

AMRS and MA Student Handbook

Autumn 2026

For further information

about any of the policies and procedures

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INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE OF STUDY

Master of Arts in Religious Studies Program (AMRS)
The AMRS Program is designed for students interested in developing a broad basis of understanding in religious studies. It is often pursued by students who are established professionals in another field who would like to add specialized knowledge in the area of religion. The AMRS is a terminal degree and alone is not considered sufficient preparation for the Divinity School's PhD Program. Students interested in the doctoral study at the Divinity School should pursue either the MA or MDiv program.

Academic and Curricular Requirements
To earn the AMRS degree, students must satisfactorily complete (at least a B- or better) a minimum of 9 courses. Required coursework includes:

- Foundation Courses: All AMRS students must satisfactorily complete DVSC 30500 Introduction to the Study of Religion and DVSC 30600 Text and Context in the Study of Religion. DVSC 30500 is offered every autumn quarter and DVSC 30600 is offered every winter.
- Disciplinary Breadth: All AMRS students must take courses in three of the four committees of the faculty.
- Elective Coursework: AMRS students elect their coursework for the degree. Any credit-bearing graduate-level course at the University may be counted toward the degree. AMRS students should consult with their faculty advisor about which courses would be most beneficial in determining the focus and direction of their work.
- One-hour oral examination based on a paper that represents the student's interests in the study of religion.

AMRS students may create independent reading or research courses with individual faculty members. These courses are credit-bearing and can last for one quarter up to an entire academic year. Students must consult with individual faculty members to create such a course, typically the term before the desired course will take place. If the faculty member agrees, the student will work with the faculty member to design a syllabus with goals and objectives of the course, the required reading list, meeting times, and any required assignments. This syllabus along with the Reading/Research Course Petition Form is submitted to the Dean of Students Office for processing. The petition form and accompanying syllabus are due by Wednesday of Week 3 of the quarter that the student is taking the course. If the course lasts for more than one quarter, the student must submit a new form for each quarter.

Below are the two types of Reading Courses:

Reading Courses (DVSC 45100) allow students to craft a bibliography for advanced study in a particular topic in consultation with the sponsoring faculty member. Typically, students meet with the instructor of record according to a mutually agreed upon schedule to work through the texts in the bibliography.

Research (or Independent Study) Courses (DVSC 50100) enable students to pursue formal individualized work under the direction of a member of the Divinity School faculty. Typically, students produce the equivalent of a seminar paper on the topic identified for the course. Reading and Research courses count as electives, not as Area distribution courses, unless approved by the program director.

Oral Examination

AMRS students must satisfactorily complete a one-hour oral examination based on a revised version of a paper that the student wrote to complete the requirements of a course or independent research course in the Divinity School and is representative of the student's prime area of interest within the field of religion. The examination paper is chosen by the student, but it must be approved in advance by the faculty member under whose direction the paper was originally written. The student must identify two faculty members to participate in the oral examination, one of which must be the instructor for whom the paper is written. At least one of the examiners must be a faculty member in the Divinity School. If the student does not have a second faculty member, the MA Program Director will be asked to participate in the oral examination. Students must apply to take the oral examination no later than Friday of Week 1 of the quarter that the examination is to take place. The student will apply to schedule the Oral by completing the Oral Exam Application Form and submitting the revised paper through the online form. If the student's application to hold the oral exam is approved by the Director of the MA Program, the Dean of Students Office will schedule the oral exam with the student's designated readers during weeks five through seven of the quarter.

At the beginning of the oral examination, the faculty examiners confer privately to develop questions of the student. The student is then admitted into the examination. The student is allowed to introduce themselves, their work in the AMRS program, and offers a 10-15-minute summary of the examination paper. The faculty examiners ask questions and offer comments. The total time of the presentation and questions and answer period should not exceed one hour. The faculty examiners then deliberate privately and complete the AMRS Oral Evaluation Form with the Dean of Students or designee. Afterwards, the faculty examiners inform the student of the results: Pass or Fail. If a student fails an AMRS oral examination, they will be withdrawn from the AMRS program. The AMRS Oral Evaluation Form is added to the student's file.

Language Requirement

There are no language requirements for the AMRS program. AMRS students may engage in language study as elective coursework that will count toward degree progression.

Master of Arts in Divinity (MA)

The Master of Arts (MA) is a two-year program providing a foundation in the study of religion and its adjacent fields. It offers the freedom and the structure for students to develop their interests and hone their linguistic and analytical skills through course offerings within the Divinity School and across the University of Chicago's humanities, social science and natural science divisions as well as its other professional schools.

With a requirement of fifteen courses, including the completion of our two-course introductory sequence on theory and method in the study of religion, students will have the opportunity to study the cultures, languages, thought, practices, and institutions of religious traditions both ancient and modern.

We prepare our students for doctoral study in religion or related fields but also encourage the program as a means to pursue other professions or areas of interest for which the study of religion is an important component. Our students go on not only to become professors at the nation's top universities, but also to careers in law, medicine, journalism, public policy, government, education, the non-profit sector, and the arts, among other fields.

Academic and Curricular Requirements

To earn the MA degree, students must satisfactorily complete (at least a B- or better) a minimum of 15 courses. Courses must include:

- Foundation Course(s): All MA students must satisfactorily complete DVSC 30500-Introduction to the Study of Religion and DVSC 30600 Text and Context in the Study of Religion. DVSC 30500 is offered every autumn quarter and DVSC 30600 is offered every winter.
- Disciplinary Breadth: All MA students must take courses in three of the four committees of the faculty.
- Elective Coursework: MA students elect their coursework for the degree. Any credit-bearing graduate-level course at the University may be counted toward the degree. MA students should consult with their faculty advisor about which courses would be most beneficial in determining the focus and direction of their work. These could include courses that further emphasize breadth in the study of religion, courses in an area of study that the student wishes to concentrate doctoral study, or language study.
- Research competency in a modern research language. See language requirements section below.

MA students may create independent reading or research courses with individual faculty members. These courses are credit-bearing and can last for one quarter up to an entire academic year. Students must consult with individual faculty members to create such a course, typically the term before the desired course will take place. If the faculty member agrees, the student will work with the faculty member to design a syllabus with goals and objectives of the course, the required reading list, meeting times, and any required assignments. This syllabus along with the Reading/Research Course Petition Form is submitted to the Dean of Students Office for processing. The petition form and accompanying syllabus are due by Wednesday of Week 3 of

the quarter that the student is taking the course. If the course lasts for more than one quarter, the student must submit a new form for each quarter.

Below are the two types of Reading Courses:

Reading Courses (DVSC 45100) allow students to craft a bibliography for advanced study in a particular topic in consultation with the sponsoring faculty member. Typically, students meet with the instructor of record according to a mutually agreed upon schedule to work through the texts in the bibliography.

