The Religious Ethics area at the University of Chicago Divinity School is concerned with the meaning of religion for the lives of persons and the ordering of societies, and, therefore, with problems of the good life, justice, and the common good.

Study in the history and methods of religious and nonreligious ethics is essential to work in the area. The examination of specific moral problems and the study of comparative religious ethics require work in the relevant social and historical sciences or in the professions.

For more information, contact
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UChicago Divinity School
Recent Graduates
Melanie (O’Hara) Barrett, PhD 2005
“Love’s Beauty at the Heart of the Christian Moral Life: Constructing the Ethics of Hans Urs Von Balthasar”
Assistant Professor, University of St. Mary of the Lake, Mundelein Seminary

Elizabeth Bucar, PhD 2006
“Creative Obedience: Feminist Ethics from the Rhetoric of John Paul II and Ayatollah Khumayni”
Assistant Professor, Department of Religious Studies and Program Faculty, Women’s and Gender Studies, University of North Carolina–Greensboro

John Carlson, PhD 2005
Associate Professor of Religious Studies, Associate Director, Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict, Arizona State University

David Clairmont, PhD 2005
“Moral Motivation and Comparative Ethics: Bonaventure, Buddhaghosa, and the Problem of Material Simplicity”
Assistant Professor of Moral Theology and Comparative Literature, University of Notre Dame

Michael Hogue, PhD 2005
“The Tangled Bank: Towards an Ecotheological Ethics of Responsible Participation”
Associate Professor of Theology, Meadville Lombard Theological School

Recent Courses
This is merely a sample of coursework available at the Divinity School. Our faculty teach over 100 courses each year in the academic study of religion. Please visit us online for full lists of current and past course offerings.
- Methods and Theories in Comparative Religious Ethics (Schweiker)
- Reinhold Niebuhr: Theology and Ethics (Gamwell)
- Seminar: Greek Tragedy and Philosophy (Nussbaum)
- Alfred North Whitehead: Metaphysics and Ethics (Gamwell)

Graduate Workshops
The Council on Advanced Studies (CAS) sponsors interdisciplinary graduate research workshops in the humanities, social sciences, and divinity, designed to bring together faculty and graduate students from the University of Chicago and the wider Chicago area to create scholarly dialogue, to encourage cross-disciplinary collaboration, and to foster the exchange of ideas. Workshops include Middle East History and Theory, Medieval Studies, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Religions in America, Early Christian Studies, Jewish Studies, and Hebrew Bible. For more information, visit http://grad.uchicago.edu/academic_resources/council_on_advanced_studies/. In addition, the Divinity Students Association offers a range of workshops and clubs: one for each area and others according to student interest. Groups include Buddhist Studies, Feminist Theories and the Study of Religion, and Pedagogy and Professionalization. To learn more, visit http://divinity.uchicago.edu/clubs-and-workshops-0.

The University of Chicago Library
The University of Chicago Library is one of the largest and richest research collections (both in print and online formats) in the world. Religious Studies has been a core component of the collection since the University’s founding and its current strengths match the research needs of the areas of study in the Divinity School.

- Seminal Texts in the History of Medical Ethics (Sulmasy)
- God and Morality (Schweiker)
- Contemporary Religious Ethics I and II (Miller)
- The Ethics of Belief (Miller)
- Utilitarian Ethics (Nussbaum)
- History of Theological Ethics I and II (Schweiker)
- Cicero on Friendship and Aging (Nussbaum)
- Contemporary Political and Social Ethics (Miller)
- Moral Problems: Poverty and Social Justice (Schweiker)
- Religion and Democracy (Gamwell)
- Theories of Medical Ethics (Sulmasy)