



MANCHESTER
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The University of Manchester



GRADUATE SCHOOL



RELIGIONS AND THEOLOGY

POSTGRADUATE: TAUGHT MASTER'S COURSES 2016
SCHOOL OF ARTS, LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

You're better connected at Manchester

With a breadth of research activity that's unrivalled in the UK, we work across disciplines and beyond the University, connecting the brightest minds to find innovative solutions to the world's greatest challenges.

Our pioneering taught courses draw upon our world-leading research and our strong links to global industry. You'll quickly develop skills, knowledge and experience that will make employers sit up and listen.

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POSTGRADUATE: TAUGHT MASTER'S COURSES 2016
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“I've been able to make good networks and connections in terms of the work I'm doing and my future career. I've been able to talk to some outstanding professors and read some world-class journals. Manchester has opened my eyes.”

Faith Nanyonga,
Postgraduate student,
The University of Manchester, 2014

 @UoMReligion
 /Religion.Manchester

www.manchester.ac.uk/religionstheology

Welcome to The University of Manchester

Whether you're a committed researcher wanting to further the human quest for knowledge, a career-focused professional seeking a specialist qualification, or a burning enthusiast for higher learning and understanding, a postgraduate degree at The University of Manchester will help you to realise your ambitions.



We make things happen

Our work makes an impact on real lives. We turn enthusiasm into achievement and ground-breaking theory into cutting-edge practice. That's why we're at the forefront of the search for solutions to some of the world's most pressing problems. Studying and researching at Manchester gives you the chance to make a difference, both during your studies and in your future career.

We work closely with organisations ranging from government bodies to global businesses, from local health services to registered charities. From these links spring unique opportunities: we can deliver courses informed by the latest expertise and research programmes that have greater, more immediate impact and value.

We give you excellent prospects

Whether studying for a taught master's or a research degree, you'll be directly involved with cutting-edge research, benefiting from our continuous investment in the best facilities and a dynamic research culture that encourages innovative, cross-disciplinary collaboration.

Our programmes are led by distinguished tutors and fellow researchers working at the forefront of their disciplines, ensuring that your qualification comes with a reputation that will open doors across the world.

You'll also have access to a Careers Service that really understands postgraduates, with specialist advisors, events and resources tailored to your needs.

We offer much more than a degree

At Manchester, you'll find the broadest range of options outside of your studies for developing your interests and experience, including: outstanding sports facilities, skills-development courses, mentoring programmes, community volunteering opportunities and dedicated support for taking part in or setting up a social enterprise.

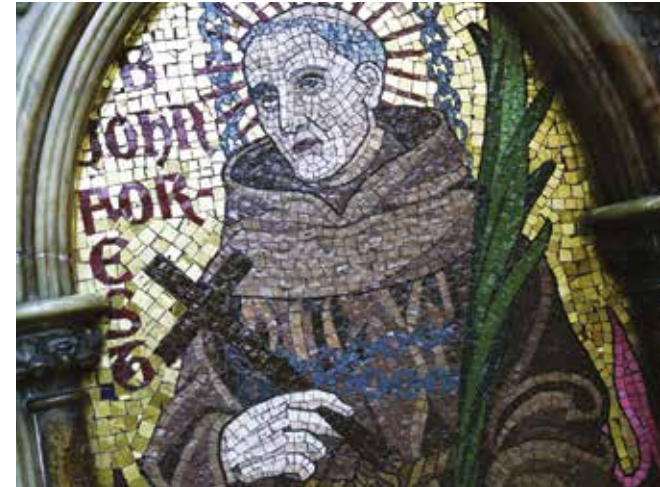
And you'll be at the heart of the dynamic, multicultural hub that is the city of Manchester, with events, facilities, attractions and opportunities to suit every lifestyle, ambition and budget.

Find out more

www.manchester.ac.uk/discover

www.manchester.ac.uk/research

Manchester is one of Lonely Planet's
Best in Travel Top 10 cities to visit in 2016



Religions and Theology at Manchester

Studying Religions and Theology with all the intellectual tools of contemporary scholarship is a responsibility that The University of Manchester has taken seriously for over a century. With no binding ties to religious institutions, we approach our subject from a distinctively comparative, contextual and interdisciplinary angle.

Our approach enables you to ask questions you might not otherwise ask, and to cross boundaries you might not cross in most other settings where religion and theology are normally discussed. Whatever your own world view, religious background, age, gender, or ethnicity, your application will be welcome at Manchester.

Excellence, breadth and depth

Religions and Theology at Manchester has an international reputation for its research. In the 2014 Research Excellence Framework, 75% of our research activity was graded either 4* ('world leading') or 3* ('internationally excellent').

Alongside research and teaching excellence, Manchester's key qualities in religions and theology are breadth and depth. Whether you come to study for an MA, or for a research degree, we will generally offer in-depth teaching in your area of interest.

