

DIVINITY GRADUATE COURSES 2025-2026: Requirements for MA/AMRS and PHD Students

<p>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.</p>
<p>Divinity Committees: Historical Studies, Constructive Studies, Literary, Media, and Cultural Studies (Cultural), Social and Cultural Sciences of Religion (Scientific)</p>
<p>Any questions about this document can be sent to Operations Manager Iremah Halilovic (iremaha.lilo@uic.edu).</p>

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AUTUMN 2025

PARENT IDENT	NUMBER	SECTION	TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	PHD WRITING REC	COMMITTEES
DVSC	1J0500	1	Introduction to the Study of Religion	Arnold, Daniel A.	n/a	n/a
AASR	35100	1	Religion and Performance	Adelakun, Abimbola	Y	Cultural
AASR	35500	1	Money and Morality	Miresghi, Elham	Y (optional)	Scientific
AASR	54000	1	Ethnographic Methods	Doostdar, Alireza M	Y (optional)	Scientific
BIBL	31000	1	Introduction to the Hebrew Bible	Stackert, Jeffrey R.	N	Historical, Cultural
BIBL	41100	1	The Composition of the Pentateuch	Stackert, Jeffrey R.	Y	Historical, Cultural
BIBL	44602	1	The Song of Songs	Chavel, Simeon B.	Y	Historical, Cultural
PVPR	41100	1	Anglo-American Philosophy of/and Religion	Fleeter, Kevin W.	Y (optional)	Historical, Constructive
DVPR	44276	1	Tiantai Buddhism and Neo-Tiantai Thinking: Recontextualizations of Recontextualizationism	Ziporyn, Brook A.	Y	Constructive
HCHR	141500	1	Theology, Society, and Culture in Early Modern Europe	Macfarlane, Kirsten	N	Historical
HCHR	50400	1	Early Christian Rhetoric	Mitchell, Margaret M.	Y	Historical
HJJD	36314	1	Judaism and Science	Halper, Yehuda	Y (optional)	Historical, Scientific
IREL	32900	1	Classical Theories of Religion	Licaha, Stephan	Y (optional)	Historical, Scientific
HREL	38140	1	Golems, Angels, and AI	Robinson, James T.; Johnson, Russell P.	N	Scientific
HREL	38777	1	Black and Brown in Babylon	Venkatkrishnan, Anand; Harris, Matthew M.	Y (optional)	Historical
IREL	40020	1	Contemporary Topics in the Study of South Asian Religion: The Hinduism Debate	Taylor, Sarah P.	Y (optional)	Historical, Cultural
ISLM	39030	1	Islam, Race, and Decoloniality	Alishti, Mafih	Y (optional)	Cultural
ISLM	49003	1	Islam Beyond the Human: Spirits, Demons, Devils, and Ghosts	Doostdar, Alireza M; El Shakry, Hoda	Y (optional)	Cultural, Scientific
RAME	112901	1	Christianity and Slavery in America, 1619-1865	Evans, Curt J.	Y (optional)	Historical
RELP	10500	1	Colloquium: Introduction to Religious Leadership and Practice	Lindner, Cynthia	n/a	n/a
RELP	35100	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
RELP	42800	1	Senior MDiv Thesis Seminar	Lindner, Cynthia	n/a	n/a
RETH	81101	1	History of Religious and Theological Ethics I	Schweiker, William	N	Historical, Constructive
RETH	32700	1	Religion, Society, and Culture	Fredericks, Sarah E.	Y (optional)	Constructive
RETH	35404	1	Religion, Ethics, and Politics	de Rande, Raissa	Y	Historical, Constructive