Research (or Independent Study) Courses (DVSC 50100) enables students to pursue formal individualized work under the direction of a member of the Divinity School faculty. Typically, students produce the equivalent of a seminar paper on the topic identified for the course. Reading and Research courses count as electives, not as Area distribution courses, unless approved by the program director.

Language Study
A foundational commitment of the Divinity School is the notion that academic citizenship requires multilingual proficiency. The Divinity School therefore requires all its MA students to demonstrate academic reading comprehension in a modern research language. MA students may elect from the following languages: French, German, Modern Arabic, Modern Chinese, Modern Hebrew, or Spanish. Modern research languages enable students to engage with scholarly literature across the field of religious studies.

To meet the language requirement, students may take either the Academic Reading Competency Assessment (ARCA) or a Reading for Research Purposes course. In Summer 2025, the Chicago Language Center and the Office of Language Assessment took over the management of Reading for Research courses under the Academic and Professional Reading Institute. Reading for Research courses and their Foundational prerequisites are offered in 12 languages in a virtual setting with extensive self-study components as well as synchronous sessions with an instructor. These language offerings are **non-credit** seminars.

Students who enroll in these seminars in the Summer will receive certification of completion if they complete the seminar and pass the ARCA examination, which will be administered as the final exam for all Reading and Research seminars. Students will receive a notation on their transcript with the ARCA results noted (pass, high pass). Students who wish to enroll in APRI seminars must apply to the Dean of Students Office for financial aid to cover the cost of these courses. Financial aid is not automatically applied to APRI seminars.

Additionally, there will still be language courses with ARCA exams offered during the academic year in French and German (FREN 13333 and FREN 33333 or GRMN 13333 and GRMN 33333). It is recommended to take French or German in-person during the academic year.

There are no prerequisites for French, German, and Spanish. Arabic, Hebrew, and Chinese, however, require that you can read sentence-level discourse (about two years of study) before taking this course. Online placement exams will be given for all courses with a prerequisite.

Students who register for APRI and decide not to take the course, must drop the course by the published deadlines for a full refund. Students who fail to complete the course or to drop by the published deadlines to receive a full refund, will be responsible for covering the total cost of the course. The Divinity School will not cover the cost of failed APRI courses or course registrations that have not been dropped by the published deadline for a full refund.

Students taking the ARCA exam must earn a grade of Pass (P) or higher to satisfy the language requirement. Students who elect to take the French or German Reading for Research Purposes course (FREN 33333 or GRMN 33333) during the academic year must earn a grade of A- or better to satisfy the language requirement.

Texts for the ARCA language exams have been selected by the Divinity School faculty. The texts are not particular to a student's Area of study or academic concentration. Instead, the texts selected for the language exams are centered in the theories and methods in the academic study of religion.

If an MA student would like to petition to take a language that is not included in the list of approved languages, the student may submit a petition to the Dean of Students Office for review by the MA Program Director. The petition should include the proposed language, the method of assessment for the language, a statement that explains how the language will support the student's research interests, and a brief bibliography of works in the new language connected to the student's research interests.

Students in the MA program may **not** use prior language coursework or native fluency in a modern research to waive the language requirement.

The language requirement must be completed no later than the quarter before the anticipated graduation term. Failure to do so may result in delayed graduation.

Language Exams
The ARCA is administered once per quarter, with fixed examination dates and times in autumn, winter, and spring quarters. The ARCA may also be taken in the Summer. Please visit the Office of Language Assessment website for more information.

Please note that certain exams are offered only by request (such as Arabic, Chinese, Turkish), dependent upon two conditions:

1. The student requests the test by emailing gradreadingexams@uchicago.edu **before Week 3 of the quarter preceding the administration of the test.**
2. OLA is able to hire qualified test developers who can create and grade the exam in that language.

Summer Language Institute
The University of Chicago's Summer Language Institute typically offers the following languages:

- Introductory and Intermediate Ancient Greek, Intensive French, Intensive German, Intensive Japanese, and Intensive Spanish.

Registration typically opens in early March. For questions regarding how to enroll in these courses, please contact the Student Affairs Manager. Classes begin in mid-June, and are 6 to 8 weeks in length, depending on course. Each 300-unit intensive course provides the equivalent of a full year of language instruction. Divinity School tuition scholarships are applicable to the summer term applied in the same percentage as other quarters. Stipend support is not awarded in summer. These courses do not fulfill the Divinity School language requirement for the MA program.

AMRS AND MA ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

Advisor

All AMRS and MA students are assigned a faculty advisor to assist them in determining a cogent course of study. Faculty advisors are assigned before matriculation in the program. Students typically meet with their advisor once per quarter. Students may elect to change their faculty advisor by submitting the petition form on the Forms for Current Students website.

Annual Reviews

The Dean of Students monitors academic progress for AMRS and MA students and provides annual reviews and progress reports for AMRS and MA students every winter quarter. Any student who fails to make satisfactory academic progress as evidenced by failing to meet the enrollment and registration requirements or by failing to earn the sufficient quality grades as outlined above must develop a completion plan in conjunction with the faculty advisor, MA Program Director, and Dean of Students.

The student will be given a completion plan in writing that outlines what is required to regain good academic standing and the deadline for doing so, normally 1-2 quarters. If a student has more than three incompletes, they may not be allowed to register for courses. Instead, the Dean of Students will place the student on leave until the student is able to meet the terms of the completion plan. Students may petition the Dean of Students to take a required course while completing outstanding coursework. Failure to meet the terms of the completion plan will result in the student's withdrawal from the program.

Academic Probation

Effective the 2025-2026 academic year, AMRS and MA students with three or more incomplete or ungraded courses on their transcript on July 1 and/or do not have a minimum grade point average of a B- are not in good standing and will be placed on academic probation. The student will be required to submit a completion plan to the Dean of Students Office and return to good academic standing before registering for classes. Should the incompletes not be resolved and three or more incompletes remain on the transcript by September 1, the student will be placed on administrative leave and will not receive funding from the Divinity School until the start of the quarter after the student returns to good standing.

Should a student who is not in good academic standing need to register for a required course that is only offered in autumn quarter, the student may petition the Program Director and the Dean of

Students Office with a completion plan and a rationale for the need to register for the course. If the petition is accepted to allow the student to register for one course, tuition aid will be applied to the course according to the student's financial aid package.

Please note that all AMRS and MA students who matriculated in Summer 2024 and after are required to be in good academic standing in order for their financial aid to be renewed for the next year.

Good standing is also a requirement for various opportunities for funding in the Divinity School, such as supplemental funding, internships, summer programs, and other opportunities that specify good standing. This means that a student must have no more than two missing grades on their transcript at the time of application for the opportunity.

NOTE: Students utilizing federal student aid should consult with the Graduate Financial Office to determine if and how a grade of "I" will impact loan eligibility.