The MA in Religions and Theology encompasses Biblical Studies, Jewish Studies, South Asian Studies, Religion & Politics and Applied Theology.

However, this is only part of the story; at both MA and research level, we also offer teaching in many other subjects, which can be seen in the descriptions of staff research interests.

International research centres

Our research culture is particularly expressed in our internationally recognised research centres: the Lincoln Theological Institute; the Research Network for Religion and Political Culture; the Centre for Biblical Studies; and the Centre for Jewish Studies.

Extensive library resources

Our most distinctive research resource is the **John Rylands University Library Deansgate**. As well as an excellent general collection of books on religions, theology and related areas, the library houses many collections of world importance. There is a substantial collection of manuscripts and papyri, including the oldest manuscript fragment of a New Testament book and the Rylands Genizah collection. There are also several major archives, such as the Methodist archive, which includes a large number of original documents written by John Wesley.

The University of Manchester Library is one of only five National Research Libraries. With more than 4 million printed books and manuscripts, over 41,000 electronic journals and 500,000 electronic books, as well as several hundred databases, the library is one of the best-resourced academic libraries in the country. www.library.manchester.ac.uk

All of the above resources are freely available to our MA students.

Religions and Theology at Manchester

Interdisciplinary interests

Manchester offers a wide range of other course units that you will be able to take alongside religions and theology units. For research students, the lecturers on these are available to give specialist support. Within the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures, there is a full selection of course units in History, Classics, Archaeology, Art History, English Literature, English Language, Music, Drama, Linguistics, Middle Eastern Studies and Gender Studies. Instruction is also available in an astonishingly wide range of languages. Beyond our School, you can draw on courses in, for example, social sciences, politics or economics.

In addition to this, the department is renowned for the solidity of its reputation in Biblical Studies. Students will be offered courses on New Testament Greek and Biblical Hebrew to enhance and further their skills, with the aim of being able to interpret biblical texts in at least one of their original languages.

Whatever you are interested in learning at MA level, Manchester offers you a stimulating environment for study alongside gifted and dedicated students from all over the world.

Entry requirements

MA

You will normally have a First or good Upper Second class Honours in your first degree, or its overseas equivalent, in a subject or major relevant to the MA you wish to study. Some prospective applicants will be interviewed in order to assess their individual strengths and needs. If you wish to discuss any requirements, please contact us.

English language

If English is not your native language, you should note that a high standard of written and spoken English is necessary for study at Manchester.

A sufficient level of attainment in English must be demonstrated (by an IELTS of 7.0 or a score of at least 600 in the TOEFL paper-based test, or 250 in the computer-based test) prior to registration.

Funding

Most funding opportunities for MA study are administered by the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures. Details are given in the School section of this brochure. For the most up-to-date information, see: www.alc.manchester.ac.uk/fees

There are also a number of funding opportunities specific to Religions and Theology. These usually relate to particular areas of study and are usually specific to either MA or PhD study. See the web address above for details.

The Facts

- One of the top centres in the UK for research in religions and theology
- Pioneering, top-rated teaching informed by the latest research
- Many relevant library collections of global importance
- Range of internationally recognised, interdisciplinary research centres
- £650 million investment in university facilities for research and study
- 4 million books in one of the UK's best-resourced university libraries
- Nationally acclaimed University Careers Service with postgraduate support
- Exciting and diverse environment in one of the best student cities in the world

Postgraduate taught courses

Masters courses

MA study at Manchester goes beyond the assessed course units. Throughout your study, you will be expected to attend both special skills workshops (on subjects such as writing dissertations and journal articles) and research seminars. There is a regular research seminar on religions and theology. There are also more specialised regular seminars in biblical studies and in Jewish studies. Periodic seminars and conferences are held on religion and politics, South Asian studies, and theology and society.

Our MA students are a wonderfully diverse group. They come from a wide variety of backgrounds and many are returning to study after a period in full-time work, so the range of ages is wide as well. Perhaps more importantly, they come to Manchester from all over the world. The international and multicultural student body is one of the elements that make Manchester the special place it is. We recognise the diverse needs and interests of our students and make flexibility a watchword in both the selection and running of courses. Whatever your interests and circumstances, we aim to help you pursue your goals.

Research seminars

There are several research seminars every month in the School in which you can participate. There is a regular series of seminars in Religions and Theology, together with more specialist seminars and colloquia arranged through our numerous international research centres (see page 5) and in other areas such as Biblical Studies, Jewish Studies, South Asian Studies and Religion and Politics. These offer you the opportunity to hear new research by leading scholars in your field.

