



## RESEARCH AT THE FACULTY OF DIVINITY

### Background

The Faculty's building (to which it moved in September 2000) has excellent facilities for research students, with a large library, and a large student common room which enables students to socialise.

The University Library is just across the road. It is an international research library whose relevant holdings include the Cairo Genizah fragments, the Acton Library, the STC Microfilms, and a vast array of printed journals and monographs in all the major academic languages, besides a growing arsenal of electronic bibliographic and textual resources. College libraries also offer substantial primary and secondary resources, especially in biblical studies, patristics, and church history (e.g. the manuscripts of the Parker Library at Corpus Christi, or the early printed materials in, e.g., Magdalene, St John's, and Trinity), and the libraries of the Cambridge Theological Federation and of Tyndale House are also available for our students.

There are six general research groups in the Faculty of Divinity: Old Testament; New Testament; Church History; Doctrine; Philosophy of Religion; and Religious Studies, each centred on a senior seminar meeting fortnightly during term. Two senior research seminars are interdisciplinary in character (the D Society; and the Hebrew, Jewish, and Early Christian Studies Seminar), bringing together specialists in diverse fields. In 2001 an Interdisciplinary Seminar was created, organised entirely by PhD students, with invited speakers from all over the world. At all of these, cutting-edge research is presented by the world's leading experts.

Collaborative research activity mainly takes place under the auspices of the Centre for Advanced Religious and Theological Studies (CARTS), which provides administrative and physical resources for staff pursuing three-to five-year research projects. CARTS also seeks to encourage collaboration with other departments and institutions.

As far as career prospects are concerned, many of our best research students proceed to academic positions in the UK or overseas.

## Research Areas and Lecturers

- Old Testament

*Professor Robert Gordon* is Regius Professor of Hebrew. His research interests include: ancient versions of the Bible (Targum, Septuagint, Peshitta); ancient near eastern prophecy; Hebrew textual traditions; Genesis proto-history. He is a Fellow of St Catharine's College. Email: rpg1000@cam.ac.uk

*Dr James Aitken's* research interests are early Jewish literature and history, the history of biblical interpretation, the study of ancient languages (especially Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek), lexicography and semantics and ancient Jewish-Christian relations. Email: jka12@cam.ac.uk

*Dr Katharine Dell* is the leading British specialist on the Wisdom literature, and her work on prophecy has led to further studies on Jonah. She plans studies of pre-Exilic wisdom and, in the longer term, a study of Ecclesiastes. She is a Fellow and Director of Studies at St Catharine's College. Email: kjd24@cam.ac.uk

- New Testament

*Professor Judith Lieu* is the Lady Margaret's Professor. Her research interests are New Testament, especially Johannine literature; early Christianity and Judaism in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> centuries and feminist analysis. Email: jml68@cam.ac.uk

*Dr James Carleton Paget* has written on Albert Schweitzer, as well as on Jewish proselytism, anti-Judaism and early Christian identity. His research interests also include the growth of Christianity from the time of Christian origins to the end of the second century with particular reference to the sub-apostolic literature; the history of biblical interpretation; and Barnabas. He is a Fellow of Peterhouse. Email: jncp1@cam.ac.uk

*Dr Andrew Chester* is working on social theory and New Testament interpretation, as well as on early Christian Messianism and eschatology. He plans further work on hope, eschatology, and messianism in Judaism and Christianity, and a volume on Messianic Hope in Early Judaism and Christianity. He is a Fellow and Director of Studies at Selwyn College. Email: anc1000@cam.ac.uk

*Dr Simon Gathercole*: Lecturer in New Testament. His research interests are historical and theological dimensions of the New Testament, Paul in particular; the Jewish background of the New Testament; Second-Temple Judaism. Email: sjg1007@cam.ac.uk

- Church History

*Professor Eamon Duffy* has published major works on the early iconography of St Francis and on popular religion in rural England in the Reformation period, *The Voices of Morebath: Reformation and Rebellion in an English Village*. His *Saints and Sinners* (a history of the Popes, commissioned for a Channel Four TV series) was syndicated all over the world. It is recognised by specialist papal historians as the best single-volume history of the papacy in print. His interests are in the areas of Reformation England; Iconography and History of Christian Art; Popular Religion in the Middle Ages and Reformation periods. He is President and Fellow of Magdalene College. Email: ed10000@cam.ac.uk

