

MANCHESTER
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The University of Manchester

**SCHOOL OF
ARTS, LANGUAGES
AND CULTURES**

Undergraduate courses 2017

**RELIGIONS
AND
THEOLOGY**

www.manchester.ac.uk/religion

Our courses are supported by our culturally rich location and the academic expertise of our recognised international centre of excellence. By studying with us you'll benefit from having the vibrant, multi-faith city of Manchester on your doorstep.

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RELIGIONS AND THEOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER



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I have loved studying Religions and Theology. The number of courses available means you can really tailor your studies to your interests, whether that's Christianity, South Asian religion, Judaism or something else. The department is tightly-knit, class sizes aren't too big and you can get to know your lecturers and course mates quite easily. Staff are really keen to see you do well and make themselves available to talk about any problems you might have. Some of the lecturers here are world leaders in their field, and it's an amazing opportunity to have such fantastic input into your learning.

Samuel Cresswell, BA (Hons) Religions and Theology

WHY MANCHESTER?



Impressive range and variety of course units, including many interdisciplinary options.



The opportunity to undertake research in multi-faith Manchester.



Outstanding long-term reputation for research excellence – our high quality research activities directly inform our courses.



You'll have access to the internationally significant special collections of The John Rylands Library – home to one of the world's finest collections of medieval illuminated manuscripts and rare books, including the earliest portion of any New Testament writing ever found.



““””

I studied Religions and Theology at The University of Manchester from 2004-2007; and although I didn't know it at the time, it was one of the wisest decisions I have made! The teaching I received at the University was challenging, thought provoking, forward thinking, and intellectually stimulating; it unlocked my desire for learning and made me passionate about wanting others to love learning about religion too.

Katie Martin, Religions and Theology alumna, Head of Religious Studies, Blue Coat School, Oldham

RELIGIONS AND THEOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

Religions and Theology at Manchester offers you the opportunity to engage with a wide range of traditions and beliefs, covering all periods up to the present day.

We offer one of the widest ranges of courses on offer at any British university. You can study ancient Hebrew, Greek, or Sanskrit, learn about Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish and Islamic traditions, pursue an interest in the Bible or Christian theology, or discover the different approaches to religion offered by sociology, anthropology and philosophy.

Whether or not you have a religious background, the study of the beliefs, philosophies, practices, policies, ethics and values which have defined our civilisations over hundreds of years provides insight into one of the most fascinating aspects of the human psyche. You'll explore topics crucial to understanding the shape of our current multicultural society – from religion, culture and gender to Holocaust theory, from sacred spaces to apocalyptic expectation. Studying in one of the most religiously-diverse and dynamic cities in the UK, you will have the opportunity to engage with living religious traditions in a contemporary context.

As a Religions and Theology student, you'll explore the facts and challenges of diversity and pluralism in different religions. This highly flexible degree allows you to concentrate on a specific religious tradition, or study a variety according to your interests.

Our courses cover Hindu and Buddhist world views, Islam, Judaism and Christianity, and include theology, history and biblical studies. You can also study to read scriptures in their original language.

As a Theological Studies in Philosophy and Ethics student, you'll delve into theology and explore how it impacts philosophy and ethics. You'll study continental philosophy and Christian theology and consider their relationship to Indian, Jewish and Islamic theologies and philosophies. From arguments for God's existence to interactions between religion and politics, you will analyse key issues in theological and philosophical debate.

Study Religions and Anthropology and you'll find out more about how religious ritual and magico-religious practice have long been standard topics in the research of anthropologists and how scholars of religion increasingly use anthropological concepts and tools to formulate questions regarding religious phenomena.

Our teaching will encourage you to actively participate in constructive debate, developing your investigative and critical thinking skills across a full breadth of religious and non-religious traditions.



How you'll learn

Whilst studying Religions and Theology and Religion and Anthropology you'll choose from an extensive menu of course units relating to Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, and Sikhism. Theological Studies in Philosophy and Ethics will focus on philosophy, theology, and ethics amongst these religions.

