The History of Christianity area at the University of Chicago Divinity School focuses on one major Western religious tradition, in itself and in its interactions with other religions and cultures across time. The area fosters knowledge of the range of communities claiming an identity as “Christian” from the first through the twenty-first centuries, as well as allowing for individual specialization in a particular movement or historical moment.

Coursework and guided research emphasize the acquisition of essential skills of documentary and artifactual interpretation, critical appraisal of a range of methodological approaches to the material, a critical awareness of past traditions of scholarship on the material, and a sophisticated appreciation of the tasks, goals, and audiences of historiographical writing.

For more information, contact
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773.702.8217
UChicago Divinity School

For more information, visit divinity.uchicago.edu
Recent Graduates

Seth Perry, PhD 2013
“The Endless Making of Many Books: Bibles and Religious Authority in America, 1780-1850”
Assistant Professor of Religion, Princeton University

Elizabeth Hayes Alvarez, PhD 2011
“The Valiant Woman: The Virgin Mary as Imagined by American Catholics and Protestants, 1854-1904”
Assistant Professor of Religion, Temple University

Adam Darlage, PhD 2009
“Priests Under Pressure in Southern Moravia: History and Identity in Roman Catholic Polemics (1575-1615)”
Head Upper Elementary Teacher, DuPage Montessori School, and Lecturer in Humanities and Philosophy, Oakton Community College

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. In addition, the Divinity Students Association offers a range of workshops and clubs: one for each area and others according to student interest. Current groups include Buddhist Studies, the Women’s Caucus, and The Sacred Flame. To learn more, visit divinity.uchicago.edu/clubs-and-workshops.

UChicagoGRAD

UChicagoGRAD is a University-wide office committed to ensuring that students and postdocs have the skills they need to become the next generation of leaders in academia, government, industry and non-profits.

grad.uchicago.edu

Recent Courses

TOur faculty teach over 100 courses each year in the academic study of religion. Please visit divinity.uchicago.edu/courses for current and past course offerings.

- History of Christian Thought I-II (Otten)
- History of Christian Thought III (Schreiner)
- History of Christian Thought V: Modern Religious Thought (Hector)
- Byzantium: Art-Religion-Culture (Krause)
- Interpreting the Gospel according to Matthew (Mitchell)
- The Age of Walter Rauschenbusch: History and Historiography of the Social Gospel Movement (Evans)
- The Christian Right: History and Historiography (Evans)
- Race and Religion in 20th Century America (Evans)
- Religion in America: From the Revolution to the Civil War (Howell)
- Comparative and Global Christianities (Heo)
- Christianity and Slavery in America, 1619-1865 (Evans)
- Art and Ritual in Byzantium (Krause)
- Early Modern Catholicism (Schreiner)
- Early Christian Art (Krause)
- Colloquium: Ancient Christianity (Mitchell)
- Dialogue in the Middle Ages (Pick)
- The Veneration of Icons in Byzantium: History, Theory and Practice (Krause)
- Renaissance and Reformation (Schreiner)
- Virginity and the Body from Late Antiquity to the Middle Ages (Pick)
- Historical Theological Debates: Predestination and the Augustinian Legacy in the Carolingian Era (Otten)
- Early Spain: Visigoths, Umayyads, and Asturians (Pick)
- Late Medieval Women: Authorship and Authority (Otten)
- Early Christian Rhetoric (Mitchell)
- Colloquium: The Psalms in Medieval Liturgy and Exegesis (Fulton Brown)
- Idolatry: Historical and Modern Perspectives (Schreiner)
- Early Christian Biblical Interpretation (Mitchell)

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The University of Chicago Library

Our 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. The Library has a full-time Bibliographer for Religion and Philosophy who holds workshops specifically designed for those studying religion. To learn more visit library.uchicago.edu.