MA student support includes:

- An induction at the start of your course
- A lecturer with overall responsibility for the MA degrees in Religions and Theology, who is available for discussion of academic or pastoral issues
- Your own supervisor for your dissertation according to the topic chosen, with whom you will have one-to-one tutorial meetings
- Support from the School in personal and academic development planning through the Postgraduate Skills and Research Training programme, which also provides access to a wide range of workshops on study skills (see page 20 for further details)

MA in Religions and Theology

This degree offers you the opportunity to study a broad course that goes across two or more of the specialist research areas of the Department as listed above. For example, students who have previously studied one religious tradition could study several other traditions.

The MA in Religions and Theology also allows you to follow specialist interests that are catered for by our teaching staff, but which do not fall directly within the remit of one of the existing degrees. For example, Manchester has a distinguished history in offering postgraduate courses in theology. We also offer world-class resources for study of history of Christianity in the form of the John Rylands University Library archives, such as the one containing John Wesley's letters.



Course structure

Core course units

These will give you the opportunity to acquire a variety of research and presentation skills in a chosen area of Religions and Theology. You will have to take two core course units (**Religions and Theology: Methods** and **Religions and Theology: Impact**).

Areas of study

Your available options normally include areas such as Biblical Studies, Jewish Studies, Islamic Studies, South Asian Studies, Religion and Politics, Philosophy, Sociology, Social Anthropology, Systematic Theology, Applied Theology and Religion and Conflict. It is also possible to take some options from elsewhere in the School, or beyond. Furthermore, MA students are entitled to audit courses both from MA or Undergraduate level. See our website for a more comprehensive list.

Directed Reading courses

Directed Reading courses allow students to work on a one-to-one basis with a staff member on a research topic of their research interest.

Please note: in order to stay in touch with staff research interests, the list of units is revised every year.

Dissertation

Following the successful completion of the taught course units, you will undertake a supervised dissertation of 12,000 to 15,000 words on a topic of your choice.

Postgraduate taught courses

MA in Religions and Theology (Focus: Biblical Studies)

The research focus in Biblical Studies aims to provide you with the opportunity to further your study of the Bible through reading a range of biblical texts in their original languages and through analysing primary sources critically. Attention is also given to closely related texts, such as the Dead Sea Scrolls and Gnostic literature. Initial study of Biblical and related languages is also available.

Course structure

Core course units

This will give you the opportunity to acquire a variety of research and presentation skills in a chosen area of Religions and Theology. You will have to take two core course units (**Religions and Theology: Methods** and **Religions and Theology: Impact**).

Key course units

The study of New Testament in the Roman Empire and Interpreting Bible and second-temple Jewish texts will give you the opportunity to acquire a variety of research skills in handling the texts. The units are normally taught by a number of the Biblical Studies and Jewish Studies staff and reflects their range of research interests. One key skill that is taught is the ability to assess scholarly presentations. To achieve this, the unit is closely integrated with our internationally respected weekly Ehrhardt Biblical Research Seminar.

Beginners Hebrew and Greek are available, as are more advanced course units involving reading Biblical Texts in Hebrew or Greek. Study of Aramaic, papyrology, palaeography and epigraphy may also be available.

See our website for a comprehensive list of BA and MA course units. Please note: in order to stay in touch with staff research interests, the list of units is revised every year.

Dissertation

Following the successful completion of the taught course units, you will undertake a dissertation of 12,000 to 15,000 words on a related topic.

The Centre for Biblical Studies

The Centre for Biblical Studies within Religions and Theology at The University of Manchester is the principal home of all the University's postgraduate and staff activity in Biblical Studies. The Centre carries forward the work of the former Department of Biblical Criticism which established a world-wide reputation for Biblical Studies at Manchester, notably through the work of the holders of the Rylands Chair of Biblical Criticism and Exegesis: A.S. Peake, C.H. Dodd, T.W. Manson, F.F. Bruce, B. Lindars SSF, and C.M. Tuckett. Staff affiliated to the Centre have interests ranging from Ugaritic Literature through to early Rabbinic Judaism. The study of the literature and cultural contexts of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament and of the New Testament forms the core of the Centre's activity, but there are also specialist interests, especially the Dead Sea Scrolls.

www.manchester.ac.uk/religionstheology

MA in Religions and Theology Focus: Jewish Studies

The research focus in Jewish Studies draws on the expertise of leading scholars in the fields of Jewish-Christian-Muslim relations, Jewish history, Holocaust Studies, Israel Studies, Jewish philosophy, Jewish literature, Hebrew language, Bible and Second Temple Judaism, and Rabbinic literature. The course involves lecturers based in Religions and Theology, Middle Eastern Studies and other parts of the University. You can specialise in Judaism in the modern, medieval or ancient worlds.

Aiming to raise issues, pose problems and stress methodology, it will adopt a critical, academic approach to primary sources. Assessment will test your powers of analysis and argument more than passive knowledge.

