

DIVINITY GRADUATE COURSES 2026-2027: 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 Irema Halilovic (iremahalilovic@uchicago.edu).</p>

AUTUMN 2026

PARENT IDENT	NUMBER	SECTION	TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	PHD WRITING REQ	COMMITTEES
DVSC	30500		Introduction to the Study of Religion	Arnold, Daniel A.	n/a	n/a
DVSC	55001	1	Writing Religion I	Hammerschlag, Sarah E.	n/a	n/a
AASR	35100	1	Religion and Performance	Adelakun, Abimbola	Y	Cultural
AASR	36300	1	Religion and Medicine	Miresghhi, Elham	Y (optional)	Scientific
BIBL	31000	1	Introduction to the Hebrew Bible	Cunningham, Marshall	N	Historical
BIBL	33800	1	Introductory Biblical Hebrew I	Bacci, Tommaso	n/a	n/a
BIBL	35100	1	Introductory Koine Greek I	Hansen, Bradley J.	n/a	n/a
BIBL	36020	1	The Gospel of John	Hoffer, L. Doug	Y (optional)	Historical
BIBL	46804	1	The Epistle to the Hebrews and the Epistle of Barnabas	Martinez, David G.	N	Historical
BIBL	48002	1	Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi	Stackert, Jeffrey R.	Y	Historical, Constructive
DVPR	33112	1	Deconstruction and Religion	Coyne, Ryan D.	Y	Constructive
DVPR	45000	1	Classic Texts of Confucianism: The Four Books	Ziporyn, Brook A.	Y	Historical, Cultural
HCHR	30232	1	The History of Christianity in the Middle East	Walsh, Erin G.	N	Historical
HCHR	30500	1	History of Christian Thought V: Modern Religious Thought	Hector, Kevin W.	N	Historical, Constructive
HCHR	32604	1	The Reformation in Britain, 1450-1660	Macfarlane, Kirsten	N	Historical
HREL	30101	1	Ancient Mediterranean Religions I: Israel, Judah, and Judaism	Stackert, Jeffrey R.	N	Historical, Cultural
HREL	32900	1	Classical Theories of Religion	Licha, Stephan	N	Historical, Scientific
HREL	40000	1	Brauer Seminar: Settler, Scholar, Soldier, Scribe: Knowledge and Power in the Early Modern World	Venkatkrishnan, Anand; Macfarlane, Kirsten	N	Historical
ISLM	30040	1	Encountering the Qur'an: Scripture, History, and Reception	Akpinar, Mehmetcan	Y (optional)	Historical
JTAC	34109	1	Trauma, Testimony, and Cinema: Claude Lanzmann's <i>Shoah</i> Project	Jelen, Sheila E.	Y	Cultural
JTAC	46677	1	American Jewish Experience: Texts and Contexts	Jelen, Sheila E.	Y	Historical, Cultural
RAME	35700	1	The Christian Right	Schultz, William J.	Y	Historical
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	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	30901	1	Moral Theory: Modernity	Fredericks, Sarah E.	Y (optional)	Constructive
RETH	32800	1	Religious Ethics and the Sciences	Fredericks, Sarah E.	N	Constructive
RETH	33300	1	Reading Your Neighbor's Scripture: Scriptural Reasoning	Zoloth, Laurie	Y	Constructive, Cultural
RETH	34305	1	Forbidden Knowledge: Theology, Ethics, and Research of Impermissible Risk	Zoloth, Laurie	Y (optional)	Constructive, Scientific
RETH	38400	1	Third Millenium Ethics: New Trends in Living the Good Life	de Rande, Raissa	N	Constructive
RLVC	47100	1	History of Criticism I: Plato to Maimonides	Rosengarten, Richard A.	Y (optional)	Historical, Cultural
THEO	33609	1	Kierkegaard: <i>Works of Love</i>	Hector, Kevin W.	N	Constructive
THEO	41101	1	Being Human	Hopkins, Dwight N.	Y	Constructive
RLST	20114	1	Sickness, Death, and Dying in the Ancient World	Cunningham, Marshall	n/a	n/a
RLST	22401	1	Zen Before Zen: Chan Buddhism in China	Ziporyn, Brook A.	Y (optional)	Historical, Constructive
RLST	23404	1	Romanticism and Religion	Hoekstra, Pieter H.	n/a	n/a
RLST	24601	1	Malcolm and Martin: Life and Thought	Hopkins, Dwight N.	n/a	n/a
RLST	25900	1	<i>On the Perfect State</i>	de Rande, Raissa	n/a	n/a
RLST	26325	1	Witnessing the Afterlife: Anthropological and Islamic Approaches to Near Death Experiences (NDE)	Mireshghi, Elham; Casewit, Yousef	Y	Constructive
RLST	26905	1	Gender, Sexuality, and Christianity	Walsh, Erin G.	Y (optional)	Historical
RLST	27305	1	Race, Religion, and Revolution in South Asian America	Venkatkrishnan, Anand	n/a	n/a
RLST	28008	1	African Magic	Adelakun, Abimbola	n/a	n/a
RLST	28405	1	Religion in Anime and Japanese Pop Culture	Licha, Stephan	n/a	n/a
RLST	28590	1	Sandworms, Spice, and Spirituality: Religion in Frank Herbert's <i>Dune</i>	Hoffer, L. Doug	n/a	n/a
RLST	29700	1	Reading and Research Course	Staff	n/a	n/a
RLST	29800	1	BA Research Seminar I	Holbrook, Johanna K.	n/a	n/a
NEHC	20201	1	Islamicate Civilization I: 600-950	Klasova, Pamela	n/a	Historical

