

Religious Studies, PhD

Requirements

The doctoral program in the Department of Religious Studies requires a minimum of 72 s.h. of graduate credit. A maximum of 24 s.h. of relevant graduate work may be transferred from another accredited graduate school or professional program, as approved by the director of graduate studies. A maximum of 12 s.h. of thesis writing credit may count toward the 72 s.h. requirement. Students must maintain a cumulative grade-point average of at least 3.40.

All PhD 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 initially by a three-person committee consisting of an advisor and two additional faculty members; often these members serve also on the student's five-person comprehensive exam and dissertation committees.

All PhD students must complete the following six courses.

Course #	Title	Hours
RELS:5400	Colonial Knowledge Production and Its Discontents: Religion and the Academy	3
CLAS:5100	Practicum: College Teaching and Professional Development for Teaching Assistants	arr.
GRAD:6217	Seminar in College Teaching	3
Three of these (9 s.h.) taken in the first two years:		
RELS:5200	Asian Religions in the Modern World for Graduate Students	3
RELS:5300	Genealogies of Religion	3
RELS:6070	Nonprofit Organizational Effectiveness I	3
RELS:6075	Nonprofit Organizational Effectiveness II	3
RELS:6150	American Religious Histories	3
RELS:6200	Seminar: Religious Ethics	3
RELS:6345	New Materialisms	3
RELS:6580	Seminar: Religion and Society	3
RELS:6710	Seminar: Approaches to Human Rights	3
RELS:6723	Seminar on Islamic Law and Government	3

Students select remaining coursework depending on their interests and in consultation with their advisory committee. PhD students must submit and have their departmental program of study approved in the fourth semester of their study to be permitted to proceed in the PhD program. Those who are approved are expected to write and orally defend comprehensive exams (by the eighth semester),

a dissertation prospectus (by the ninth semester), and a doctoral dissertation (by the twelfth semester).

Students working toward a PhD may receive an MA upon completing at least 30 s.h. of coursework and passing their comprehensive examination.

It is the expectation that PhD students complete their studies in six years; five for those who are accepted into the program with an MA and transfer credit.

For more detailed information on graduate programs in religious studies, contact the Department of Religious Studies or visit Graduate Programs on the department's website.