RETH	50000	1	Brauer Seminar: Qur'anic Ethics	Casewit, Yousef A.; de Rande, Raissa	Y	Historical, Constructive
RLVC	63400	1	Salvage Poetics: Literature as Ethnography	Jelen, Sheila E.	Y (optional)	Cultural
RLST	20808	1	Biography of the Prophet Muhammad	Akpınar, Mehmetcan	Y (optional)	Historical
RLST	12606	1	Religion, Resistance, and Retention in Early Modern Britain	Macfarlane, Kirsten	n/a	n/a
RLST	23104	1	Immanuel Kant's <i>Critique of Practical Reason</i>	Schweiker, William	n/a	n/a
RLST	23312	1	Mormonism, Feminism, and Agency	Brocius, Elizabeth	n/a	n/a
RLST	24109	1	Claude Lanzmann's <i>Shoah</i> Project	Jelen, Sheila E.	Y	Historical, Cultural
RLST	14200	1	Philosophy and Literature in India	Venkatkrishnan, Anand	n/a	n/a
RLST	24400	1	The Theology of Dietrich Bonhoeffer	Fleeter, Kevin W.	n/a	n/a
RLST	24801	1	<i>Being and Time</i>	Coyle, Ryan D.	Y (optional)	Constructive
RLST	25602	1	Eccentrics, Visionaries, Deviants? Queer Religion, Ethics, and Politics	White, Virginia J.	n/a	n/a
RLST	25709	1	The Tempest and the Tide: Ethics in the Climate Age	Myers, Kat R.	n/a	n/a
RLST	27140	1	Truth, Half-Truth, and Post-Truth	Johnson, Russell P.	n/a	n/a
RLST	28008	1	African Magic	Adelakun, Abimbola	n/a	n/a
RLST	28145	1	Greetings from Trafalmore: Scientific and Religious Satire in the Fiction of Kurt Vonnegut	Ziporyn, Brook A.	n/a	n/a
RLST	28335	1	Art as Biblical Interpretation	Beverluis, Lauren M.	n/a	n/a
RLST	29800	1	BA Research Seminar I	Depierre, Lucas	n/a	n/a
BIBL	33900	1	Introductory Biblical Hebrew I	Heo, Jaeseok	n/a	n/a
BIBL	35100	1	Introductory Koine Greek I	Hoffer, Doug	n/a	n/a
NEHC	20201	1	Islamic Civilization I: 600-950	Klasova, Pamela	n/a	Historical
ARAB	20701	1	High Intermediate Classical Arabic I	Akpınar, Mehmetcan	n/a	n/a
PHIL	55818	1	Hellenistic Ethics	Nussbaum, Martha	n/a	Constructive
CMLT	28995	1	Queer Love Poetry	Torres, Anna Elena	n/a	Cultural
ENGL	51588	1	Milton and Hobbes	Harrison, Timothy	n/a	Constructive
ARAB	20211	1	Poetry and Empire: Readings in Abbasid Arabic Poetry	Klasova, Pamela	n/a	Cultural
SALC	25720	1	Eros, Religion, and Poetry: the Ghazal	Khan, Shariq	n/a	Cultural

## WINTER 2026

PARENT IDENT	NUMBER	SECTION	TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	PHO WRITING REQ	COMMITTEES
DVSC	90600	1	Themes in the Academic Study of Religion	Walsh, Erin G.	n/a	n/a
DVSC	51000	1	Theories and Methods in the Study of Religion	Wedemeyer, Christian K.	N	n/a
BIBL	92500	1	Introduction to the New Testament: Texts and Contexts of Interpretation	Walsh, Erin G.	Y (optional)	Historical, Cultural
BIBL	92906	1	Book of Ezekiel	Chavel, Simeon B.	Y (optional)	Historical, Cultural
BIBL	44600	1	Zion and Zaphon: Biblical Texts and Memory Studies	Chavel, Simeon B.	y	Historical, Cultural
BIBL	460	1	1 Corinthians	Mitchell, Margaret M	Y (optional)	Historical
BIBL	47500	1	The Apostolic Fathers	Martinez, David G.	N	Historical
DVPR	33595	1	Nietzsche: The Will to Truth	Coyne, Ryan D	Y (optional)	Constructive