WINTER 2027

PARENT IDENT	NUMBER	SECTION	TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	PHD WRITING REQ	COMMITTEES
DVSC	30600	1	Text and Context in the Study of Religion	Jelen, Sheila E.; Rosengarten, Richard A.	n/a	n/a
DVSC	51000	1	Theories and Methods in the Study of Religion	Wedemeyer, Christian K.	n/a	n/a
DVSC	55002	1	Writing Religion II	Hammerschlag, Sarah E.	n/a	n/a
AASR	40100	1	Global Pentecostalism	Adelakun, Abimbola	Y	Historical
BIBL	32500	1	Introduction to the New Testament: Texts and Contexts of Interpretation	Walsh, Erin G.	Y (optional)	Historical, Cultural
BIBL	33900	1	Introductory Biblical Hebrew II	Bacci, Tommaso	n/a	n/a
BIBL	35300	1	Introductory Koine Greek II	Hansen, Bradley J.	n/a	n/a
BIBL	42500	1	The Task of the Translator: Challenges and Opportunities	Walsh, Erin G.; Stackert, Jeffrey R.	Y (optional)	Historical

BIBL	43803	1	Biblical Notions of Covenant	Stackert, Jeffrey R.	Y	Historical, Cultural
BIBL	52500	1	Reading the Psalms in Antioch and Alexandria	Mitchell, Margaret M.	Y (optional)	Historical
DVPR	30201	1	Indian Philosophy I: Origins and Orientations	Arnold, Daniel A.	Y	Historical, Constructive
DVPR	33817	1	On Suspicion	Coyne, Ryan D.	Y (optional)	Constructive
HCHR	30200	1	History of Christian Thought II: The Middle Ages	Otten, Willemien	N	Historical, Constructive
HCHR	30300	1	History of Christian Thought III	Macfarlane, Kirsten	N	Historical
HCHR	31905	1	The Making of the Christian West	Matarasso, Omri	Y (optional)	Historical
HCHR	35330	1	The Gospel of Jesus and Money	Adelakun, Abimbola	Y	Historical, Cultural
HCHR	40402	1	The Contours of Twentieth Century Thought II: Classical Theology Under Siege	Otten, Willemien	Y	Historical, Constructive
HREL	30102	1	Ancient Mediterranean Religions II: Greece and Early Italy	López-Ruiz, Carolina	Y (optional)	Historical, Cultural
HREL	42907	1	Contemporary Theories of Religion	Licha, Stephan	Y (optional)	Historical, Scientific
HREL	52200	1	Problems in the History of Religions	Wedemeyer, Christian K.	N	Cultural, Scientific
ISLM	34567	1	Islamic Psychology	Casewit, Yousef A.	Y	Constructive
ISLM	34600	1	Religion, Peace, and Conflict	Chishti, Maliha	Y	Constructive
ISLM	40010	1	Research Methods and the Academic Study of Islam	Akpinar, Mehmetcan	Y (optional)	Constructive
JTAC	45400	1	Readings in Maimonides' <i>Guide of the Perplexed</i>	Robinson, James T.	Y (optional)	Historical, Constructive