*Dr Thomas Graumann* lectures on Christian life and thought in late antiquity. His research interests include: the rise and formation of Christianity, the ecumenical councils, church, state and society in late antiquity – theology and biblical interpretation in late antiquity; councils and synods; relations between the Eastern and Western churches. He is the Secretary of the Degree Committee. Email: tg236@cam.ac.uk

*Dr Richard Rex* has published widely in the field of English Reformation history. His latest books were the first scholarly survey of the entire history of the Lollards (*The Lollards*, Palgrave, 2002) and an introductory volume on the Tudor monarchs (*The Tudors*, Tempus, 2002). His recent articles have focussed on the ecclesiastical history of the reign of Henry VIII, on aspects of the history of Lollardy, and on the impact of humanism on theology and religion in the early modern era. These will remain his main focus of interest for the near future. He is willing to consider supervising research in these areas, and also in the history of late medieval and early modern theology, and in the history of religion in early modern France, Spain, and Italy. He is a Fellow and Tutor at Queens' College. Email: rawr1@cam.ac.uk

Dr Anna Williams spans Eastern and Western Christian traditions in her work, which has resulted in her acclaimed recent comparative study of Aquinas and Palamas. She is planning a book on the intellect in patristic theology and a study of Aquinas for CUP. She is a Fellow and Director of Studies of Corpus Christi College. Email: [anw25@cam.ac.uk](mailto:anw25@cam.ac.uk)

- Doctrine

Professor David F. Ford is Regius Professor of Divinity. He published *Self and Salvation* in 1999 (CUP); *A Very Brief Introduction to Theology* (OUP), and an expanded edition of his influential collection on *The Modern Theologians* (Blackwells) both also appeared recently. His research interests include theology and religious studies as a discipline; major issues of theology in the 20<sup>th</sup> century; Hermeneutics; Jesus Christ in 20<sup>th</sup> century theology; the Holocaust and theology; and Interfaith theology and practice. He is a Fellow of Selwyn College. Email: [dff1000@cam.ac.uk](mailto:dff1000@cam.ac.uk)

Professor Janet Martin Soskice has published major articles on religion and gender and resurrection, and has established herself as a world authority on religious language. She is about to publish her Stanton Lectures on 'Naming God'. Further research interests are Christianity and the symbolics of gender; the Divine Names; modern doctrine. She is a Fellow and Director of Studies at Jesus College. Email: [j.soskice@jesus.cam.ac.uk](mailto:j.soskice@jesus.cam.ac.uk)

### Philosophy of Religion

Professor Sarah Coakley is the Norris Hulse Professor. Her research interests are philosophical theology and its place in university discourse; 'rationality', the passions, and religious truth claims; the 'spiritual senses' tradition in Christian theories of cognition; Platonic influences on Christian epistemology and spirituality (especially in the patristic period); the relation of apophatic and cataphatic claims in arguments about God's existence and nature; the role of philosophy in 'systematic theology'; re-thinking 'systematic theology' in a post-modern era; the future of 'natural theology'; evolutionary theory, game theory, and Christian theology; Gender theory and 'systematic theology'; feminist philosophy and Christian epistemology. Email: [sc545@cam.ac.uk](mailto:sc545@cam.ac.uk)

Dr Douglas Hedley is a world authority on the theology of S.T. Coleridge and recently published a major monograph on this topic. He is now planning an ambitious monograph on the imagination, intended to vindicate the claims of natural theology against the fashionable combination of postmodern antifoundationalism and revelatory positivism. Other research interests are Neo-Platonism; German Idealism; the Cambridge Platonists. He is a Fellow of Clare College. Email: [rdh26@cam.ac.uk](mailto:rdh26@cam.ac.uk)

Dr Catherine Pickstock has been working on liturgy and on music and theology, as well as continuing to contribute to debate on 'Radical Orthodoxy'. Her major book, *After Writing*, has been acclaimed for its innovative theological reflection upon the liturgy. She is planning another book, *The Grammar of Being*, to develop her research on the interplay between liturgical and ontological understandings of reality in early western thought, as well as studies of Plato, of the influence of Augustine's *De Musica*, and further research on Aquinas and medieval thought. She is a Fellow of Emmanuel College. Email: [cjp15@cam.ac.uk](mailto:cjp15@cam.ac.uk)

- Religious Studies

*Dr Timothy Jenkins'* research interests are in the area of: the study of religion and religion and social anthropology, with particular focus on French sociological thought and the topic of property. He is a Fellow and Dean of Chapel at Jesus College, and Director of Studies for Sidney Sussex College. Email: [tdj22@jesus.cam.ac.uk](mailto:tdj22@jesus.cam.ac.uk)

