DOCTOR OF PHILOSOHY (PHD) DEGREE IN THE FIELD OF RELIGION

Program Learning Outcomes for the PhD Degree in the field of Religion

Upon completing the PhD Degree in the field of Religion, students will be able to:

1. Develop and apply critical toolkit to the study of religion and religious traditions, including (inter)disciplinary methodologies and theories at a professional level.
2. Understand and interpret religious traditions by examining religious(s) as historical, social, and cultural phenomena. When appropriate, attention is given to the impact of globalism, immigration, colonialism, and other forms of transnational and multi-cultural (non)religious exchanges at a professional level.
3. Understand and interpret the subjective dimensions of religion(s) through analyses that explore the psychological, philosophical, and cognitive dynamics of religion and religious experience at a professional level.
4. Understand and interpret religious traditions by examining the plurality of religious voice and expressions, including currents that have been marginalized, neglected, repressed, and censored in a variety of sociological, psychological, philosophical, and political ways at a professional level.
5. Develop the ability to read and understand relevant scholarly research/literature that has been published in foreign languages. Develop the ability to read religious texts in their original languages and perform translations of texts when appropriate to the student’s course of study at a professional level.
6. Develop the ability to communicate effectively (inter)disciplinary knowledge and critical research in the classroom, at professional conferences, and in academic publications at a professional level.

Requirements for the MA and PhD Degrees in the field of Religion

MA Degree Program

The MA degree is a non-thesis master’s degree. For general university requirements, please see Non-Thesis Master’s Degrees (ga.rice.edu/graduate-students/academic-policies-procedures/regulations-procedures-non-thesis-masters-degrees). Although students are not normally admitted to study for this non-thesis MA, graduate students may earn the MA after obtaining approval of their candidacy for the PhD.
Opportunities for the PhD Degree in the field of Religion

Professional Development

Opportunities are available to teach undergraduate courses in the department. Students are encouraged to pursue teaching opportunities at colleges and universities. Limited funds also are available for students to attend conferences to present their research. The department encourages these and other efforts to prepare students for academic careers.

See https://humanities.rice.edu/student-life for tables of fellowships, prizes, and internships/practica that may be relevant to this degree.

Additional Information

For additional information, please see the Religion website: https://reli.rice.edu/