RAME	36340	1	Race and the Making of American Spirituality	Harris, Matthew M.	Y (optional)	Historical, Scientific
RAME	42419	1	From Scopes to Intelligent Design: Creationism and Evolution	Evans, Curtis J.	Y (optional)	Historical, Constructive
RAME	45900	1	Healing Traditions in America	Schultz, William J.; Harris, Matthew M.	Y (optional)	Historical, Cultural
RELP	30500	1	Colloquium: Introduction to Religious Leadership and Practice	Lindner, Cynthia	n/a	n/a
RELP	32600	1	Public Theology in Chicago	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
RELP	42800	1	Senior MDiv Thesis Seminar	Lindner, Cynthia	n/a	n/a
RETH	30702	1	Introduction to Environmental Ethics	Fredericks, Sarah E.	Y	Constructive
RETH	41600	1	The Nature of the Good: The Philosophy of Emmanuel Levinas	Zoloth, Laurie	Y	Historical, Constructive
RLVC	32400	1	Theory of Literature	Hammerschlag, Sarah E.	N	Cultural
RLVC	47200	1	History of Criticism II: Dante to Kant	Rosengarten, Richard A.	Y (optional)	Historical, Cultural
THEO	40900	1	Black Theology: Pros and Cons	Hopkins, Dwight N.	Y	Constructive
THEO	43501	1	Contemporary Models of Theology	Hopkins, Dwight N.	Y	Constructive
THEO	45300	1	Mid-Century Modernist Theology	Culp, Kristine	Y (optional)	Constructive
RLST	10100	1	Introduction to Religious Studies	Taylor, Zachary J.	n/a	n/a
RLST	22402	1	Japanese Zen Buddhism	Licha, Stephan	Y (optional)	Historical, Scientific
RLST	22655	1	Themes in the European Reformation(s)	Macfarlane, Kirsten	n/a	n/a
RLST	23616	1	Gods in the Machine: Artificial Intelligence and the Ethics of Love	Myers, Kat R.	n/a	n/a
RLST	24260	1	Introduction to Modern Chinese Thought: Religion, Philosophy, Politics	Cao, Danica	n/a	n/a
RLST	25704	1	Environmental Justice in Chicago	Fredericks, Sarah E.	n/a	n/a

RLST	27510	1	The Poetry of Wallace Stevens	Coyne, Ryan D.	n/a	n/a
RLST	28308	1	Introduction to Byzantine Art	Krause, Karin	n/a	n/a
RLST	28319	1	Iconophobia: The Prohibition and Destruction of Religious Images	Krause, Karin	Y (optional)	Historical, Cultural
RLST	29700	1	Reading and Research Course	Staff	n/a	n/a
RLST	29900	1	BA Research Seminar II	Holbrook, Johanna K.	n/a	n/a
NEHC	20202	1	Islamicate Civilization II: 950-1750	Kaya, Mustafa	n/a	Historical
LATN	28327	1	Medieval Latin	Allen, Michael I.	n/a	Historical
ARTH	22305	1	Interpreting and Exhibiting Textiles from North Africa and Southwest Asia	Purdy, Janet	n/a	Cultural