You'll be exposed to a challenging blend of traditional and innovative teaching and learning methods, with the opportunity to conduct research among Manchester's various faith communities.

Learning takes place primarily in lectures and seminars, but also in one-to-one meetings with course tutors, fieldtrips, and in research workshops. A number of units also offer 'outward facing' assessment, in which students work with mentors to produce resources that can be used practically outside of an academic context (such as blogs and guides).

How you'll be assessed

All course modules are assessed by different combinations of written course work (i.e. essays and literature reviews), an examination, and portfolios (for example, e-learning activities, group projects/presentations). Some courses involve assessments specifically designed to develop both your academic and employability skills. In general, you are examined on your course unit choices at the end of each semester.

All third year students produce a 12,000 word research dissertation as part of their final year assessment.

STUDY ABROAD

Study abroad is an excellent opportunity for you to see the world, experience new cultures and study at one of our partner institutions overseas. Most of our undergraduate courses allow you to spend time – usually a semester – at one of our partner institutions outside the UK.

Study abroad periods are available either in Year 2 of a three-year course, or in Year 3 of a four-year course.

Find out more:

www.manchester.ac.uk/undergraduate/studyabroad

Find out more about what it's like to study abroad through our social channels including our blog, Manchester on the Road, written by Manchester students currently studying abroad.

www.manchesterontheroad.wordpress.com

[/TheUniversityOfManchesterStudyAbroad](https://www.facebook.com/TheUniversityOfManchesterStudyAbroad)

[@UoM_GoAbroad](https://twitter.com/UoM_GoAbroad)





OUR COURSES

For full entry requirements search our course listings:
www.manchester.ac.uk/undergraduate

How to apply:
www.manchester.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/applications

Please note that the course units listed in this brochure only represent a sample of the full breadth of available units for each course. For course listings, including course unit detail in full, visit our course finder:
www.manchester.ac.uk/undergraduate

Please note that course units are reviewed on an annual basis and as such may vary slightly to those advertised. Please visit the online course listing for up-to-date information.

www.manchester.ac.uk/religion

FLEXIBLE HONOURS

Flexible Honours may allow you to study an additional arts, languages or cultures subject. Find out more:

www.manchester.ac.uk/flexiblehonours

Religions and Theology BA

UCAS code V600 (3 years)

This highly flexible degree allows you to choose subjects from the full range of traditions and topics taught in Religions and Theology, putting you firmly in charge of your studies. You can concentrate on one specific subject area, or tailor your course to your interests by combining units in multiple subject areas. You'll examine the lives and works of key religious thinkers, and the various theories and methods currently used to explore the field, including literary, historical, theological, anthropological and gender-theory approaches.

Year 1: You'll explore the variety of approaches to the study of religions and theology through the study of key thinkers such as Augustine, Luther, Maimonides and Gandhi. You'll gain a solid foundation of the history of the discipline, and will begin to explore specific areas of interest through optional course units.

Sample course units include:

- Introduction to the Study of Religions and Theology
- Studying Islam
- The World of Buddhism

Year 2: Tailor your studies through a breadth of course units each designed to focus on a specific topic – from storytelling in Indian religion to texts from the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible and ethical issues such as war and violence, justice and peace, gender, marriage and family life, wealth and poverty, and ecology.

Sample course units include:

- Religion, Culture and Gender
- Studying Sacred Spaces in the City
- Introduction to the History of Jewish-Christian Relations

Year 3: Continue to select from increasingly specialised optional units exploring themes in depth. Produce a substantial piece of independent research, working under the supervision of one of your lecturers in your final year dissertation.

Sample course units include:

- Holocaust Theology
- The Ethics of Killing in Buddhism: Texts and Contexts
- The "End of the World": Apocalyptic Thought 1640-Present

Entry requirements

A-level: ABB-BBB

IB: 34-31 points overall (core points accepted), including 6, 6, 5 at Higher level



Theological Studies in Philosophy and Ethics BA

UCAS code V610 (3 years)

This course provides an exciting opportunity to work at the interface between theology, philosophy and ethics. You'll gain a rigorous grounding in the main areas of theological thinking and their significance for philosophical and ethical debates. You will study key theologians and philosophers; how they've shaped modern thinking and the ethical challenges faced by contemporary society.