Enrollment and Registration Requirements

AMRS students may enroll full-time (3 or 4 100-unit courses) or on a part-time basis (fewer than 3 100-unit courses). Students are not permitted to take more than four courses per quarter.
The maximum registration enrollment limit for the AMRS Program is 3 academic years. Students studying full-time are expected to complete the program requirements in one (1) academic year. Students studying part-time may take up to three years to complete the program but are expected to graduate once they complete their coursework and oral exam requirements. After 3 academic years, students are administratively withdrawn from the program and will need to reapply for admission to continue the program. Students must be enrolled in at least 2 courses to be eligible for federal financial aid (loans and work-study).

AMRS students are expected to register in consecutive quarters of the academic year (autumn, winter, spring). Students may take a leave of absence for a maximum of four consecutive quarters, including the summer quarter. Students who do not register for four consecutive quarters will be withdrawn from the program. Administratively withdrawn students must submit a petition to resume studies. Petitions must be approved by the MA Program Director and the Dean of Students.

MA students are expected to enroll full-time (3 or 4 100-unit courses) each quarter for six consecutive quarters, thus completing the program in two academic years. Full-time summer enrollment may count toward the residency requirement. Students are not permitted to take more than four courses per quarter.

MA students must petition the Dean of Students Office to register for fewer than three courses in a given quarter. If approved, the student will be added to a placeholder course to maintain full-time registration in the program.

Students who wish to take more than four courses, either for credit or as an auditor, must petition the MA program director and the Dean of Students for approval. Students registered for more

than 400 units in a given quarter will be dropped from the additional courses if they do not have an approved petition.

Full-time International Students on F-1 or J-1 visas must register for at least 300 units each quarter. To maintain F-1 or J-1 status, federal immigration regulations require students to be enrolled full-time for all quarters listed on the I-20/DS-2019, with the exception of the vacation quarter (usually summer).

International students seeking authorization to drop below full-time enrollment **must** contact the Office of International Affairs about reduced course load options.

Students studying on a full-time basis are expected to complete the program in two academic years. After two academic years, students are administratively withdrawn from the program and will need to reapply for admission to continue the program. Students must be enrolled in at least two courses to be eligible for federal financial aid (loans and work-study).

AMRS and MA students may withdraw from the program at any time. Students wishing to withdraw from the program should consult with the Dean of Students Office.

AMRS and MA students who have completed all program and residency requirements are expected to graduate. Students who have incomplete coursework or AMRS students who have not completed their AMRS Oral Exam, and have completed their residency requirements, will not be permitted to enroll for additional quarters. Effective in the 2025-2026 academic year, students will be withdrawn at the end of their last quarter in the program. For MA students, this is the sixth quarter of full-time enrollment, not including summers. For AMRS students, this is the quarter when coursework is completed and the Oral Exam are completed. Students administratively withdrawn may petition the Program Director and the Dean of Students to graduate once all degree requirements are met.

Course Registration
Courses offerings for the academic year may be found on the Divinity School website. Registration opens for graduate students the week before classes begin in autumn, during 8th week of autumn for winter quarter registration, and 8th week of winter quarter for spring quarter registration. The graduate registration schedule may be found here.

Quarterly Registration Timeline for Graduate Students

- **Sixth Week**: online course time schedules for the next academic quarter are published
- **Eighth Week:** Divinity graduate students register for next quarter's classes
- **Tenth Week:** Registration temporarily closed
- **First Week:** Add/Drop Opens
- **Wednesday of Third Week:** All registration changes must be submitted to the Dean of Students Office to ensure processing before registration closes on Friday of Third Week.

How to Register for Courses and Make Registration Changes

- Course offerings are published every quarter by the Registrar.

- Students who do not register before the first day of the new quarter will be assessed a late registration fee by the Office of the Bursar.

- Instructions for adding, dropping, and swapping classes can be found on the Registrar's website. All students may make registration changes in my.UChicago through Friday of Week 1. After Friday of first week, Master's students may request additional registration changes by submitting the registration adjustment form.

- All registration changes sent to the Dean of Students Office must be submitted by 5 pm on Wednesday of Week 3 using the registration adjustment form. Please submit a new form for each adjustment that you wish to make. Due to the accelerated nature of the quarter system, students are strongly encouraged to finalize their registrations by the end of first week of the quarter whenever possible.

- Students registering for a course that requires instructor consent should contact their instructor for written consent and submit the consent along with the registration adjustment form. Requests to be registered for a closed course require instructor consent. Please submit the registration adjustment form and include written instructor consent.

- Requests to take course on a **P/F** or as an **Audit** require instructor consent. Please submit the registration adjustment form and include written instructor consent.

  Note on P/F Grading: Before discussing pass/fail grading with instructors, students should check with the Dean of Students to determine whether a grade of "P" will be allowed to count towards their degree requirements. A grade of P can be awarded when the instructor determines that the student has submitted sufficient evidence to receive a passing grade. A grade of P confers credit but does not carry any point value and will not impact a student's GPA. *Note: In courses that normally assign quality grades, you must have the instructor's permission to take the course pass/fail. Instructors are permitted to deny this request.*

  Note on Auditing Courses: Courses taken for a formal audit appear on a student's transcript with a grade of "R."

- Students may not register for more than **five** courses during the shopping period. If you are enrolled in more than four courses without special permission from the Dean of Students, at the end of the add/drop period, you will be administratively dropped or withdrawn from your fifth course by the Dean of Students Office. Students who wish to register for a fifth for-credit course must submit a petition to the MA Program Director with a justification for the fifth course. Please note that these petitions are rarely approved.

- **Reading and Research Courses:** To register for a Reading/Research Course, please submit the signed Reading/Research Course Petition Form through the registration

adjustment form along with a course reading list or Syllabus. If the Reading/Research course is not in the Divinity School, please complete this same petition and include the department in which you wish to complete the Reading/Research course.

- **Chicago Booth Course Registration**
  Divinity students may only register for a Chicago Booth course if the course is appropriate to the student's program of study (i.e., approved by a faculty adviser in the department). Registration for business school courses that are open to non-Booth students does not take place until the second week of the quarter. Therefore, it is advisable for Divinity students to also attend a non-Booth alternative or back-up course. Information about taking courses at Chicago Booth is available **here**.

- Master's students who plan to take courses during Summer Quarter must self-term activate.

Registration for Language Exams
The deadline to submit the request to register for the ARCA is Friday at 3PM of the third week of the quarter.

Late submissions for the language exam must be approved by the Office of Language Assessment and are not guaranteed registration for the language exam. If a late submission is approved by the Office of Language Assessment, a late registration fee will be assessed.

Late registration for the reading course is not allowed.

NOTE: It is strongly encouraged that your first attempt of the language exam or reading course occurs at least two quarters before your scheduled graduation. This will give you the opportunity to re-take it, if necessary, without delaying graduation.

The Divinity School will pay the fee for the ARCA. If you see the charge on your bill, please notify the Dean of Students Office.