Manchester has a long distinguished tradition in Biblical Studies, with alumni including Robert Gundry, Donald Hagner and Seyoon Kim. The weekly Ehrhardt research seminar draws up to fifty biblical scholars and postgraduates, with speakers including many world-leading thinkers. Coordination with Manchester's strengths in Classics and in Jewish Studies offers the opportunity to become very highly trained in interpretation of the Bible in its range of contexts.



Course structure

Key course units

The core unit for the specialism in Jewish Studies is 'Jews Among Christians and Muslims'. This mainly focuses upon the medieval and modern periods and on the themes of the varied nature of interactions between Jews and non-Jews, and of the complexity of Jewish identity at different times and places. It illustrates a number of methodological approaches, including history, philosophy, theology and socio-cultural studies, and provides a useful introduction to a range of topics and texts that commonly feature in Jewish Studies.

See our website for a comprehensive list of BA and MA course units. Please note: the list of units is revised every year.

Dissertation

Following the successful completion of the taught units, you will undertake a supervised dissertation of 12,000 to 15,000 words on a related topic.

The Centre for Jewish Studies

The Centre acts as a focus for Jewish Studies at The University of Manchester and draws in staff from other Higher Education institutions in the region. It is home to a number of outstanding academics in the fields of Bible, Dead Sea Scrolls, rabbinic Judaism, Jewish Thought, Holocaust Studies, ancient, medieval and modern Jewish History, Film Studies, Jewish/non-Jewish relations, and Israel Studies. The Centre also enjoys the participation of a number of distinguished Honorary Research Fellows and attracts research students from around the world on a wide variety of PhD topics.

www.manchesterjewishstudies.org

Postgraduate taught courses

MA in Religions and Theology Focus: Religion and Politics

The research focus in Religion and Politics aims to furnish you with a critical understanding of key concepts and themes in the field of religion and political cultures. You will acquire knowledge of the historical and continuing involvement of religion in various forms of political culture, and the ability to analyse critically religious traditions, or aspects thereof, from the standpoint of their involvement with political culture. The course will also provide the necessary historical, conceptual and methodological foundations for further research in the Humanities.

In this degree, you are encouraged to undertake independent research in order to:

- Understand the history of contemporary issues in religion and politics
- Examine the political aspects of various religious traditions
- Gain awareness of potential conflict and cooperation between religions and political cultures

Course structure

Key course units

Religion and Politics, as well as Theology on the Ground and Religion in a post-secular city, will provide grounding in five methodological approaches to examining the relationship between religion and politics (historical, philosophical, theological, ethnographic, political).

See our website for a comprehensive list of BA and MA course units. Please note: in order to stay in touch with staff research interests, the list of units is revised every year.

Dissertation

Following the successful completion of the taught units, you will undertake a supervised dissertation of 12,000 to 15,000 words on a related topic.

Research Network for Religion and Political Culture

The Network for Religion and Political Culture is directed by Dr. Michael Hoelzl. Members of the NRPC undertake research in the field of Religion and Politics: the complex history of their relationship. The research undertaken does not issue from any one particular political or religious standpoint and politics is understood broadly, from the regulation of social relations on a micro and macro-level to the historical development of political concepts.

Dr. Hoelzl edits a book series with Continuum designed to disseminate research work undertaken and to provide a publishing platform for junior as well as senior academics whose research is in religion and political culture.

MA in Religions and Theology Focus: South Asian Studies

South Asia is an important geo-political region in today's world. It includes India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bhutan. Transnational South Asian communities span the UK, North America, East Africa and many other locations, as well as the sub-continent itself.

The research focus in South Asian Studies provides you with an exciting opportunity for study of South Asia and the diaspora, bringing together historical, textual and sociological approaches into creative tension. It will give you the opportunity to ask questions that matter, such as:

- How have people understood themselves and 'others' in relation to South Asia?
- How has the discourse of religion been involved in the development of South Asian identities?
- Why does religion often lead to conflict?
- What issues are raised by living in a postcolonial, diasporic world?

In tackling such questions, you will learn to appraise critiques of Orientalist study, to analyse the effects of scholarship upon South Asian institutions and conceptions of 'religion' and to apply different approaches to material of your choice.

A characteristic of our approach in Manchester is our focus on teaching across religious traditions to show their interrelations in a variety of ways. With the provision of Urdu, and its focus on contemporary issues understood in historical perspective, the degree should suit students interested in employment in a range of sectors, including health, education, politics, diplomacy and management, as well as those wanting to continue for doctoral study – including those from the North West who have a South Asian background themselves.

Course structure

Key course units

Asian Communities in Britain: Contextualising Religions. This course unit explores a variety of methodological approaches to the study of South Asia, and considers the role that postcolonial and related theory can play in the development of research strategies. The unit aims to enhance the existing methodological skills of students drawn from different disciplines and develop new insights into studying South Asia, in order to enable you to develop the analytical and practical research skills necessary to approach different materials from an informed and confident multidisciplinary perspective. The course Women in Religion and Activism explores cross-cultural and cross-regional issues on religion, activism and women. The study of Sanskrit or Persian texts are also usually available.