HCHR	30100	1	History of Christian Thought I	Otten, Willemien	Y (optional)	Historical, Constructive
HCHR	30120	1	Eastern Christianity: The First Thousand Years	Matarasso, Omri	Y (optional)	Historical
HCHR	41728	1	America's 'Enlightenment Puritan'? Readings in Cotton Mather (1663-1728)	Macfarlane, Kirsten	Y (optional)	Historical
HCHR	42800	1	Christianity and Judaism in Early Modern Europe	Macfarlane, Kirsten	y	Historical
HUD	36706	1	Humor and Judaism in the Middle Ages	Halper, Yehuda	Y (optional)	Historical, Cultural
HUD	50400	1	Modern European Philosophy and the Jewish Textual Tradition	Hammerschlag, Sarah E.	y	Historical, Constructive
HREL	52200	1	Problems in the History of Religions	Wedemeyer, Christian K.	N	Historical, Scientific
ISLM	40430	1	Hadith Literature: Authenticity, Authority, Reception	Akpınar, Mehmetcan	y	Historical
RAME	31316	1	Readings in Modern American Religious History	Schultz, William J	y	Historical
RAME	31968	1	Religious and Social Thought of Martin Luther King Jr.	Evans, Curtis J	Y (optional)	Historical, Constructive
RAME	35050	1	Social Christianity in the United States: Origins and Legacies	Evans, Curtis J	V (optional)	Historical, Constructive
RAME	40200	1	Religion and American Capitalism	Schultz, William J	y	Historical
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	35200	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	31201	1	History of Religious and Theological Ethics II	Schweiker, William	N	Historical, Constructive
RETH	477SO	1	Virtue Ethics	Fredericks, Sarah E.	y	Constructive
THEO	33706	1	Calvin: Piety, Politics, and the Theater of God's Glory	Wulp, Kristine	Y (optional)	Constructive
THEO	44400	1	Three Late Medieval Mystics: Bonaventure, Aquinas, Eckhart	Otten, Willemien	y	Historical, Constructive
RLST	10100	1	Introduction to Religious Studies	Cunningham, Marshall	n/a	n/a
RLST	23311	1	The Past, Present, and Future of Feminist Ethics	Myers, Kat RT	n/a	n/a
RLST	23404	1	Romanticism and the Problem of Enchantment	Hoekstra, Pieter H.	n/a	n/a
RLST	23880	1	Villains: Evil in Philosophy, Religion, and Film	Johnson, Russell P	n/a	n/a
RLST	24804	1	Saints, Sinners, and Subjects: Foucault's Writings on Religion and Sexuality	Collins, Kirsten	n/a	n/a
RLST	25707	1	Contested Concepts: "Indigeneity" and Ecological Thought	Weaver, Colin	n/a	n/a
RLST	26003	1	Introduction to Art, Religion, and Spirituality	Loia, Donato	n/a	n/a
RLST	28929	1	Cabal, Cult, and Crisis: Religion and Contemporary Conspiracy Theory	Smolin, Justin N	n/a	n/a
RLST	28319	1	Iconophobia: The Prohibition and Destruction of Religious Images	Krause, Karin	V (optional)	Historical, Cultural
RLST	28901	1	Religion, Science, Naturalism: Is There a Problem?	Arnold, Daniel A.	n/a	n/a
RLST	29900	1	BA Research Seminar II	Depierre, Lucas	n/a	n/a
BIBL	34000	1	Introductory Biblical Hebrew II	Lee, Jaeseok	n/a	n/a
BIBL	35300	1	Introductory Koine Greek II	Lioffer, Doug	n/a	n/a
ARAB	30302	1	High Intermediate Classical Arabic II	Akpınar, Mehmetcan	n/a	n/a