Registration and Your Student Account
- Students may see anticipated tuition aid on their accounts before registration. Tuition aid is only disbursed after enrolling in courses.
- AMRS tuition is assessed on a per-course basis. You can review the tuition costs on the Bursar's website.
- Please make sure to enroll when registration opens each quarter. Adding and dropping courses will cause your student bill to fluctuate. You should generally allow 1-2 business days to see updated totals on your student bill after making registration changes.
- Students can avoid late registration fees by taking registration action prior to the first day of the quarter. Fees are not assessed for changes made during add/drop.

Restrictions and Registration
- All students are responsible for checking their accounts for restrictions (Bursar, Library, Student Loan Administration, Real Estate Operations, Immunization, Office of

International Affairs, etc.) before registration. **A student cannot register until all restrictions are cleared.**

- Graduate students who are restricted from registering must clear their restrictions by the end of the third week of the quarter or they will be put on an administrative leave of absence in that quarter. At the beginning of the next quarter, if the student has failed to clear all restrictions, the student will be administratively withdrawn from the University by their Dean of Students (unless the student is on a documented non-administrative leave of absence).

Withdrawing From a Course

- Students who do not wish to complete a course after Friday of third week of a quarter may request a withdrawal ("W") from the course. Withdrawals will ordinarily be granted except in cases of academic dishonesty. A withdrawal may not be granted after completion of the course (typically the last day of a quarter).
- A grade of "W" appears on the student's transcript. A "W" does not carry any point value and will not impact a student's GPA. A grade of "W" does not confer credit and may thus impact progress towards degree.
- Withdrawals will not result in any changes to a student's tuition bill.
- Course changes made prior to the end of the third week of a quarter will not result in a grading penalty since these are enrollment changes made during the "add/drop period."

Procedures to Request a Withdrawal

1. Students must request a withdrawal before the final exam has been given or before the final project due date.
2. Students should contact the Dean of Students to request withdrawal. Students are also strongly encouraged to notify their instructor that they have chosen to withdraw from the course.
3. Students can verify that the Withdrawal took place by checking their current quarter enrollments in my.uchicago.edu.

Students with questions about whether a withdrawal will impact their financial aid or student visas should contact the Graduate Financial Aid Office or the Office of International Affairs, respectively.

Grading

All Divinity School courses are evaluated using quality grades (A, B, C, D, and F), all of which have + or - modifiers. AMRS and MA students must earn a grade of B- or better in courses that count toward degree completion. Courses grades of C+ or below and audited courses do not count toward degree completion.

Students may elect to take a course on a Pass/Fail basis. To earn a grade of Pass (P), students must earn an equivalent of B- or higher in the course to earn a Pass. Students must obtain instructor approval to take a course on a Pass/Fail. Once instructor approval is obtained, students must submit their request to the Dean of Students Office by Wednesday of Week 3 for processing.

AMRS and MA students may count only one (1) course graded on a Pass/Fail basis toward degree completion. The foundational courses DVSC 30500 Introduction to the Study of Religion and DVSC 30600 Text and Context in the Study of Religion must be taken for quality grades.

Students may also elect to audit a course, which is indicated as (R) on the transcript. Students who audit courses typically complete assigned readings, participate in class discussions, but do not turn in assignments. Audited courses are not taken for credit and do not count toward degree completion; however, audited courses are billed the same as for-credit courses. Students must obtain instructor approval to audit a course. Once instructor approval is obtained, students must submit their request to the Dean of Students Office by Wednesday of Week 3 for processing.

Incompletes

A student may request a grade of "Incomplete" ("I") if they anticipate not completing the course requirements before the end of a quarter but have: (1) participated actively in the course, (2) completed the majority of the requirements of the course, and (3) made satisfactory arrangements with the instructor to complete the remaining work by a specified deadline.

If the instructor agrees to assign an "Incomplete," a grade of "I" will appear on the transcript. An "I" does not carry a point value and does not impact a student's GPA. Once the student has completed the course requirements, the transcript will be updated to include the quality grade. If the grade is completed within one calendar year, the mark of "I" will be removed. After one year, the mark of "I" will appear on the transcript next to a quality grade to denote that the work was not completed within a single quarter (e.g. "IA" or "IB+"). Quality grades with an "I" carry the same transcript weight as quality grades without an "I."

Because an incomplete is a formal agreement between an instructor and a student, failure to submit or complete remaining requirements by the agreed-upon deadline could result in assignment of a quality grade that the student earned based on requirements partially met in the course or a W.

Procedures to request an incomplete

1. Students should discuss the possibility of an incomplete with their instructor as soon as they become aware that they may not be able to complete all course requirements by the end of a quarter.
2. Students should discuss the timeline for completing the incomplete work for the course and detail in writing the date by which each assignment will be submitted to the instructor. The instructor should also note what grade will be assigned if the incomplete work is not submitted. This could be a "W" or a quality grade based on the work that has been submitted to date.
3. If an instructor agrees to an incomplete, students should submit the signed incomplete form to the Dean of Students Office.

   NOTE: Students utilizing federal student aid should consult with the Graduate Financial Office to determine if and how a grade of "I" will impact loan eligibility.

Transfer Among Programs
Because a student's academic and professional interests may change, students may transfer between the master's degree programs at the Divinity School. Students may present transfer petitions at any time after matriculation to the program. Any petition by a student to transfer to another program after admission, but before registration, is subject to review by the Masters Admissions Committee.

Petitions of enrolled master's student are subject to review by the student's faculty advisor and Faculty Program Director of the entering program. Students should complete the Petition to Change Programs Form which is available on the Forms for Current Students website.
If a transfer petition is approved, the student will be given an academic plan for the new program, including an updated graduation date by the Dean of Students Office. Master 's students maintain the same divisional aid tuition proportion when transferring programs.

Graduation
Students must apply to graduate in the term in which the degree is completed. The deadline to apply to graduate is Friday of the first week of the quarter. Students graduating in the summer, autumn, winter or spring quarter of the current academic year are invited to participate in annual convocation exercises in the spring quarter. Degrees are conferred in the actual quarter of graduation. The Registrar charges a degree cancelation fee for students who apply for graduation who are not approved to graduate. Students should consult with the Dean of Students Office about eligibility for graduation. Students who wish to participate in an internship in the summer after they complete their degree requirements may only participate in the spring ceremony of the previous academic year if all degree requirements are completed by the graduation deadlines for the spring ceremony of the previous academic year. Students holding summer internships with questions about eligibility to participated in graduation ceremonies should contact the Dean of Students Office.

