIT	13230	1	Christian and Anti-Christian: Kierkegaard and Nietzsche on Religion and Morality	Schweiker, William	Y	Communal
RWIT	13650	1	Worshipping the God that Decries: Embodied Forms of Knowledge, Self, and Divinity	Bergen, Jesse	n/a	n/a
RWIT	24350	1	Is Religion Bad for Women?	Jones, Hannah	n/a	n/a
RWIT	24240	1	Buddhism and Science: A Critical Introduction	Bergen, Jesse	n/a	n/a
RWIT	23530	1	Christianity, Naturalness, and Realism	Pedway, Foster J.	n/a	n/a
RWIT	24250	1	Religion and Visual Culture in the Late Antique Mediterranean	Kessler, Karin	Y (optional)	Historical Cultural
RWIT	24630	1	Liberatory Violence Part I	Dennis III, Jimmie M.	Y	Scientific
RWIT	27107	1	Humanism: Making Monsters in Science and Religion	Matthews, Jess	n/a	n/a
RWIT	17450	1	Judaism and Ethnography	Redfield, James A.	Y	Cultural Scientific
RWIT	13450	1	Myth and Its Critics	López Ruiz, Caroline	n/a	n/a
RWIT	18150	1	Zen Zliens and Religion	Johnson, Russell P.	n/a	n/a
RWIT	24520	1	Cabal, Cult, and Crisis: Religion and Contemporary Conspiracy Theory	Smith, Justin N.	n/a	n/a
RWIT	13550	1	Confucian Forming the Self	Welch, Eric D. and Taylor, Sarah P.	Y	Historical Cultural
SEMC	10350	1	Dominated Civilization III: 1750 to Present	miscellaneous	n/a	Historical
SMJR	10350	1	High Intermediate Classical Arabic III	Aljamar, Mahmoudan	n/a	n/a
SSMS	10350	1	Third Year Sanskrit III	Venkatakrishnan, Anand	n/a	n/a
TBTA	27550	1	Advanced Tibetan	Weidemeyer, Christian D.	n/a	n/a
TDAC	17000	1	The Spirit of Reality IV in East Asia	Nee, Angie Jung, Hsyi	N	Scientific
UNTH	10570	1	Animalism	Mazzarella, William T.S.	n/a	Scientific
UTIL	13550	1	Religion, Medicine, and Human Flourishing on the South Side of Chicago	Nave, John, Le Chevallier, Michael	n/a	n/a
VISN	13550	1	Seeing Is Seen and the Politics of Visual Culture	Chaudhury, Sanam	n/a	Cultural
WEMC	10650	1	Introduction to Islamic Philosophy	Sachko, Abdul Sani	n/a	Communal
YAZV	13666	1	Vision and Epicureanism	Jones, Elizabeth	n/a	Historical
YWIL	10550	1	Justice for Animals: in Ethics and Law	Nussbaum, Martha	n/a	Communal
ZAUT	10350	1	Foundations Critical Theory	Trejillo, Kirs	n/a	Cultural
ZAUT	30710	1	Social Materialistic	Trejillo, Kirs	n/a	Cultural