See our website for a comprehensive list of BA and MA course units. Please note: in order to stay in touch with staff research interests, the list of units is revised every year.

Dissertation

Following the successful completion of the taught units, you will undertake a supervised dissertation of 12,000 to 15,000 words on a related topic.

Key areas of staff research are:

Dr John Zavos has extensively undertaken research into the relationship between religion, identity and politics in South Asia, and in the South Asian diaspora. Students are welcome to work with him on a one-to-one basis on topics such as ethnic minorities, Hindu nationalism, secularity in post-colonial contexts and other related topics.

Dr Jackie Suthren-Hirst's main interest is in the Vedanta traditions of Indian philosophy and in the works of the great Advaitin commentator Shankara (c.700 A.D.) in particular. Her approach to South Asian Studies is profoundly hermeneutical and at the same time puts a great emphasis on the issues of education, gender and representation.

Students are welcome to work with her on a one-to-one basis on topics such as Indian philosophy, gender issues in contemporary India and general issues concerning the teaching of religions in further education.

Postgraduate taught courses

MA in Religions and Theology Focus: Applied Theology

The research focus in Applied Theology provides you with an opportunity to explore the engagement of theology with a range of social, political and ecological issues. This approach, variously called applied theology, contextual theology or practical theology, enables the student to explore in critical and constructive ways the difference that theology makes in the interpretation of contemporary issues and challenges.

Critical questions include:

- What is the secular, and how persuasive are theological critiques of the secular?
- How does applied theology help in exploring the common good?
- What is creaturely flourishing and wellbeing in theological perspective?
- What issues for theological thinking are raised by living in the city?
- Should the pastoral role and witness of the churches be rethought in a postsecular context?
- Does theology have a public role and, if yes, what is that role?

In tackling such questions, you will become familiar with, criticise and deploy a range of theological methodologies and engage with some of the leading movements in applied theology today.

A characteristic of the approach to applied theology in Manchester is the sustained attention we pay to the relationship between doctrine and practice, and a sensitive attentiveness to the prophetic role of the churches in British society and elsewhere.

Course structure

Key course units in Applied Theology

Theology on the Ground: This course unit explores a variety of methodological approaches to core issues in applied theology, and explores the relationship between doctrine and context in a post-secular and postnatural circumstance. Vital issues include the relationship between power and salvation and the interactions between the divine and social orders. Depending on their interests, students may also take the course units Religion and Politics and Religion in the Post-secular City.

Areas of study

These include political, public and liberation theologies, ecological theologies and theologies of nature, theologies of technology, doctrine and context, and liberative theological epistemology.

See our website for a comprehensive list of MA and BA courses. MA students are welcome to audit undergraduate course units, such as Radical Theologies etc. Please note: in order to stay in touch with staff research interests, the list of units is revised every year.

Dissertation

Following the successful completion of the taught units, you will undertake a supervised dissertation of 12,000 to 15,000 words on a related topic.

Lincoln Theological Institute

Inaugurated in 1997, and located at The University of Manchester since 2003, the Lincoln Theological Institute for the Study of Religion and Society is a national and international centre of expertise in the theological study of religion and society and a promoter of theological research and study into a variety of ethical, pastoral, social and ecclesial issues. LTI undertakes research projects, organises conferences and seminars and produces research publications and reports on many aspects of contemporary Christianity and Church and society. Its current Director is Prof. Peter Scott.

www.lincolnthologicalinstitute.com

Studying Religions from their Origins

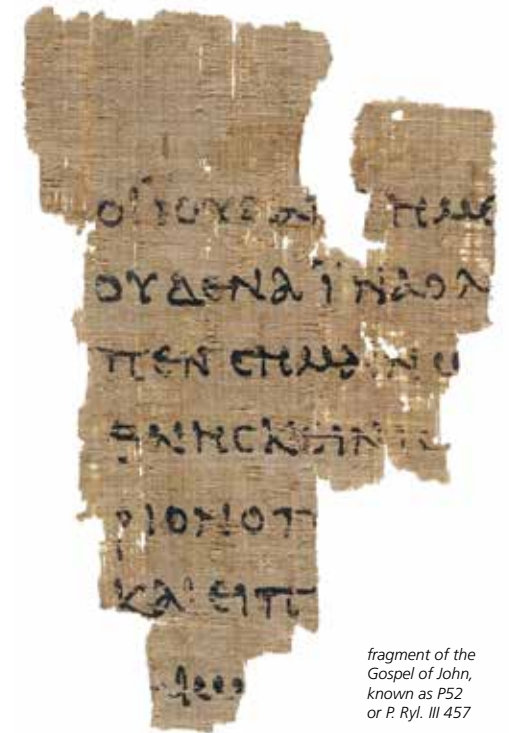
From Reading to Research

An example of World-Leading Research at the John Rylands Library

The John Rylands papyrus collection is the third largest of the UK (after those in Oxford and London) and one of the most important of the world. It is held in the John Rylands Library at Deansgate, founded by Augustina Enriqueta Tennants Rylands in memory of her husband, the cotton magnate John, and opened to the public on 1 January 1900.