In-Person Instruction
Both the AMRS and MA programs are fully in-person degree programs. Instruction is not offered in a hybrid format.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Preparing for Doctoral Work

Statement of Purpose

The statement should articulate the questions or problems that motivate your pursuit of a graduate degree in a particular field, the aspects of your prior work (broadly construed) that suggest you'll be successful in the degree program, and the reasons you think the institution is a good place to do your work. The statement should be future-directed and inquiry-based. It should not be an exercise in intellectual or spiritual autobiography; it should convey the intellectual conversations you anticipate joining and your preparedness to undertake an intellectual project or research agenda.

Coursework

For students who plan to apply to doctoral programs in autumn of their second year of the program, it is recommended that students choose course work in the first year that will allow them to produce a writing sample and make progress on language preparation.

Letters of Recommendation

Approach potential letter writers a few months before the deadline to ask if they would be willing to write you a strong letter of recommendation. It is often helpful for students to take more than one course with faculty who will serve as recommenders to help them attest to your potential in doctoral programs. If the timing is over a holiday or a particularly busy period, you should allow additional lead time. If potential writers say no or seem hesitant, it is best to ask someone else.

When requesting letters of recommendation, it is helpful to consider which qualities and qualifications you wish to convey to the reading committee and to choose writers who can speak to those skills and characteristics (e.g., research and writing, language skills). Be sure to ask if the recommender will be able to write you a strong letter.

Ask your recommenders their preferences on which materials they'd like to see, timelines, reminders, etc. Generally, it is a best practice to provide recommenders with the deadline for submission, information about the opportunity or program to which you are applying, your statement of purpose or application essay, your resume/CV, a copy of your transcript, and any other information you think would be helpful for them in writing your letter. A week or two before the due date, it may be helpful to send a reminder about when the letter is due, but different writers have different preferences, so it is best to ask directly and establish expectations. Here you can find helpful information on requesting letters of recommendation.

Summer Opportunities

Whether you plan to apply for further graduate study or pursue full-time work after graduation, you can find professional development workshops offered by The Divinity School and UChicagoGRAD throughout the year. Through participation in career development and fellowships workshops and one-on-one advising, you can receive feedback on application or job

documents, explore different professional opportunities, and learn strategies for success in networking and interview situations.

Moreover, it is never too early to start planning your summer. Many students in the Divinity School take language courses. The Divinity School also offers a number of internships open to students in the Divinity School in good standing. The application deadline is typically in February.

In addition to the Divinity School internships, students have the opportunity to create their own project-based internship with an organization of interest through UChicagoGRAD's Advance Internship Program. The **Master's Advance** internship allows Master's students to craft an 300-hour summer experience in higher education, industry, nonprofits, or government and apply to receive one of a limited number of $6,000 stipends. The funding supports projects that are otherwise unpaid and can be undertaken in the summer after graduation. The deadline to apply for Master's Advance is late February.

Students interested in applying for summer language courses to study languages that are not offered at the University of Chicago may apply for supplemental funding.

For questions about professional development opportunities, please contact the Assistant Dean of Students.

DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE

The Dean of Students supports Divinity School students from admission to graduation. Students can contact the Dean of Students Office via email divinitydos@uchicago.edu or phone at 773-702-8217. While we are all available to help you or connect you to the correct office on campus, you may also wish to reach out to one of us to address a specific need. Please see below for a list of our individual responsibilities.

Philip Guzman
Student Affairs Manager
guzmanp@uchicago.edu
Course Registration
Graduation
Newsletter
Orientation
Special Events
Supplemental Funding

Nathan J. Hardy
Assistant Dean of Students
njhardy@uchicago.edu
Applications to Other Graduate Programs
Career Planning
Professional Development
Recruitment and Admissions

Mimi Maduff
Dean of Students
mhalpern@uchicago.edu
BONDS Peer Mentors
Degree Requirements
Divinity School Policies
Financial Aid
Grievances
Student Status Changes
Teaching Appointments

STUDENT GROUPS

The Divinity Students Association (DSA)

The Divinity Students Association (DSA) is an organization run by and for the University of Chicago Divinity students. Every registered Divinity School student is automatically a DSA member. The organization contributes to many spheres of life in the Divinity School, including academic, professional, and social. Above all else, the DSA strives to foster a true community of Divinity students from every degree program. Founded in the early 1960s, the Divinity Students Association has operated as an independent nonprofit (501c3) within the Divinity School since 1968.

The DSA is focused on pursuing three goals:

1. To enhance student life and research
2. To foster collegiality and social cohesion
3. To work with the Divinity School administration in areas pertaining to student needs

Throughout the academic year, the DSA hosts 4-8s (whole school socials), Divinity Town Halls, and many other exciting big-and-small events to enrich student life from both individual and communal standpoints. The DSA also helps to support students financially through grants, including funding student-run clubs. Finally, the DSA serves as a liaison between the student body and Divinity/UChicago administration, always working to better the student experience.

BONDS (Building Opportunities and Networks for Divinity Students) Peer Mentors

The BONDS Peer Mentorship Program is designed to help incoming University of Chicago Divinity School students with the transition to graduate school and to build community both within the new cohorts and across the Divinity School. Peer mentors engage with incoming students through office hours, one-on-one meetings, regular email check-ins, and social events. BONDS mentors are always available to answer questions about campus and student life, moving to Chicago, experience with courses, languages, etc, or to connect students to other resources in the Dean of Students Office or the University.

CAMPUS RESOURCES

Academic Support Resources

Center for Identity & Inclusion- https://inclusion.uchicago.edu/
Chicago Center for Teaching and Learning- https://teaching.uchicago.edu/
Housing Resources- https://grad.uchicago.edu/life-at-uchicago/housing/
DDH Housing- https://ddh.uchicago.edu/community/student-housing/
UChicago Residential Properties- http://rp.uchicago.edu/
Office of International Affairs- https://internationalaffairs.uchicago.edu/
Spiritual Life- https://spirit.uchicago.edu/
UChicago Bursar Office- https://bursar.uchicago.edu
UChicagoGRAD- https://grad.uchicago.edu/
Career Development- https://grad.uchicago.edu/career-development/
English Language Institute- https://esl.uchicago.edu/
Family Resources- https://grad.uchicago.edu/life-at-uchicago/family-resources/
Fellowships Office- https://grad.uchicago.edu/fellowships/
Library Services https://www.lib.uchicago.edu/
ID & Privileges Office https://ipo.uchicago.edu Email: ipo@uchicago.edu
Office of International Affairs https://internationalaffairs.uchicago.edu
Student Disability Services https://disabilities.uchicago.edu

Health and Wellness Resources

Chicago Student Wellness: 773.834.9355
Nurse Advice Line (after UChicago Student Wellness business hours): 773.834.9355
24/7 Therapist-on-Call: 773.702.3625
Healthiest You 24/7 Doctor: 855.866.0895
UChicago Medicine Emergency Room: 773.702.6250
Spiritual Life https://csl.uchicago.edu/life-on-campus/spiritual-life/
Timely Care Mental Health Support On-Demand: timelycare.com/uchicago

Safety and Security Resources

University of Chicago Police Department (UCPD) From a campus phone: 123; From any phone: 773.702.8181
Dean-on-Call: Call the UCPD at 773.702.8181 or text via the UChicago Safe App
Sexual Assault Dean-on-Call: Call the UCPD at 773.702.8181 or text via the UChicago Safe App
UChicago CARES (The Center for Awareness, Resolution, Education, and Support), resources and reporting for students.
Jeremy Inabinet, Associate Dean of Students in the University for Disciplinary Affairs: 773.834.4837
Bias Education & Support Team (BEST): Report Online

Emergency Assistance

The University of Chicago understands there may be additional unanticipated and unexpected costs you will need to manage during your academic career beyond those accompanying enrollment.