*Prof. Julius Lipner* has published in the area of Hinduism, especially in classical Vedanta, in 19<sup>th</sup> century Bengal, and on the comparative study of religion. He plans further work on the nature of Hinduism and comparative studies in Hinduism and Christianity, as well as critical work on Bankim Chatterji. He is a Fellow of Clare Hall. Email: [jjl1000@cam.ac.uk](mailto:jjl1000@cam.ac.uk)

*Dr Tony Street's* work aims to open up a neglected area of medieval Islamic philosophy: logic. He is a particular expert on Avicenna, and is preparing a translation of some post-Avicennian logical works (by Razi, Tusi, and Qazwini). He is a Fellow of Clare Hall. Email: [ads46@cam.ac.uk](mailto:ads46@cam.ac.uk)

*Dr Fraser Watts* works on the interface of psychology and theology, and on the psychology of religion. His latest book was *Theology and Psychology*. He is currently directing research programmes in CARTS on religious cognition, and the application of psychology to the work of the Church, and is Secretary of the International Society for Science and Religion. He is planning a large research programme on spiritual realities, including projects on human spiritual qualities, scientific and theological perspectives on the human person, and cognitive/neuroscience approaches to the understanding of God. He is a Fellow and Director of Studies at Queens' College. Email: [fnw1001@cam.ac.uk](mailto:fnw1001@cam.ac.uk)

*Dr Daniel Weiss;* Lecturer in Jewish Studies: his research interests are Rabbinics, Maimonides, liturgy and modern philosophy and theology.

*Mr Timothy Winter's* special areas of research are Islamic mysticism (Sufism) and early Ottoman poetry. He aims to edit the *Cambridge Companion to Islamic Theology*, to publish his monograph *A Faith for the End of Modernity*, and to complete a book on 'The Turkish Settlement: Religion and State in Ottoman Anatolia, 1300-1512'. He is a Fellow and Director of Studies for Wolfson College. Email: [tjw31@cam.ac.uk](mailto:tjw31@cam.ac.uk)

# HOW TO APPLY FOR A POSTGRADUATE DEGREE

## The Application Process

Applications are made online via the **Board of Graduate Studies** website:

<http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/offices/gradstud/prospec/apply/applynow/index.html>

Please note there is a £50 fee payable by credit or debit card.

Applications to the Faculty of Divinity should include a research proposal of around 1,000 words for Ph.D. applicants. M.Phil. applicants should supply either a research proposal or a clear indication of the subject area of their thesis: and a first and second choice of seminar course. Diploma applicants should supply a short statement of their research interests.

**All postgraduate applications should include a sample of the applicant's written work.** You can submit **either** one or two essays, **or** a thesis (whole or part).

**Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit their applications as early as possible.** This is particularly important for applicants seeking Gates or Cambridge funding, who should note the following deadlines.

**USA** applications for **Gates** Scholarships: deadline **14 October 2011**

**Non-USA** applications for **Gates** Scholarships: deadline **1 December 2011**

Applications for **CISS, CCT, and COT** scholarships: deadline **1 December 2011**

The **final deadline** for receipt of **all applications** is **20 January 2012**.

Applicants from British universities who do not provide transcripts should include a detailed statement of subjects/papers taken and grades achieved.

**Applicants from North American universities should take the GRE and include their score in their application.**

Applicants whose first language is not English will be required to take either IELTS or TOEFL tests to demonstrate that they are capable of studying full-time in English.

You should indicate the languages that are likely to be necessary for your research and of which you already have a working knowledge, with a note of examination results in those languages where appropriate. Any other languages that you know should also be indicated.

Finally, it would be helpful if you could state on your application form to which other universities you are applying.

## The Decision-Making Process

Once all you have uploaded all the relevant documentation onto the University's admission system (CamSIS) via your self-service page the Faculty will be able to view your application

Once the decision has been taken, your first choice College (if you have specified one on your application form) will be able to view your application and will make a decision. If that College rejects you and you have named other colleges, your papers will then be viewed by them. If all your Colleges of choice reject you, your papers will automatically be viewed by all the other Colleges. If you submitted an 'open' application, your papers are available to all Colleges.

## Notification of your Admission

Once the BGS has been notified of your acceptance both by the Faculty and by a College, you will receive a letter offering you a place conditional upon your satisfying certain criteria of academic attainment and financial viability. You may not come up to Cambridge until you have proved to the BGS that you have satisfied those criteria.