SPRING 2027

PARENT IDENT	NUMBER	SECTION	TITLE	INSTRUCTOR	PHD WRITING REQ	COMMITTEES
DVSC	55003	1	Writing Religion III	Hammerschlag, Sarah E.	n/a	n/a
AASR	33100	1	Problems in the Anthropology of Religion II	Heo, Angie	Y (optional)	Historical, Scientific
BIBL	34000	1	Introductory Biblical Hebrew III	Bacci, Tommaso	n/a	n/a
BIBL	40500	1	The Fall of Judah: A Microhistorical Approach	Cunningham, Marshall	Y	Historical
BIBL	41700	1	Paul and Judaism	Hoffer, L. Doug	Y (optional)	Historical
BIBL	42000	1	The Gospel According to Mark	Mitchell, Margaret M.	Y (optional)	Historical
BIBL	46000	1	Textual Criticism of the Hebrew Bible	Yardney, Sarah S.	Y	Historical
DVPR	35700	1	Spinoza: From Infinity to Beatitude	Ziporyn, Brook A.	Y	Constructive, Cultural
DVPR	35830	1	<i>Zhuangzi</i> : The Butterfly in the Mirror	Ziporyn, Brook A.	Y	Constructive, Cultural
DVPR	44302	1	Pragmatism and Religion	Hector, Kevin W.	N	Constructive
HCHR	48400	1	Thomas Aquinas' <i>Summa Theologiae</i>	Otten, Willemien	Y	Historical, Constructive
HREL	30103	1	Ancient Mediterranean Religions III: Christianity and the Roman Empire	Matarasso, Omri	Y (optional)	Historical, Cultural
HREL	30135	1	The Archaeology of Phoenician Religion	López-Ruiz, Carolina	Y (optional)	Historical, Cultural
HREL	40010	1	Contemporary Topics in the Study of South Asian Religion	Venkatkrishnan, Anand	Y (optional)	Historical
ISLM	34590	1	Readings in Islamic Theology	Akpinar, Mehmetcan	Y (optional)	Constructive
RAME	41705	1	The American Jeremiad: Religious Critiques of the American Nation	Evans, Curtis J.	Y (optional)	Historical, Cultural
RAME	42315	1	Christian Nonviolence in the US in the 20th Century	Evans, Curtis J.	Y (optional)	Historical, Cultural
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	Dornfeld, Erika	n/a	n/a
RELP	42800	1	Senior MDiv Thesis Seminar	Lindner, Cynthia	n/a	n/a
RELP	50408	1	The Ethics of Care: Who is "Called" to Care?	Yadav, Sunil	n/a	n/a

RETH	30902	1	Moral Theory: 19th and 20th Centuries	de Rande, Raissa	Y (optional)	Constructive
RLVC	30612	1	Early Christian and Late Jewish Art	Elsner, Jaś	Y	Historical, Cultural
RLVC	37490	1	Art as Buddhism in Ancient India	Elsner, Jaś	Y	Historical, Cultural
RLVC	41604	1	The Cult of Relics in Byzantium and Beyond	Krause, Karin	Y (optional)	Historical, Cultural
RLVC	48800	1	Lives, Selves, Life-Writing: Buddhist and Christian Texts	Rosengarten, Richard A.; Wedemeyer, Christian K.	Y	Historical, Cultural
THEO	44806	1	Creation and Human Creatures: Theological Explorations	Culp, Kristine	Y (optional)	Constructive
RLST	10100	1	Introduction to Religious Studies	Brocious, Elizabeth	n/a	n/a
RLST	20505	1	Pagans and Christians: Greek Background to Early Christianity	Martinez, David G.	n/a	n/a
RLST	22000	1	Saints and Hagiographies of the Medieval World	Matarasso, Omri	Y (optional)	Historical
RLST	22803	1	Ancestors, Angels, and Missionaries: African Religions and the Making of the Modern World	Beall, Anthony J.	n/a	n/a
RLST	23619	1	Love	Rethlake, Mahala R.	n/a	n/a
RLST	23905	1	Is Buddhism a Religion?	Arnold, Daniel A.	Y	Historical
RLST	24805	1	Foucault, Genealogy, Religion	Collins, Kirsten	n/a	n/a
RLST	27703	1	Left-Handed Practice: Religion and Politics in South Asia	Venkatkrishnan, Anand	Y (optional)	Historical
RLST	28133	1	Magicians, Mystics, and Mentalists: From Religion to Science	Baudinette, Samuel K.	n/a	n/a
RLST	28140	1	Golems, Angels, and AI	Johnson, Russell P.	Y (optional)	Historical, Constructive
RLST	28511	1	<i>Star Wars</i> and Religion	Johnson, Russell P.	n/a	n/a
RLST	28700	1	Judith Butler: Gender and Sexuality in Philosophy, Society, and Ethics	White, Virginia J.	n/a	n/a
RLST	28811	1	Emptiness: The History of _____ in Art, Religion, and Philosophy	Loia, Donato	Y (optional)	Historical, Cultural
RLST	29700	1	Reading and Research Course	Staff	n/a	n/a
NEHC	20203	1	Islamicate Civilization III: 1750 to Present	Shook, Carl B.	n/a	Historical
SOCI	20655	1	Religion and Inequality in America	Huttenlocher, Tessa	n/a	Scientific