Emergency Assistance Programs are available to assist only currently matriculated degree-seeking students through the Office of the Bursar.

The Emergency Assistance Program includes three types of assistance:
1. Emergency Grant
2. Living Expense Advance
3. Emergency Loan

POLICIES

Adherence to University Policies

All Divinity School students are held to all policies of the University of Chicago and the Divinity School. The Student Manual is the official statement of University policies and regulations and expected standards of student conduct that are applicable to all students. Any student conduct, on or off campus, of individuals or groups, that threatens or violates this commitment may become a matter for action within the University's system of student discipline. Students should read and become familiar with the expectations outlined in the Student Manual.

While students should be familiar with the Student Manual as a whole, the following are commonly referenced by graduate students: Student Life & Conduct, Leaves of Absence, University Grievance Policy for Graduate Students, Policy on Harassment, Discrimination, and Sexual Misconduct, Policy on Title IX Sexual Harassment, Policy on Religious Accommodation for Missed Classes, Assignments, and Exams, Academic Honesty & Plagiarism, Graduate Student Parent Policy, Registration for Students in PhD Programs

All University students use my.UChicago to view and update their personal information including address, phone number, class schedule, student medical insurance, and other items on record in the Office of the University Registrar. This online service also explains and interacts with students concerning other official matters, such as administrative restrictions and their rights to withhold the release of directory information to third parties under the provisions of the **Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)**.

To access my.UChicago, students must use their CNetID and Password.

Divinity School Academic Grievance

The University of Chicago Divinity School is committed to the highest ideals of our academic community. Respect, civility, and professionalism are essential to the Divinity School's mission of advancing the academic study of religion and preparing students for careers in research, teaching, and public religious leadership. All Divinity School academic appointees and staff are responsible for creating and maintaining a learning environment in which every student can maximize their potential. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that Divinity School students have a means and opportunity to resolve complaints alleging abuse of authority. The policy may be found here.

Employment

The terms and conditions of employment for certain graduate students at the University of Chicago who are employed to perform instructional or research services will be determined by a Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) between the University and Graduate Students United ("GSU-UE") for the duration of the assignment to perform such services. Students can access the CBA and review frequently asked questions about graduate student unionization on the Provost's office website.

Dean of Students Office Listserv Policy

The Dean of Students Office manages and approves messages for the following student listservs: divinity_ma_students@lists.uchicago.edu, divinity-students-mdiv@lists.uchicago.edu, divinity-students-phd@lists.uchicago.edu, bonds@lists.uchicago.edu, div-placement@lists.uchicago.edu, divinity_international@lists.uchicago.edu

Emails sent to the listservs must include text along with any images or attachments to ensure that the message is accessible to those using assistive technology.

- Organizations may advertise their events up to two times through the listserv.
- Organizations may only send emails related to established programs or events and are subject to review by the Dean of Students Office staff.
- Messages that publicize or endorse causes (even a very good cause), such as relief efforts for victims of natural disasters or organizations seeking assistance that are not already associated with the University, are not allowed.
- Event images or PDFs may be included.
- Emails for purposes other than academic requirements, fellowships, jobs, and events (e.g., selling or lost items, commentary on events, news stories, jokes, advertisements, etc.) will not be permitted.
- Events will be collated in the DoS newsletter to be sent out on Monday. Events that are not received in time may not be sent out on the listservs.
- Organizations should begin the subject of their email with their organization abbreviation.
- Organizations found in violation of these rules may face sanctions, including loss of listserv privileges, for a period of time.
- Email message must be related to the business and mission of the Divinity School.
- List-host moderators have the right to withhold any messages that do not meet the guidelines set forth in this policy.
- Alternative posting options include the bulletin boards and other listservs such as the DSA listserv for student information.

AUTUMN 2026 QUARTER

SEPTEMBER 2026

7 M LABOR DAY OBSERVED | University Holiday, Divinity School Offices closed

21 M Course registration for Autumn Quarter opens for graduate students in the my.uchicago.edu student portal at 8:30AM CT

22 TU Autumn Quarter Divinity School TA Training, 2:30PM-3:30PM CT, Zoom

22-25 Divinity School New Student Orientation

25 F Divinity School Welcome Ceremony
PhD Students: Teaching@UChicago Conference, 12PM-4PM, registration required
Last day to:

- Submit seminary bi-registration requests to DOS for Autumn term

WEEK 1

28 M Autumn Quarter courses begin

Supplemental Funding Application for Autumn Quarter opens for submission requests

OCTOBER 2026

2 F Master's Student Stipend Payment Date (new and returning students)
Last day to:

- Make course registration adjustments in the my.uchicago.edu student portal, additional changes may be requested through Wednesday, October 15th using the Registration Adjustment Form
- New Students: Proof of Immunization due, see UChicago Student Wellness
- Apply to graduate in Autumn Quarter, application in my.uchicago.edu student portal
- Apply to take AMRS Oral Exam in the Autumn Quarter, form on the DOS website
- Apply to take PhD Qualifying Exams in the Autumn Quarter, form on the DOS website
- Apply to hold PhD Second-Year Conference in the Autumn Quarter, form on the DOS website
- Apply to hold Dissertation Defense in Autumn Quarter, form on the DOS website
- Submit Course of Study Petitions, Dissertation Proposals, and/or Minor Petitions for review by the Committee on Doctoral Studies in Week 4, forms on the DOS website
- Doctoral Student Stipend Payment Date (new students only)
- Bi-weekly Payment Date (student jobs)

WEEK 2

5 M DiviniTEA, 8:30AM-10:00AM, Common Room

7 W Colman Leadership and Service Session, 9:30AM-10:30AM, Common Room
Open Space, 12:45PM-1:15PM, Swift Hall 3rd Floor Lecture Hall

WEEK 3

12 M PhD Application Workshop, 9:30AM-10:30AM, Swift Hall Rm. 106

14 W PhD Cohort Advising Meeting- Qualifying Examinations, 1:30PM-2:30PM CT, Zoom
Open Space, 12:45PM-1:15PM, Location TBD
Last day to request course registration changes, including add/drop courses and changing courses to Pass/Fail/Audit; use the Registration Adjustment Form, 5:00PM CT