NEHC	20202	1	Islamic Civilization II: 950-1750	Kaya, Mustafa	n/a	Historical
HIST	27724	1	The Salem Witch Trials: Magic, Religion, and Hysteria in Colonial New England	Wierffing, Peggy	n/a	Historical
BPRO	24400	1	Living our Bodies with Technology	Winters, Elham; Foerster, Desiree	n/a	n/a
CMLT	28005	1	Arabfuturism: Other Worlds and Worlding Otherwise	El Shakry, Hoda	n/a	Scientific, Cultural
CMLT	27660	1	Animals and Jewish Literature	Forbes, Anna Elena	n/a	Cultural
50CI	50092	1	Sem: Religion and Politics	McRoberts, Omar	n/a	Scientific
SOCI	40112	1	Ethnographic Methods	McRoberts, Omar	n/a	Scientific
ARTH	20908	1	Media Revolutions Then and Now	Wild, Christopher; Golan, Tamara	n/a	Cultural
NEHC	30301	1	Wisdom Literature in Ancient Egypt, Mesopotamia, and Beyond	Matuszak, Jana; Geoga, Maggie	n/a	Cultural
ANTH	41202	1	Back to Life: Reading Reich After Foucault	Mazzarella, William	n/a	Scientific
MUSI	2241S	1	Israel/Palestine	Bohman, Philip	n/a	Cultural
SALC	22708	1	Introduction to Islam in South Asia	Bruce, Gregory M.	n/a	Historical
IMPS	32400	1	Materiality, Religion, and Technology	Cho, Yasmin	n/a	Scientific
ANTH	41200	1	Anthropology of History	Palmie, Stephan	n/a	Scientific

SPRING 2026

PARENT IDENT	NUMBER	SECTION	TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	PHO WRITING REC	COMMITTEES
AASR	33000	1	Problems in the Anthropology of Religion I	Heo, Angie	N	Historical, Scientific
AASR	46300	1	Coalitions, Conversions, and Conservative Christianities	Hee, Angie	Y (optional)	Historical, Scientific
BIBL	42245	1	New Testament Readings: Disability, Healing, and Ancient Medicine	Walsh, Erin G.	N	Historical
BIBL	44100	1	Reading the Psalms	Chavel, Simeon	y	Historical, Cultural
DVPR	41700	1	Readings in Madhyamaka	Arnold, Daniel A.	y	Historical, Constructive
DVPR	4aU10	1	Classical Chinese Philosophies of Mind	Ziporyn, Brook A.	y	Historical, Constructive
DVPR	53003	1	Philosophical Commentaries on the <i>Book of Changes (Yijing)</i>	Ziporyn, Brook A.	y	Historical, Constructive
HCHR	35330	1	The Gospel of Jesus and Money	Adelakun, Abimbola	y	Historical, Cultural
HCHR	40100	1	Global Pentecostalism	Adelakun, Abimbola	y	Historical
HCHR	48900	1	Priesthood, Philosophy, and Power	Otten, Willemien	y	Historical, Constructive
HREL	31981	1	History of the Field, Part 1	Venkatkrishnan, Anand	y	Historical
HREL	33907	1	Gandhi and His Critics	Venkatkrishnan, Anand	Y (optional)	Historical
HREL	44701	1	ritual in South Asian Buddhism	Wedemeyer, Christian K.	y	Historical, Scientific
ISLM	32419	1	Major Trends in Islamic Mysticism	Casewit, Yousef A.	y	Historical, Constructive
ISLM	S6103	1	Dreams, Visions, and Mystical Experience	Casewit, Yousef A.	y	Historical, Constructive
ISLM	38101	1	Iblis: Muslim Perspectives on the Devil	Doostdar, Alireza M.	Y (optional)	Historical, Scientific
RAME	41440	1	Fundamentalism	Schultz, William J.	y	Historical, Scientific
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 #or Pracd cum III	Dornfeld, Erika	n/a	n/a