Largely coming from the purchase of the Lord of Crawford library in 1901, the collection of papyri was later increased through acquisitions that Enriqueta Rylands commissioned to some of the most famous classicists and biblical scholars of the time: B.P.Grenfell, A.S. Hunt, J.H. Moulton, and J. Rendel Harris. The collection contains manuscripts from Graeco-Roman Egypt mostly written in Greek, Latin, Demotic and Coptic. The most famous among the Rylands papyri certainly is the fragment of the Gospel of John, known as P52 or P. Ryl. III 457 and at present the oldest preserved copy of a New Testament writing.

The collection holds also the most ancient extant fragment of the Septuagint (P. Ryl. III 458) and fragments from the works of many classical authors, such as Homer, Hesiod, Demosthenes, Hippocrates, Sallust and others. Along with the famous literary pieces, there are hundreds of writings documenting the everyday life of common people. Petitions, letters, contracts, certificates, census returns, school exercises, amulets, accounts, lists and notes offer the invaluable opportunity to have a direct insight in the Graeco-Roman society of the time.



fragment of the Gospel of John, known as P52 or P. Ryl. III 457

An immense resource for teaching and research, the collection is still partially unpublished.

The University's John Rylands Library is also the home of the most comprehensive and unique collection of Wesley family papers (1701-1883). This enables students to study not just the beginnings and formation of Methodism.

Manchester is the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution; it is the soil upon which Friedrich Engels and Karl Marx developed their critique of capitalism and the UK Women's Rights Movement (Suffragism) emerged. Autographs and primary sources are available via our world-leading collection of original and unique documents, texts and scriptures.

Staff research interests

Dr Andrew Crome

Lecturer in Modern Christianity
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tel +44 (0)161 275 3600

Research interests in British religious history, particularly the history of apocalypticism and Christian Zionism from 1600-1900. Also researches religion and popular culture, currently focusing on religion and media fandoms.

Dr Daniel Garner

Lecturer in Jewish Studies
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tel +44 (0)161 275 3736

Dan's research interests are primarily focussed on the intersect between Holocaust theology and Jewish mysticism. His Ph.D thesis was published in 2012 by Gorgias Press as *Antitheodicy, Atheodicy and Jewish Mysticism in Holocaust Theology*. His research interests also cover the history of Jewish-Christian relations, the philosophical and theological 'Problem of Evil', mysticism and religious experience (particularly the Kabbalah and Shamanism) as well as the general history of philosophy and theology in the Western tradition.

Dr Michael Hoelzl

Lecturer in Philosophy of Religion
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tel +44 (0)161 275 5695

Current research focuses on religion and politics. An international network among European institutions supports the research. The general topic of this joint collaboration is: The New Visibility of Religion in European Democratic Cultures. Also has research interests in continental philosophy, epistemology and Christian anthropology.

Dr Gary Keogh

Lecturer in Religions and Theology
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Research interests focus on ontological and ethical questions emerging from the theology-science dialogue, particularly as they pertain to the human. More generally, Dr Keogh is interested in religion and science, religion and atheism, secularism, and the status of religion and theology in the modern world. Most recent publications include *Reading Richard Dawkins: A Theological Dialogue with New Atheism* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 2014) and *The Evolution of Hope: Theological Metaethics in the context of Evolution* (Leuven: Peeters, 2015 – forthcoming).

Dr Todd Klutz

Senior Lecturer in New Testament Studies
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tel +44 (0)161 275 3608

Research has concentrated largely on the use of contemporary linguistics, literary theory, and anthropology to interpret the writings of the New Testament and other ancient Mediterranean texts. Especially prominent in recent work are the topics of ancient demonology and exorcistic praxis.

Professor Daniel Langton

Professor of Modern Jewish-Christian Relations
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tel +44 (0)161 275 8592

Research interests in the history of Jewish-Christian relations, progressive Jewish thought, Jewish New Testament scholarship, and Jewish engagement with the theory of evolution, Holocaust theology, and Anglo-Jewish history.

Professor David Law

Reader in Christian Thought
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tel +44 (0)161 275 3596

Foci of research are Christian doctrine, apophatic theology and existential philosophy, particularly the work of the Danish thinker Kierkegaard and the German philosophers Heidegger and Jaspers.