## Maintenance costs and fees

The current maintenance rates and fees (adapted from the current BGS website) are approximately as follows. **All costs are denominated in pounds sterling.**

### UK Students

- \* maintenance for 12 months: 10,750, for 9 months: 8,062
- \* university composition fee: 3,732, for 9 months: 4,233
- \* maximum college fee: 2,289

### EU Students

- \* maintenance for 12 months: 10,750; for 9 months: 8,062
- \* university composition fee: 3,732; for months: 4,233
- \* maximum college fee: 2,289

### Overseas Students

- \* For 12 months: 10,750; for 9 months: 8,062
- \* university composition fee: 11,829; for 9 months: 12,328
- \* maximum college fee: 2,289

## Funding

**No graduate student may come up to Cambridge until their funding is assured.** If your funding falls through while you are here, then you may be required to intermit or give up your course of study.

# POSTGRADUATE AND RESEARCH DEGREES IN THE FACULTY OF DIVINITY

## THE DIPLOMA

The Diploma is a nine-month postgraduate qualification especially designed for those who already have a degree, but in a subject other than Theology and Religious Studies. Taking this course may be a first step to doing an M.Phil. or Ph.D. in Theology and/or Religious Studies in this or another university, but does not count towards such a degree.

### Regulations for 2011-2012

Candidates must offer a **dissertation** and **three or four papers** selected from Papers A1, B1-B17, C1-C12 and D1, D2 of the Theology and Religious Studies Tripos (BA Degree).

- a candidate shall offer at least one paper from the set consisting of Papers C1-C12 and D1-D2.(third year papers)
- only one may be from Papers A1, B1 or C1
- no candidate shall offer more than one paper examined by an alternative mode of assessment (ie by essay).

Paper A1 and Groups B, C and D of the Theological and Religious Studies Tripos currently comprise the following papers:

### **Paper A1 Scriptural Languages and Texts**

- a) Hebrew
- b) NT Greek
- c) Sanskrit
- d) Qur'anic Arabic

### **Group B Papers** (all except B9 and B13, examined by 3-hour examination)

- B1 Intermediate Languages and Texts (same languages as A1)
- B2 Literature, History and Theology of the Exilic Age
- B3 Judaism in the Greek and Roman Periods
- B4 The Letters of Paul
- B5 The Johannine Tradition
- B6 Christianity in LateAntiquity (to circa 600)
- B7 Reform and Renewal in Christian History
- B8 Study of Theology I
- B9 God and the Imago Dei (examined by essay)
- B10 Philosophy of religion: God, Freedom and the Soul
- B11 Ethics and Faith
- B12 Psychology and Religion
- B13 a) Christian culture in the western world; b) Religious themes in literature (examined by essay)
- B14 Life, Thought and Worship of Modern Judaism
- B15 Introduction to Islam
- B16 Life and Thought of Religious Hinduism and of Buddhism
- B17 Philosophy: Logic

### **Group C Papers** (all examined by 3-hour examination)

- C1 Advanced Languages and Texts (same languages as A1)

- C2 Creation and Covenant
- C3 New Testament Christology
- C4 Religion, Power and Political Society
- C5 Study of Theology II
- C6 Disputed Questions in the Christian Tradition
- C7 Topics in the Study of Religion
- C8 Judaism II
- C9 Islam II
- C10 Hinduism and Buddhism II
- C11 Metaphysics
- C12 Theology and science

**D1 Papers - Special Subjects** (all examined by essay, except D1a, D1b and D1f which examined by 3-hour examination)

- (a) Old Testament (3-hour examination)
- (b) New Testament (3-hour examination)
- (c) A topic in the History of Christianity
- (d) The Doctrine of God
- (e) Imagination
- (f) Religion: Evolution, Brain and Cognition (3-hour examination)
- (g) Self & Salvation in Indian & Western Thought

**D2 Papers - Interdisciplinary Papers** (all examined by essay)

- (a) Body Self and Society
- (b) Theological Interpretation of the Gospel of John
- (c) Judaism and Philosophy
- (d) Judaism and Hellenism
- (e) Themes in World Christianity
- (f) Topics in Christian Ethics
- (g) Sacrifice

The **dissertation** should be no more than 10,000 words, including notes and appendices, but excluding bibliography, on a subject approved by the Degree Committee of the Faculty of Divinity. The choice of papers and the title of the dissertation must also be approved by the Degree Committee. The dissertation must be submitted by Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May (the third Monday of Easter Full Term). Candidates may be required to attend an oral examination on the subject of their dissertation.