Year 1: Gain a solid foundation in the three disciplines of theology, philosophy and ethics and their interactions. Explore theories of moral behaviour and ethical reasoning through additional core unit Theories of a Good Life. Begin to explore specific areas of interest through optional course units.

Sample course units include:

- Problems in the Philosophy of Religion I: Theories of a Good Life
- Introduction to Christian Theology
- Bible in Ancient and Modern Worlds

Year 2: You'll study core units: Key Thinkers in the History of Philosophy, and also Problems in Theology, Philosophy and Ethics: Evil, to develop your critical skills and understanding. Select from a breadth of additional optional units, including subjects as diverse as Philosophy of Science to Religion, Culture and Gender.

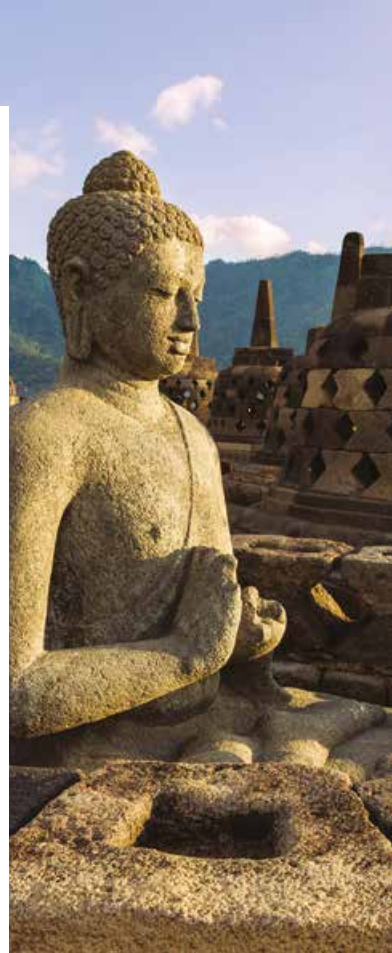
Sample course units include:

- Ethical Issues from Joshua to Jesus
- Key Thinkers in the History of Western Philosophy
- Problems in Theology, Philosophy and Ethics: Evil

Year 3: Conduct research in a specialist area of interest through your final year dissertation, supervised by a member of our teaching staff. Supplement your final year study with optional units ranging from Radical Theologies and Freedom of the Will to Existentialism.

Sample course units include:

- From Religion to Politics
- Paul: Theology, Ethics, Philosophy
- Radical Theologies



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The best thing about the Religions and Theology department at Manchester is the freedom to choose whichever course units interest me. I really enjoy the wide range of options available. There is lots of applied theology with a real relevance to contemporary life. I would definitely recommend it.

**Samantha Hallett, BA (Hons)
Theological Studies in
Philosophy and Ethics**

Entry requirements

A-level: Grades ABB-BBB

IB: 34-31 points overall (core points accepted), including 6, 6, 5 at Higher level

Religion and Anthropology BA

UCAS code VL66 (3 years)

This Joint Honours course will give you a chance to combine the tradition-based study of religion – encompassing course units covering topics such as Judaism, the problem of evil, and the Bible – with the comparative, social scientific approach of Anthropology – featuring units examining extras such as social theory, power, and ethnography.

Year 1: Gain a solid foundation in Religions and Theology through core course units, and then enhance your understanding in areas of interest through optional unit content. You'll look at some of the key concepts and approaches to understanding culture, including topics such as nationalism, refugees and gender. You'll also have the opportunity to study different regions of the world.

Sample course units include:

- Power and Culture: Inequality in Everyday Life
- Key Ideas in Social Anthropology
- Religion in Modern South Asian History

Year 2: Take a core course unit in Social Anthropology and Religion and explore a wide range of different religious beliefs and practices, as well as questions about how such beliefs and practices should be understood. You will consider various ways of organising and governing societies and their economic relations, and think about human behaviour under the label of 'globalisation'.