Dr Jonathan Mair

Lecturer in Buddhist Thought and Practice
jonathan.mair@manchester.ac.uk

Jonathan Mair is a social anthropologist with research interests in northern China, where he has studied the revival of Tibetan Buddhism among Mongolians and Taiwan, where he has been investigating the ethical teachings and practices of Humanistic Buddhism. He has also written about the cultural and ethical aspects of belief and ignorance, and on the relationship between religion and politics in Buddhism.

Dr Peter Oakes

Greenwood Senior Lecturer in the New Testament
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tel +44 (0)161 275 3612

Research interests are in Pauline Studies and in the relationship between the New Testament and the Graeco-Roman world. New book relates Pompeian archaeology to study of Paul's letter to the Romans. Currently writing a commentary on Galatians.

Professor Peter Scott

Samuel Ferguson Professor of Applied Theology and Director of the Lincoln Theological Institute
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tel +44 (0)161 275 3064

Research interests include: Political and liberation theologies, theology of nature/doctrine of creation, theologies and philosophies of technology, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and theology and Marxism.



Dr Renate Smithuis

Lecturer in Medieval Judaism
renate.smithuis@manchester.ac.uk

Research interests: Medieval Jewish and Muslim philosophy, science and mysticism; transmission of Arabic learning to Europe; intellectual history of the Middle Ages and the Renaissance (Latin, Hebrew, Arabic); manuscript-based research; Cairo Genizah.

Dr Jacqueline Suthren Hirst

Senior Lecturer in Comparative Religion
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tel +44 (0)161 275 3616

Specialises in the Advaita Vedanta school of Indian philosophy, Shankara's interpretations of scriptural texts and pedagogy in particular. Also works on issues of text and gender in South Asian traditions and on representation in religious education.

Professor Alan Williams

Professor of Iranian Studies and Comparative Religion
alan.williams@manchester.ac.uk
tel +44 (0)161 275 3618

Specialist in the religion and culture of ancient and medieval Iran. Published in the areas of the Zoroastrian religion of ancient Iran, Islamic mystical literature and methodology in the comparative study of religion and translation studies.

Dr John Zavos

Senior Lecturer in South Asian Studies
john.zavos@manchester.ac.uk
tel +44 (0)161 275 3835

Specialist interest in the relationship between religion and politics in South Asia, and in the South Asian Diaspora. Has worked extensively on the development of the Hindu nationalist movement and Hindu organisations and identities in the diaspora.

School of Arts, Languages and Cultures

The School of Arts, Languages and Cultures is the largest grouping of arts, languages and humanities scholars in the UK. It is home to some 6500 students, of which about 1000 are postgraduates, and around 350 academic staff working at the forefront of 20 disciplines:

- American Studies
- Archaeology
- Art History and Visual Studies
- Chinese Studies
- Classics and Ancient History
- Drama
- English Literature and Creative Writing
- French Studies
- German Studies
- History
- International Disaster Management and Humanitarian Response
- Italian Studies
- Linguistics and English Language
- Japanese Studies
- Middle Eastern Studies
- Music
- Religions and Theology
- Russian and East European Studies
- Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American Studies
- Translation and Intercultural Studies

The School is also home to the University Language Centre and a range of interdisciplinary research centres and institutes.

Academic expertise spans the fields of the creative arts, human cultures, beliefs, institutions and languages (from widely spoken global languages to those which are endangered). Our research embraces the material, visual, linguistic, textual, social and performative dimensions of human society past and present, in a rich interdisciplinary culture led by world-renowned scholars, from analysts to creative artists, formal linguists to cultural critics, historians to cultural theorists.

The research unit areas which make up the School have an outstanding international profile. The 2014 Research Excellence Framework judged that:

- 80% of the School's research was 'world leading' (4*) or 'internationally excellent' (3*)
- 72% of our research outputs (books/articles) were 4* or 3*
- 91% of the impact documented in our case studies was 4* or 3*
- 97% of our research environment was 4* or 3*

Six units of assessment from within the School had more than 70% of research outputs rated at 4*/3* while Modern Languages and Linguistics was ranked a highly impressive 3rd overall. In the 2015 Times Higher World University Rankings, measuring the quality of universities around the globe, Manchester placed 28th for Arts and Humanities. This commitment to research enriches the teaching environment, by bringing renowned international speakers and sustaining a culture of research seminars, workshops and conferences. It also ensures that our curriculum is continually refreshed.

Research and teaching in the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures are supported by rich resources within the University. These include the John Rylands University Library, with its unique Special Collections housed in the refurbished Deansgate building; the University Language Centre, with its own language multi-media resource library; the Race Relations Archive; the Manchester Museum and the Whitworth Art Gallery. Other cultural assets at the University of Manchester include the Martin Harris Centre for Music and Drama, Jodrell Bank Observatory and the Alan Gilbert Learning Commons. The School has a strong interdisciplinary orientation and houses the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in the Arts and Languages (CIDRAL).