## THE M.PHIL. DEGREE

The M.Phil. in Theology and Religious Studies is a nine-month Masters course which may, if you achieve a high enough grade, be treated as the first year of a Ph.D., provided that the Degree Committee for Divinity agrees to let you proceed to the Ph.D.

The following are the requirements for the M.Phil.

- 1a) **A thesis** of between 15,000 and 20,000 words in length, including footnotes and appendices but excluding bibliography, on a subject approved by the Degree Committee for the Faculty of Divinity.
  
- b) **An essay** of not more than 5,000 words in length, on a subject falling within ONE of the following areas of study which are taught by seminars:
  - \* Old Testament
  - \* New Testament
  - \* Issues and Methods in the History of Christianity
  - \* The Christian God
  - \* The Philosophy of Religion
  - \* World Religions
  - \* Psychology and Religion
  - \* Issues and Themes in World Christianity
  
- c) **Two of the following:**
  - (i) a 3-hour examination on a language studied during the year from the following list:
    - \* Latin (elementary & advanced)
    - \* German (elementary)
    - \* Hebrew (elementary & advanced)
    - \* Greek (elementary & intermediate)
    - \* Sanskrit
    - \* Qur'anic Arabic
    - \* Syriac
    - \* Aramaic
    - \* Rabbinic Hebrew
  
  - (ii) a second language (see list above)
  
  - (iii) an 'exercise' on a subject chosen from the following list, all of which are assessed by one essay of not more than 5,000 words (except Latin palaeography):
    - \* Greek epigraphy
    - \* Greek palaeography
    - \* Textual criticism of the New Testament
    - \* New Testament Archaeology
    - \* Latin palaeography (three-hour examination organised by the Faculty of History in the Lent Term)
    - \* Empirical Psychological of Religion
    - \* Contextual study of World Christianity or social study of religion
    - \* Early modern English and Scottish palaeography

- (iv) an essay of not more than 5,000 words on a subject chosen from a list available in the Faculty Office.

2) **An examination**, which may include an oral examination on the thesis and on the general field of knowledge within which it falls and, at the discretion of the Examiners, on the other work submitted by the candidate.

## **Essay Topics**

A list of essay topics is available in the Faculty Office. In exceptional cases, the Committee may approve essays not on the list.

## **Languages** (assessed by a three-hour written paper))

### **A. LATIN (elementary)**

Candidates will be required to translate one from a choice of two passages from the set texts, to translate one unseen passage, and to answer questions on the grammar and syntax of the passages translated. Candidates will also be required to summarise a longer passage of Latin. Use of Latin-English dictionary, a grammar and grammatical notes is permitted.

### **B. LATIN (advanced)**

Candidates will be required to translate two from a choice of three passages of Latin and to answer questions on the grammar and syntax of the passage translated. Candidates will also be required to summarise a longer passage Latin. Use of Latin-English dictionary, a grammar and grammatical notes is permitted.

### **C. GERMAN (elementary)**

Candidates will be required to (a) translate two passages into English and answer questions on grammar and syntax and (b) to summarise one passage. The use of a German-English dictionary and a grammar sheet is permitted.

### **D. HEBREW (elementary)**

This paper will contain (a) questions on Hebrew grammar, and (b) passages for translation, linguistic comment, pointing, and retranslation from a portion or portions of the Old Testament prescribed by the Degree Committee. Candidates will be required to translate two out of three passages from Hebrew, giving linguistic comment where instructed, to point one passage from Genesis 37, 40 and 41, to answer two grammatical questions and to translate five sentences from English into Hebrew. The grammatical questions will consist of (i) six words for parsing; (ii) a question requiring candidates to write out certain forms of (a) a verb and (b) a noun. The sentences for translation will be designed to test knowledge of common grammatical constructions and will be based on the prescribed text. The translation from Hebrew will carry 50% of the marks, the translation into Hebrew 20% and the remaining questions 10% each.

### **E. HEBREW (advanced)**

Candidates will be required to translate five passages out of seven from the set texts, including one (out of two) without vowel points, to comment on points of linguistic and exegetical interest in these passages and three out of six shorter passages, and to translate a short passage from English into pointed biblical Hebrew.

### **F. GREEK (elementary)**

The paper will contain passages for translation and for exegetical and grammatical comment, from one or more portions of the New Testament. Copies of Souter's Pocket Lexion will be provided.