16 F Bi-weekly Payment Date (student jobs)

WEEK 4 (PhD Dissertation Defense period begins | Committee on Doctoral Studies Meeting)

19 M DiviniTEA, 8:30AM-10:00AM, Common Room

PhD Cohort Advising Meeting- Dissertation Proposal, 1:30PM-2:30PM CT, Zoom

21 W Colman Leadership and Service Session, 9:30AM-10:30AM, Common Room
Open Space, 12:45PM-1:15PM, Swift Hall 3rd Floor Lecture Hall
PhD Students: Dissertation Office Draft Review Deadline, 4:30 PM

WEEK 5 (PhD Written Qualifying Examination period begins)

28 W Open Space, 12:45PM-1:15PM, Location TBD
Supplemental Funding Application decisions for Autumn Quarter sent out

29 TH Divinity School Open House, 4:00PM-8:00PM, Common Room & Lecture Hall

30 F Bi-weekly Payment Date (student jobs)

NOVEMBER 2026

WEEK 6 (PhD Written Qualifying Examination period continues and concludes)
Winter Quarter course schedule published in the my.uchicago.edu student portal

2 M DiviniTEA, 8:30AM-10:00AM, Common Room

4 W Colman Leadership and Service Session, 9:30AM-10:30AM, Common Room
Open Space, 12:45PM-1:15PM, Swift Hall 3rd Floor Lecture Hall
Faculty: Last day to submit dissertation evaluation forms to the DOS Office for Autumn Quarter PhD graduates, form on the Information for Faculty website

WEEK 7 (PhD Oral Examinations period begins)

11 W Open Space, 12:45PM-1:15PM, Swift Hall 3rd Floor Lecture Hall
PhD Students: Last day to submit completed dissertations to the Dissertation Office to be considered for Autumn Quarter graduation; 4:30PM CT

13 F Bi-weekly Payment Date (student jobs and supplemental funding stipends)

WEEK 8 (PhD Oral Examinations period concludes)

16 M Course registration for Winter Quarter opens for graduate students in the my.uchicago.edu student portal; at 8:30AM CT

17 TU BONDS & DOS Study Break, 12PM-2PM, Common Room

18 W Colman Leadership and Service Session, 9:30AM-10:30AM, Common Room
Open Space, 12:45PM-1:15PM, Swift Hall 3rd Floor Lecture Hall

20 F Faculty: Grades from previous quarters due

23-27 FALL BREAK | NO CLASSES

25 W Bi-weekly Payment Date (student jobs)

26-27 THANKSGIVING OBSERVED | University Holiday, Divinity School Offices closed

Monday, November 30th – Friday, Decemeber 4th: Winter Registration temporarily closed

DECEMBER 2026

WEEK 9 (PhD Second-Year Conference period continues and concludes)

2 W Open Space, 12:45PM-1:15PM, Swift Hall 3rd Floor Lecture Hall

3 TH BONDS & DOS Study Break, 12PM-2PM, Common Room

4 F INSTRUCTION ENDS
Last day to:

- Faculty: Submit milestone evaluation forms for PhD students PhD student evaluation forms for required milestones to the DOSO for review by the Committee on Doctoral Studies, forms available on the Information for Faculty website

- PhD Students: Submit Course of Study Petitions, Dissertation Proposals, and/or Minor Petitions for review by the Committee on Doctoral Studies: **final Autumn 2026 Quarter submission date**, using forms on DOS website
- Submit seminary bi-registration requests to DOS for Winter/Spring terms
- Bi-weekly Payment Date (student jobs)

5-11 READING AND EXAMINATION PERIOD
11 F Bi-weekly Payment Date (student jobs)
12 SA AUTUMN QUARTER ENDS
15 TU Faculty: Autumn Quarter grades due
24 F Doctoral Student Stipend Payment Date (incoming and returning students)
Bi-weekly Payment Date (student jobs)

Winter Break: December 14, 2026- January 1, 2027 | No Classes
Winter Recess: December 24, 2026- January 1, 2027- University Holiday, Divinity School Offices closed

WINTER 2027 QUARTER

JANUARY 2027
1 F NEW YEAR'S DAY OBSERVED | University Holiday, Divinity School Offices closed

WEEK 1
4 M Winter Quarter courses begin
Supplemental Funding Application for Winter Quarter opens for submission requests
8 F Last day to:

- Make course registration adjustments in the my.uchicago.edu student portal, additional changes may be requested through Wednesday, January 21st using the Registration Adjustment Form
- Apply to graduate in Winter Quarter, application in my.uchicago.edu student portal
- Apply to take AMRS Oral Exam in the Winter Quarter, form on the DOS website
- Apply to take PhD Qualifying Exams in the Winter Quarter, form on the DOS website
- Apply to hold PhD Second-Year Conference in the Winter Quarter, form on the DOS website
- Apply to hold Dissertation Defense in Winter Quarter, form on the DOS website

WEEK 2
11 M DiviniTEA, 8:30AM-10:00AM, Common Room
13 W Open Space, 12:45PM-1:15PM, Swift Hall 3rd Floor Lecture Hall
15 F Alma Wilson Applications Due

WEEK 3
18 M MLK DAY OBSERVED: University Holiday, No classes held and Divinity School Offices closed
20 W Open Space, 12:45PM-1:15PM, Swift Hall 3rd Floor Lecture Hall
PhD Cohort Advising Meeting- Qualifying Examinations, 1:30PM-2:30PM CT, Zoom
Last day to request course registration changes, including add/drop courses and changing courses to Pass/Fail/Audit; use the Registration Adjustment Form, 5:00PM CT

WEEK 4
25 M DiviniTEA, 8:30AM-10:00AM, Common Room
PhD Cohort Advising Meeting- Second-Year Progress Conference, 1:30PM-2:30PM CT, Zoom
26 TU Supplemental Funding Application for Winter Quarter due, 5:00PM CT

27 W Open Space, 12:45PM-1:15PM, Swift Hall 3rd Floor Lecture Hall
PhD Cohort Advising Meeting- Dissertation Defense, 1:30PM-2:30PM CT, Zoom
PhD Students: Dissertation Office Draft Review Deadline, 4:30 PM

FEBRUARY 2027

WEEK 5 (PhD Written Qualifying Examination period begins)

1M PhD Cohort Advising Meeting- Course of Study Petition, 1:30PM-2:30PM CT, Zoom

3 W Open Space, 12:45PM-1:15PM, Swift Hall 3rd Floor Lecture Hall

Supplemental Funding Application decisions for Winter Quarter sent out

4 TH MDiv Banquet, 6:00PM-9:00PM, Swift Hall Common Room

WEEK 6 (PhD Written Qualifying Examination period continues and concludes)

8 M Spring Quarter course schedule published in the my.uchicago.edu student portal
Summer Quarter course schedule published in the my.uchicago.edu student portal