We maintain a network of partners in research and skills training that involves a wide range of major cultural institutions across the North West. The University and the city offer superb facilities for almost any academic, culture and recreational interests you might wish to pursue. High profile festivals are a major part of Manchester's everyday life, and the School is involved in many of these, including the Manchester Literature Festival, Manchester Histories Festival and Manchester International Festival.

Graduate School and student experience

Our students find our Masters programmes both challenging and rewarding, as well as good foundations for further study and future employment. The student experience combines the advantages of belonging to a specific subject community alongside the extended choice that a large and diverse School encompasses.

Studying for a Masters within the School offers diverse opportunities for personal, career and professional development. In addition to the integration of work-related skills and experience within degree programmes, our dedicated, physical Graduate School offers a comprehensive range of skills training workshops, placements and residential schemes targeted at postgraduate

students. Our award-winning Careers Service will work in partnership with you throughout your degree to improve your employability and prepare for the competitive jobs market.

Furthermore, we have a strong commitment to social responsibility and public engagement. We want our graduates not only to be highly sought after by employers but also ready to play a constructive role as citizen scholars in wider society. Through our research we seek to create and develop knowledge that makes a difference in the world; through our teaching we want to inspire our students to achieve their full human potential.

Postgraduate skills and research training

The School of Arts, Languages and Cultures offer a number of bursaries set at the Home/EU fees level for Masters programmes, available for Home and Overseas students. In all cases, the awards are highly competitive.

Further information on all awards including application process and deadlines for application is available at www.alc.manchester.ac.uk/fees/postgraduate-taught-funding

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Deadlines

The deadline for all School funding is Monday, 1 February 2016. Applicants who wish to be considered for this funding must have also submitted a standard programme application by this date. References and transcripts need only be submitted once, as they can be used for both a place on the course and as part of the funding application. University of Manchester undergraduates are reminded to accept a fast-track offer by 15 January, 2016.

Candidates wishing to apply for AHRC 1+3 funding must complete the University of Manchester postgraduate admissions application by Friday, 22 January 2016.

Candidates must also submit a NWCDTP Funding Application by 12 February 2016 (5pm GMT) in order to be considered.

Further information is available at www.nwcdtp.ac.uk/howtoapply

Find out more about The University of Manchester

Our website holds a wealth of information on the many varied aspects of postgraduate student life. Below are some of the most popular topics; use the links for full details.



Accommodation – Discover your potential new home: www.manchester.ac.uk/accommodation

Admissions and applications – Everything you need to apply to Manchester: www.manchester.ac.uk/pgapplication

Alan Gilbert Learning Commons – Our ultra-modern student learning environment: www.manchester.ac.uk/library/learningcommons

Careers – Many major recruiters target our postgraduates; find out why: www.manchester.ac.uk/careers

Childcare – Support for students who are also parents: www.manchester.ac.uk/childcare

Disability support – For any additional support needs you may have: www.manchester.ac.uk/dso

Funding and finance – Fees, scholarships, bursaries and more: www.manchester.ac.uk/study/masters/fees
www.manchester.ac.uk/study/masters/funding
www.manchester.ac.uk/study/postgraduate-research/fees
www.manchester.ac.uk/study/postgraduate-research/funding

International students – Discover what we offer our multinational community: www.manchester.ac.uk/international

IT services – Online learning, computer access, IT support and more: www.manchester.ac.uk/itservices

Library – One of the UK's largest and best-resourced university libraries: www.manchester.ac.uk/library

Manchester – Britain's 'original modern' city is right on your doorstep: www.manchester.ac.uk/manchester

Maps – Visualise our campus, city and University accommodation: www.manchester.ac.uk/maps

Prospectus – Access online or order a copy of our 2015 postgraduate prospectus: www.manchester.ac.uk/study/masters/prospectus


Sport – Clubs, leagues, classes, facilities and more: www.manchester.ac.uk/sport

Support – Dedicated academic, personal, financial and admin assistance: <http://my.manchester.ac.uk/guest>

Students' Union – Societies, events, peer support, campaigns and more: www.manchesterstudentsunion.com

Videos – See and hear more about our University: www.youtube.com/user/universitymanchester

 @UoMReligion

 /Religion.Manchester

School contact details

For further information about our courses
and how to apply, please contact:

Postgraduate Admissions
School of Arts, Languages and Cultures
The University of Manchester
Oxford Road
Manchester
M13 9PL
United Kingdom

tel: +44 (0)161 275 0322

email: masalc@manchester.ac.uk

www.manchester.ac.uk/alc


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Disclaimer

This brochure is prepared well in advance of the academic year to which it relates. Details of programmes may consequently vary with staff changes. We therefore reserve the right to make such alterations to courses as are necessary. If we make you an offer of a place, it is essential that you are aware of the current terms on which your offer is based. If you are in any doubt, please feel free to ask us for confirmation of the precise position for the year in question, before you accept our offer.

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