Sample course units include:

- Women and Gender in the Middle East and North Africa
- Interpreting Religion
- Storytelling in Indian Traditions

Year 3: Pursue your own research in a specific area of interest through your final year dissertation. Your dissertation will relate to both religion and anthropology and you'll receive supervision from a member of teaching staff in each discipline. Tailor your final year study through a range of optional units to be split equally across both subjects.

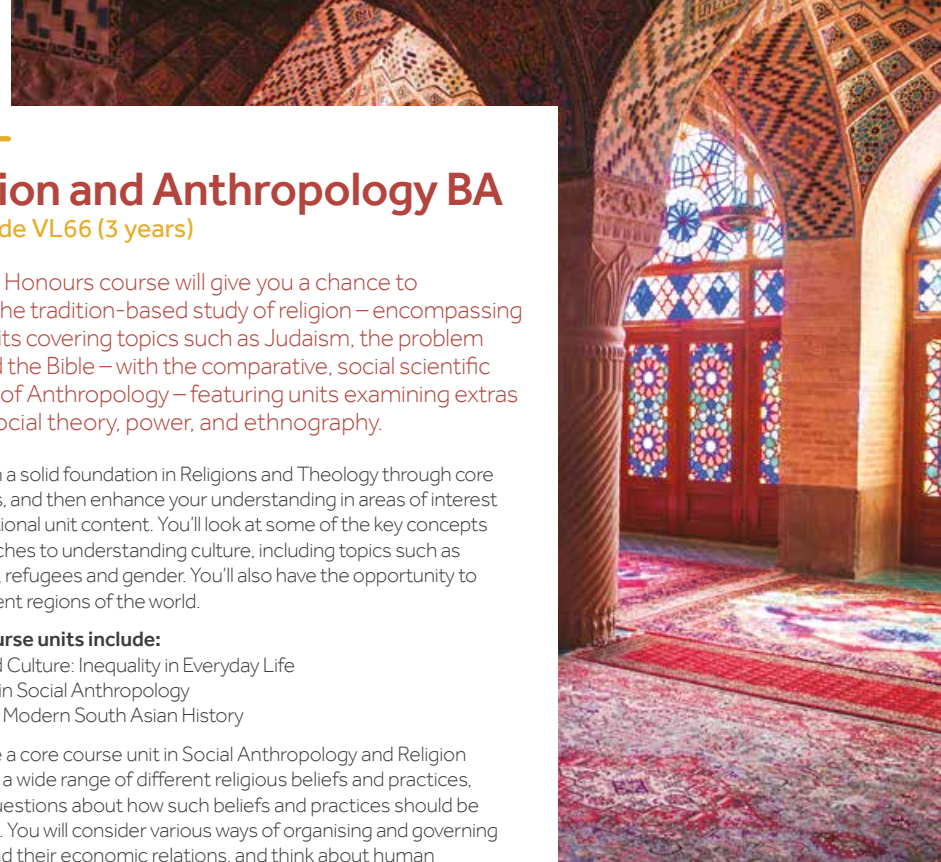
Sample course units include:

- Global South Asians: Religion, Migration and Diaspora
- An Anthropology of Science, Magic and Expertise
- The Ethics of Killing in Buddhism

Entry requirements

A-level: Grades ABB-BBB.

IB: 34-31 points overall (core points accepted), including 6, 6, 5 at Higher level.



FEES AND FUNDING

Please search our course listings for up-to-date tuition fee information for UK, EU and international students: www.manchester.ac.uk/undergraduate

Bursaries and scholarships

Approximately a third of our students will receive cash bursaries which can be used to support living costs whilst studying. UK students are not required to submit an application for any of the University's means-tested awards. We will automatically identify eligible students on the basis of the household income data provided by the Student Loans Company.