RELP	50404	1	Spiritual Care at the End of the World: Loss, Vulnerability, and Grief	Yadav, Sunil	n/a	n/a
RETH	35406	1	Revolution, Freedom, and Equality: Religion, Ethics, and Politics in Modernity	de Rande, Raissa	Y (optional)	Historical, Constructive
RETH	61802	1	Climate Ethics	Fredericks, Sarah E.	y	Constructive
RLVC	40400	1	Ekphrasis: Art, Description, and Religion	Elsner, JaS	y	Historical, Cultural
RLVC	41205	1	From Vienna to Hamburg: Theories of Art in the 20th Century-Historiography, Religion, and Crisis	Elsner, JaS	y	Cultural
RLVC	48000	1	Brauer Seminar: Testimony in our Time: Exploring Cultures of Testimony	Jelen, Sheila E.; Lindner, Cynthia	Y (optional)	Cultural
THEO	35501	1	Saints and Other Exemplars	Hector, Kevin W.	Y (optional)	Constructive
THEO	40801	1	Theology and Cultural Studies	Hopkins, Dwight N.	y	Constructive
THEO	41500	1	Beloved Community: Theologies of Sociality and Community	Culp, Kristine	y	Constructive
RLST	10100	1	Introduction to Religious Studies	Berger, Jesse R.	n/a	n/a
RLST	20350	1	The Beginnings of Islam	Akpinar, Mehmetcan	Y (optional)	Historical
RLST	20505	1	Pagans and Christians: Greek Background to Early Christianity	Martinez, David G.	n/a	n/a
RLST	20904	1	Introduction to Jainism	Harrison, Marielle B.	n/a	n/a
RLST	21960	1	Age of Aquarius: The Spiritual Revolutions of the 1960s	Schultz, William J.; Taylor, Sarah P.	n/a	n/a
RLST	22500	1	Death	Harrison, Marielle B.	n/a	n/a
RLST	23013	1	Conversion and Redemption	Podolny, Michaela E.	n/a	n/a
RLST	25706	1	Climate Justice	Fredericks, Sarah E.	n/a	n/a
RLST	26340	1	Race and the Making of American Spirituality	Harris, Matthew M.	n/a	n/a
RLST	26635	1	Liberatory Violence	Doostdar, Alireza M.	Y (optional)	Scientific
RLST	26902	1	Sex, Drugs, and Mantras: Tantra and Subversive Religious Practices	Berger, Jesse R.	n/a	n/a
RLST	27721	1	Jewish Civilization III: The Jewish Question and the Color Line	Collins, Kirsten	n/a	n/a
RLST	27900	1	Gaming the Gods: Video Games and Religion	Cunningham, Marshall	n/a	n/a
RLST	28017	1	Black Americans and MAGA	Hopkins, Dwight N.	n/a	n/a
NEHC	20203	1	Islamic Civilization III: 1750 to Present	Shook, Carl B.	n/a	Historical
ARAB	20703	1	High Intermediate Classical Arabic III	Akpinar, Mehmetcan	n/a	n/a
TBTN	47902	1	Advanced Tibetan	Wedemeyer, Christian K.	n/a	n/a
CMLT	28830	1	Psychoanalysis: Freud and Beyond	Trujillo, Kris	n/a	Cultural, Scientific
CMLT	26855	1	Queer Theory	Trujillo, Kris	n/a	Cultural
PHIL	21102	1	Opera as Idea and As Performance	Nussbaum, Martha	n/a	Cultural
ANTH	51210	1	Situations	Kelly, John	n/a	Scientific
NEHC	20630	1	Introduction to Islamic Philosophy	Soufan, Abdallah	n/a	Historical
NEHC	20043	1	The Formative Period in Shi'ite Islam: Readings in the Primary Sources	Soufan, Abdallah	n/a	Historical
SCTH	35750	1	Heidegger and the Gods(): Philosophy and Theology	Meier, Heinrich	n/a	Constructive
ANTH	45211	1	Being and Space: Peter Sloterdijk's 'Bubbles' and Beyond	Mazzarella, William; Santner, Eric	n/a	Scientific