



BA Religious Studies (Single Honours)

Programme Leader: Professor Fabrizio M. Ferrari

GETTING READY FOR LEVEL 4 (FIRST YEAR)

i) Your Modules:

In your first year you will take six modules.

a) Five core modules:

- TH4042 The Study of Religion: An Introduction
- TH4043 Encountering Religions: Judaism and Buddhism
- TH4044 Encountering Religions: Hinduism and Islam
- TH4047 Global Perspectives on Christianity
- TH4048 Philosophy and Ethics

b) PLUS one module from the following options:

- TH4041 Introduction to Theology
- TH4045 The Bible: Contents and Contexts
- TH4046 The Bible: Readers and Perspectives

ii) Books you will need when you arrive:

If you don't already have one, you will need to buy a copy of this NRSV translation of the Bible:

- **The New Revised Standard Version (NRSV), with Apocrypha** (Oxford University Press).
 - Including "Apocrypha" (additional biblical books).
 - Anglicized edition (i.e., not with US spelling).

iii) Books you will be given when you arrive:

All students on the BA Religious Studies (Single Honours) programme will be given copies of the following books by the University of Chester when you arrive:

- 1) Biale, D. (ed.) (2015). *The Norton Anthology of World Religions: Judaism*. New York: W.W. Norton & Company.
- 2) Doniger O'Flaherty, W. (ed.) (1988). *Textual Sources for the Study of Hinduism*. Chicago, Ill.: University of Chicago Press.
- 3) Mitchell, D.W., and Jacoby, S.H. (2014). *Buddhism: Introducing the Buddhist Experience*. (3rd ed.). New York: Oxford University Press.
- 4) Shepard, W.E. (2014). *Introducing Islam*. (2nd ed.). London: Routledge.

Thus you could certainly take a look at these before you arrive, but you don't need to buy them.

iv) Further (optional) preparatory reading:

There is nothing you MUST read before you arrive, but, should you wish to, the following are recommended items of preparatory reading for each of the Level 4 modules available to you:

- **TH4041: Introduction to Theology**
 - McGrath, A.E. (2011). *Christian Theology: An Introduction*. (5th ed.). Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.
- **TH4042: The Study of Religion: an Introduction**
 - Nye, M. (2008). *Religion: The Basics*. (2nd ed.). London: Routledge.
 - [OR: Hinnells, J. (ed.) (2010). *The Routledge Companion to the Study of Religion*. (2nd ed.). New York: Routledge.]
- **TH4043: Encountering Religions: Judaism and Buddhism**
 - Mitchell, D. W., and Jacoby, S. H. (2014). *Buddhism: Introducing the Buddhist Experience*. (3rd ed.). New York: Oxford University Press. [Note that you will receive a free copy of this book during induction week.]
 - [OR: Hinnells, J. (ed.) (2010). *The Routledge Companion to the Study of Religion*. (2nd ed.). New York: Routledge.]
- **TH4044: Encountering Religions: Hinduism and Islam**
 - Ruthven, M. (2012). *Islam: A Very Short Introduction*. (2nd ed.). Oxford: Oxford University Press.
 - [AND for the second term: Dalrymple, W. (2010). *Nine Lives. In Search of the Sacred in Modern India*. London: Bloomsbury.]
- **TH4045: The Bible: Contents and Contexts**
 - Collins, J.J. (2014). *Introduction to the Hebrew Bible: Second Edition*. (2nd ed.). Minneapolis: Fortress Press.

- **TH4046: The Bible: Readers and Perspectives**
 - Evans, R. (2009). *Using the Bible: Studying the Text*. (2nd ed.). Chester: University of Chester. [Open-access online]
- **TH4047: Global Perspectives on Christianity**
 - Woodhead, L. (2014). *Christianity: A Very Short Introduction*. (2nd ed.). Oxford: Oxford University Press.
 - [OR: Davies, N., and Conway, M. (2008). *World Christianity in the 20th Century*. London: SCM Press.
- **TH4048: Philosophy and Ethics**
 - Davies, B. (2004). *An Introduction to the Philosophy of Religion*. (3rd ed.). Oxford: Oxford University Press.

We're very much looking forward to welcoming you to the Department of Theology and Religious Studies at the University of Chester!



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