

Religious Studies, MA

Requirements

The Master of Arts in religious studies requires a minimum of 30 s.h. of graduate credit. Students must complete 24 s.h. of the credit required for the degree at the University of Iowa and must maintain a cumulative grade-point average of at least 3.20. The MA is offered with or without thesis.

All MA students are required to demonstrate competency in English and at least one other language that is relevant to their advanced research; more specific language requirements are set in consultation with an advisory committee. Students are supervised by a three-person committee consisting of an advisor and two additional faculty members.

All MA students must complete the following four courses.

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
RELS:5400	Colonial Knowledge Production and Its Discontents: Religion and the Academy	3
Three additional religious studies courses (prefix RELS) numbered 4000 or above		9

Students select remaining coursework depending on their area of interest and in consultation with their advisory committee.

In their MA thesis work, students demonstrate and refine their research and writing skills. They may count a maximum of 6 s.h. of thesis credit toward the degree. Students must defend their thesis to their committee. Those who choose not to write a thesis must pass an examination that tests their competence in completed coursework. MA study in the department is expected to be completed in two years.