The **Manchester Bursary** is available to any UK student who is registered on an eligible undergraduate degree course at The University of Manchester and who has had a full financial assessment carried out by Student Finance. This bursary is additional to the government package of maintenance grants and is based on students' household income.

The University's **Undergraduate Access Scholarships** are generously funded by our alumni community and donors. These scholarships are in addition to any other bursaries students may receive from the University. Students must have successfully completed the Manchester Access Programme and started an undergraduate course at the University. Students who have experienced time in local authority care may also be eligible for these awards.

UK students can apply for **Disabled Students' Allowance** to cover study-related disability support. Our Disability Advisory and Support Service (DASS) can help you to apply and can also discuss any alternative sources of funding for your disability-related needs. www.manchester.ac.uk/dass

Full details of our scholarships and bursaries can be found at: www.manchester.ac.uk/scholarships



CAREERS AND EMPLOYABILITY

Graduates with knowledge and understanding of different cultural and religious beliefs are highly valued by many employers. The investigative, analytical and interpretative skills developed through your study will equip you with the confidence and know-how you need to engage fully with a contemporary, multicultural society across a breadth of career destinations.

You'll develop many transferable skills, including: the ability to research, analyse and synthesise different sources of information; team-work and communication skills honed in tutorials and group projects; the ability to exhibit empathy and imaginative insight; the demonstration of methodical and accurate working; and the ability to show initiative and independence of mind.

Our graduates have pursued successful roles in teaching, media, banking, publishing, legal services, civil service, religious organisations, and non-governmental organisations. Sample career destinations include teaching and education; finance; publishing; youth work and charity work in organisations such as the BBC; the Civil Service; Xaverian College; PricewaterhouseCoopers; SPCK; the Church of England; Christian Aid and the Liberal Jewish Synagogue.

A substantial number of students continue to postgraduate study including further study in Religion and Theology and PGCE.

Our award-winning careers service provides a wealth of tools, advice, development opportunities, and industry links specific to your subject. You'll have access to dedicated support throughout your studies and up to two years after graduation.

Find out more: www.manchester.ac.uk/careers



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The breadth and depth of courses I studied here as an undergraduate, and the opportunity to interact with experts in the field, undoubtedly fuelled my desire to undertake doctoral studies in Jewish-Christian relations alongside working for an international interfaith organisation.

Francesca Frazer, Religions and Theology alumna, PhD student and Project Coordinator for the International Council of Christians and Jews



FACILITIES AND RESOURCES

The John Rylands Library

Our most distinctive research resource is The John Rylands Library – an internationally renowned resource which holds one of the finest collections of rare books, manuscripts and archives in the world.

As well as an excellent general collection of books on Religions and Theology and related areas, the library houses many collections of world importance. You will find a substantial collection of papyri, including the oldest manuscript fragment of a New Testament book, alongside several major archives including the Methodist archive which includes a large number of original documents written by John Wesley.

Find out more: www.jrri.manchester.ac.uk

The University of Manchester Library

The University of Manchester Library is one of only five National Research Libraries. With more than four million printed books and manuscripts, over 29,000 unique electronic journals and 414,000 electronic books, as well as several hundred databases, this is one of the best-resourced academic libraries in the country.

The Alan Gilbert Learning Commons

Our new £24 million Alan Gilbert Learning Commons offers students a stimulating 24/7 environment for study, combining inspiring decor with flexible spaces and the latest in learning technology.

Students' Union and societies

The University of Manchester's Students' Union is run by students, for students. The biggest students' union in the UK, it's home to more than 300 societies, a free, confidential, professional advice service, and Manchester Academy – one of the UK's most iconic music venues.

Culture on Campus

The University is also home to internationally renowned cultural assets such as:

- The award-winning Whitworth Art Gallery, reopened in 2015 following a £15m redevelopment
- Manchester Museum, which houses important prehistoric, classical and ethnographic collections

Find out more about our unique study facilities: www.manchester.ac.uk/university

Societies

The Religions and Theology Society is an inclusive community for those studying Religions and Theology and those who are interested in the area. The society works with other areas of Religions and Theology peer support to plan activities, both academic and social – from first year, through to postgraduate level.