10 W BONDS & DOS Study Break – DIValentines, 12:00PM-2:00PM, Common Room
Open Space, 12:45PM-1:15PM, Swift Hall 3rd Floor Lecture Hall

Faculty: Last day to submit dissertation evaluation forms to the DOS Office for Winter Quarter PhD graduates, form on the Information for Faculty website

WEEK 7 (PhD Oral Qualifying Examination period begins)

17 W Open Space, 12:45PM-1:15PM, Swift Hall 3rd Floor Lecture Hall
PhD Students: Last day to submit completed dissertations to the Dissertation Office to be considered for Winter Quarter graduation; at 4:30PM CT

WEEK 8 (| PhD Oral Qualifying Examination period continues and concludes)

22 M Course registration for Spring Quarter opens for graduate students in the my.uchicago.edu student portal; at 8:30AM CT

DiviniTEA, 8:30AM-10:00AM, Common Room

24 W Open Space, 12:45PM-1:15PM, Swift Hall 3rd Floor Lecture Hall

25 TH MA Bowling Night, 6:30PM-9:00PM, Seven Ten Social

26 F Faculty: Grades from previous quarters due

MARCH 2027

WEEK 9

1 M 2026-2027 Annual Review materials sent to students

3 W Open Space, 12:45PM-1:15PM, Location TBD

5 F INSTRUCTION ENDS
Last day to:

- Faculty: Submit any PhD student milestone evaluation forms to the DOSO for review by the Committee on Doctoral Studies, forms available on the Information for Faculty website
- PhD Students: Submit Course of Study Petitions, Dissertation Proposals, and/or Minor Petitions for review by the Committee on Doctoral Studies, using forms on DOS Website, only Winter Quarter deadline.

6-12 READING & EXAM PERIOD

8 M BONDS & DOS Study Break, 12:00PM-2:00PM, Common Room

Monday, March 8th – Friday, March 12th: Spring Registration temporarily closed

13 SA WINTER QUARTER ENDS
16 TU Faculty: Winter Quarter grades due

Spring Break: March 15, 2027- March 19, 2027

SPRING 2027 QUARTER

MARCH 2027

WEEK 1

22 M Spring Quarter courses begin

Supplemental Funding Application for Spring Quarter opens for submission requests

26 F 2026-2027 Annual Review: Student self-reflections due to the Dean of Students Office

Last day to:

- Make course registration adjustments in the my.uchicago.edu student portal, additional changes may be requested through Wednesday, April 8th using the Registration Adjustment Form
- Apply to graduate in Spring Quarter, application in my.uchicago.edu student portal
- Apply to take AMRS Oral Exam in the Spring Quarter, form on the DOS website
- Apply to take PhD Qualifying Exams in the Spring Quarter, form on the DOS website
- Apply to hold PhD Second-Year Conference in the Spring Quarter, form on the DOS website
- Apply to hold Dissertation Defense in Spring Quarter, form on the DOS website
- Submit seminary bi-registration requests to DOS for Summer terms

WEEK 2

29 M Summer Quarter course registration opens for graduate students in the my.uchicago.edu student portal; at 8:30AM CT

DiviniTEA, 8:30AM-10:00AM, Common Room

31 W Open Space, 12:45PM-1:15PM, Swift Hall 3rd Floor Lecture Hall

APRIL 2027

1 TH Admitted Students Day, 8:30AM-5:00PM, Swift Hall Common Room and 3rd Floor Lecture Hall

WEEK 3

5 M PhD Annual Review: Review materials sent to faculty advisors

7 W Open Space, 12:45PM-1:15PM, Swift Hall 3rd Floor Lecture Hall

PhD Cohort Advising Meeting- Qualifying Examinations, 1:30PM-2:30PM CT, Zoom

Last day to request course registration changes, including add/drop courses and changing courses to Pass/Fail/Audit; use the Registration Adjustment Form, 5:00PM CT

WEEK 4

12 M DiviniTEA, 8:30AM-10:00AM, Common Room

13 TU Supplemental Funding Application for Spring Quarter due, 5:00PM CT

14 W Open Space, 12:45PM-1:15PM, Swift Hall 3rd Floor Lecture Hall

PhD Students: Dissertation Office Draft Review Deadline, 4:30 PM

WEEK 5 (PhD Written Qualifying Exams period begins)

21 W Open Space, 12:45PM-1:15PM, Swift Hall 3rd Floor Lecture Hall

Supplemental Funding Application decisions for Spring Quarter sent out

23F Faculty: 2026-2027 Annual Review: Materials for doctoral students not in candidacy are due

WEEK 6 (PhD Written Qualifying Exams period continues and concludes)

26 M DiviniTEA, 8:30AM-10:00AM, Common Room

28 W Open Space, 12:45PM-1:15PM, Swift Hall 3rd Floor Lecture Hall

Faculty:

- Last day to submit dissertation evaluation forms to the DOS Office for Spring Quarter PhD graduates, form available on Information for Faculty website
- Area faculty receive student files of PhD students not in candidacy for Area reviews

MAY 2027

WEEK 7 (PhD Oral Examination period begins)

5 W Open Space, 12:45PM-1:15PM, Swift Hall 3rd Floor Lecture Hall

PhD Students: Last day to submit completed dissertations to the Dissertation Office to be considered for Spring Quarter graduation; 4:30PM CT

WEEK 8 (PhD Oral Examination period continues and concludes)

12 W Open Space, 12:45PM-1:15PM, Swift Hall 3rd Floor Lecture Hall

2026-2027 Annual Review: Area Review materials for doctoral students not in candidacy are due to the Dean of Students Office.

14 F Faculty: Grades from previous quarters due

WEEK 9 (PhD Second-Year Conference period continues and concludes)

19 W Open Space, 12:45PM-1:15PM, Swift Hall 3rd Floor Lecture Hall

20 TH BONDS & DOS Study Break, 12:00PM-2:00PM, Common Room

21 F INSTRUCTION ENDS

Last day to:

- Faculty: Last day to submit any milestone evaluation forms to the DOS for review by the Committee on Doctoral Studies, forms available on the Information for Faculty website, using forms on the Information for Faculty website.
- PhD Students: Last day to submit Course of Study Petitions, Dissertation Proposals, and/or Minor Petitions for review by the Committee on Doctoral Studies; **final Spring 2026 Quarter submission date**, using forms on DOS website

22-28 READING AND EXAMINATION PERIOD

30 SUN Faculty: Grades for Spring quarter for graduating students are due.

31 M MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVED: University Holiday, Divinity School Offices are closed.

JUNE 2027

1 TU Faculty: Spring quarter grades are due for all other students

4 F Divinity School Diploma & Hooding Ceremony | Rockefeller Chapel | 12:30PM

5 SA University Convocation (Main Quad) & Diploma Distribution (Swift Hall)

SPRING QUARTER ENDS