

RELIGIOUS ETHICS 1 a & b

RELIGIOUS AND THEOLOGICAL ETHICS

This examination requires students to demonstrate knowledge of the relationship between religion and morality throughout history. The focus is on major developments and core texts of the field of religious ethics. The list below is known as RETH 1a.

Students who wish to focus on a particular religious tradition not heavily featured on this list may, in consultation with their examiners, substitute approximately half of these texts with texts about religious and theological ethics from the tradition in question. This modified exam is known as RETH 1b.

PART I:

Hebrew Bible (selections)

Plato, *Euthyphro*

Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*

New Testament (selections)

Justin, *First Apology* in *Early Christian Fathers*

Augustine

The City of God (selections, including Books XIV and XIX)

On Grace and Free Will

Qur'an

al-Qadi al-Qudai, *Light in the Heavens*

Saadia Gaon, *The Book of Beliefs and Opinions* (selections)

Abelard, *Ethics*

Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologica*, I, qq. 5-6 (goodness and God); I-II, qq. 6 and 8, 12-13 (human acts), 26 (love), 54-67 (virtues), 90-95, 100 (law), 106-108 (new law); II-II, qq. 25-26 (charity), 40 (war), 63 (respect), 64 (murder), 154 (sex).

Al-Juwayni, *al-Waraqat*

al-Ghazali, *Ihya ulum al-Din* (selections)

Maimonides, "Eight Chapters"

Mishneh Torah (selections)

A'isha al-Ba'uniyya, *The Principles of Sufism*

Martin Luther,

"Sermon on the Mount" (Mt. 5:27-48), in *Luther's Works*, American ed., vol. 21:83-129;

"The Freedom of a Christian," *Works*, 31: 337-377;

"On Temporal Authority," *Works*, 45:81-129.

Thomas Müntzer, "Sermon Before the Princes," in G.H. Williams and A.M. Mergal, eds., *Spiritual and Anabaptist Writers*, p. 47-70.

Schleitheim Confession, in John H. Leith, ed., *Creeds of the Churches*, p. 282-292.

John Calvin, *Institutes on the Christian Religion*, Book I chapter 2; Book II, chapters 7-9 (laws); Book III, chapter 2. i-vii, 6-8, 19 (the Christian life), Book IV, 20 (civil government).

Jesuit Moral Theology, excerpts in George Forell, ed., *Christian Social Teachings*, p. 204-213.

Blaise Pascal, *Provincial Letters*, 4-15.

Baruch Spinoza, *Ethics*

Part I (Concerning God)

Part V (On the Power of Understanding, or of Human Freedom)

Immanuel Kant, *Critique of Practical Reason*

Friedrich Schleiermacher, *Christian Ethics*, (selections)

Søren Kierkegaard, *Fear and Trembling*

Shah Wali Allah, *The Conclusive Argument from God* (selections)

Muhammad Abduh, *The Theology of Unity*

Encyclicals (Selection including *Rerum Novarum*, *Mater et Magistra*, *Pacem in Terris*, *Gaudium et Spes*, *Veritatis Splendor*, *Laudato Si*)

Walter Rauschenbusch, *Theology for The Social Gospel*

Karl Barth, *Church Dogmatics* (selections)

Karl Rahner, “On the Question of a Formal Existential Ethics,” and “The Dignity and Freedom of Man,” *Theological Investigations II*; “The ‘Commandment’ of Love in Relation to the Other Commandments,” *Theological Investigations V*; “Reflections on the Unity of the Love of Neighbor and the Love of God,” *Theological Investigations VI*.

Martin Buber, *I and Thou*

Reinhold Niebuhr, *Moral Man and Immoral Society*

Martin Luther King, Jr., *Strength To Love* and “Letter from Birmingham Jail”

Beverly Harrison, *Making the Connections*

Katie Cannon, *Black Womanist Ethics*

Holmes Rolston, *Environmental Ethics: Duties to and Values in the Natural World*

Gustavo Gutierrez, *A Theology of Liberation*

Margaret Farley, *Just Love*

Stanley Hauerwas, *The Peaceable Kingdom*

James Cone, *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*

Emmanuel Levinas, *Totality and Infinity*

Omid Safi, *Radical Love*

A’isha Hidayatullah, *Feminist Edges of the Qur’an*

PART II:

In consultation with the examiners for this exam, students should choose texts by three additional thinkers whose work relates to core themes of theological ethics.