LEARNING SUPPORT

We'll provide individual learning support to help you take control of your learning and develop your confidence.

Peer support scheme

Our peer support scheme is one of the largest in Europe. Peer mentors are higher-year students on the same degree programme as you, who will help you find your feet when you arrive here and adjust to student life. As they'll have already been a student at Manchester for at least a year, they should be able to help you with anything you might be worried or unsure about.

PASS (Peer Assisted Study Sessions)

Led by volunteer students, PASS sessions will often be based around a specific area of study. You'll have the opportunity to consolidate and build on your existing knowledge through discussion with other students in an informal and supportive environment, where you can compare notes, analyse, ask questions and talk through ideas in an informal, friendly environment.



Academic advisers

Study with us and you'll be assigned an academic adviser who is there to give advice about any academic issues throughout the duration of your course. Your adviser will be able to help you with the transition from school / college to university – and can help you get to grips with studying and learning more independently. They'll also be able to help you develop your skills in academic writing or research, or any other skills that are specific to your degree programme.

Find out more about the personal and academic support available to you throughout your studies:

www.manchester.ac.uk/study/experience/student-life/university/student-support/

Disability support

If you have additional needs arising from a medical condition, physical or sensory disability, specific learning disability such as dyslexia, or a mental health difficulty that affects your study, we can provide support. Contact or visit our Disability Advisory and Support Office before you apply, to discuss your needs and support available.

www.manchester.ac.uk/dass

FIND OUT MORE ONLINE

ACCOMMODATION

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

ADMISSIONS AND APPLICATIONS

Everything you need to apply:
www.manchester.ac.uk/ug/howtoapply

ALAN GILBERT LEARNING COMMONS

Our hi-tech 24/7 independent learning space:
www.manchester.ac.uk/library/learningcommons

CAREERS

Take control of your career:
www.manchester.ac.uk/careers

DISABILITY SUPPORT

Talk to us about any support you need:
www.manchester.ac.uk/dso

FUNDING AND FINANCE

Fees, loans, scholarships and more:
www.manchester.ac.uk/studentfinance

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Prepare for life at Manchester, UK:
www.manchester.ac.uk/international

IT SERVICES

Online learning, computer access, IT support:
www.manchester.ac.uk/itservices

www.manchester.ac.uk/religion

LIBRARY

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

MAPS

Campus, city and accommodation:
www.manchester.ac.uk/aboutus/travel/maps

PROSPECTUS

Download or order a copy:
www.manchester.ac.uk/ug/prospectus

SOCIAL MEDIA

Connect with us online:
www.manchester.ac.uk/connect/social-media

SPORT

Get active with clubs, classes, leagues and facilities:
www.manchester.ac.uk/sport

SUPPORT

Help with academic, personal, financial and administrative issues:
my.manchester.ac.uk/guest

STUDENTS' UNION

The UK's largest student hub:
manchesterstudentsunion.com

VIDEOS

Our University on YouTube:
www.youtube.com/user/universitymanchester



THE SCHOOL OF ARTS, LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

The School of Arts, Languages and Cultures is the largest grouping of arts, languages and humanities scholars and students in the UK. Study with us and you'll benefit from multidisciplinary learning opportunities and world-renowned cultural resources as well as the creative fabric of Manchester itself.

www.alc.manchester.ac.uk

Contact details

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

e: ug-relth@manchester.ac.uk

t: +44 (0) 161 306 1252

www.manchester.ac.uk/religion

 /Religion.Manchester

Disclaimer

This brochure is prepared well in advance of the academic year to which it relates. Consequently, details of courses may vary with staff changes. The University therefore reserves the right to make such alterations to courses as are found to be necessary. If the University makes an offer of a place, it is essential that you are aware of the current terms on which the offer is based. If you are in any doubt, please feel free to ask for confirmation of the precise position for the year in question, before you accept the offer.

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