### **G. GREEK (intermediate)**

Candidates will be required to translate and comment on three passages from a choice of five (of various lengths, generally between 5 and 10 verses depending on the degree of difficulty) from the set text. Comments should explain and justify any difficulties in translation, identify and discuss linguistic and grammatical features of the text, and discuss important textual variants.

### **H. SANSKRIT**

This paper will contain four questions, each to be marked out of 25, some of them including small comment-type questions (where the marks will be divided 20 + 5). The first three questions will be on set texts, the fourth will be an unseen text.

### **I. QUR'ANIC ARABIC**

This paper will contain (a) questions on Arabic grammar and (b) passages for translation, linguistic and exegetical comment and vocalisation from a portion or portions of the Qur'an, Hadith and early Islamic theological literature prescribed by the Faculty Board. Candidates will be required to translate four passages from Arabic, giving linguistic comment where instructed, and to translate four sentences from English into Arabic. The sentences for translation will be designed to test knowledge of common grammatical forms.

### **J. SYRIAC**

Candidates will be required to translate passages from the set texts, and from sight. All three Syriac scripts will be represented. There may also be sentences in English to translate into pointed Syriac.

### **K. ARAMAIC**

Candidates will be required to translate and comment on a number of passages from set texts, representative of three of the main types of Aramaic literature (Biblical, Qumran, Targum).

### **L. RABBINIC HEBREW**

Candidates will be required to translate three from a choice of four passages from the set texts and to comment on points of linguistic and general interesting them, and to translate one unseen passage taken from similar texts.

### **Seminars and Set texts**

The following are the set texts for the examination for the M.Phil 2010/2011:

#### *Course 1 Old Testament*

Exodus 16-23; Amos 1-7; 4Q Pentateuch (selections)

Course 2 *New Testament*  
The Greek text of Galatians

Course 3 *Issues and Methods in the History of Christianity*  
no set texts

Course 4 *The Christian God*

Augustine, *The Confessions*, trans. Henry Chadwick (Oxford, 1991), Books 9-13 (pp. 155-305).

Jonathan Edwards, *Dissertation I: Concerning the End for which God Created the World*, (in Jonathan Edwards Ethical Writings), ed. Paul Ramsey (New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1989) pp. 403-536.

Bonaventure, *The Soul's Journey into God*, (in Bonaventure), trans. Ewert Cousins (Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 1978), pp. 51-116.

Karl Barth, *Church Dogmatics II*, 1, 'The Eternity and Glory of God', pp. 608-677 (Edinburgh, 1957).

Course 5 *The Philosophy of Religion*  
set texts to be announced

Course 6 *Psychology and Religion*  
no set texts

Course 7 *World Religions*  
no set texts

Course 8 *Issues and Themes in World Christianity*  
set texts to be announced

### **Prescribed Texts for Languages** (to be confirmed)

Language A      Elementary Latin  
Psalms 1, 2 and 22; 'Stabat Mater' (Oxford Book of Med. Latin Verse, No. 285); and Daniel 5.

Language B      Advanced Latin  
Set texts to be announced

Language C	German Set texts to be announced
Language D	Elementary Hebrew <i>Genesis 37, 40 &amp; 41</i>
Language E	Hebrew <i>Amos 1-7; Psalms 8, 19, 22, 23, 24, 46, 51, 74, 82, 91, 104, 145</i>
Language F	Elementary Greek <i>John 1-5</i>
Language G	Intermediate Greek <i>Mark 1-16</i>
Language H	Sanskrit <i>Mahabharata 2.66-68 (Poona edition, 1933-66). Hitopadesa, extracts 3-11 (C.R. Lanman, A Sanskrit Reader, pp. 16-35); Bhagavadgita chs. 3-4</i>
Language I	Qur'anic Arabic <i>The Qur'ān, I:1-7, II:1-23, IV:93-100, LIII:1-40. al-Bukhārī, al-Jāmi' al-ṣaḥīḥ (Cairo, 1313 ah), vol.I, pp.1-10. al-Isfarīnī, al-Tablīḡ fi'l-dīn (Beirut, 1983 ce), pp.45-46, 97-99</i>
Language J	Syriac <i>Set texts to be announced</i>
Language K	Aramaic <i>Daniel 2-3 Ezra 4·8-6·12, 7·12-26 Targum of Jonathan on 1 Samuel 1-6</i>
Language L	Rabbanic Hebrew <i>Mishnah tractate Avot chapters 1-5 in R.T. Herford, ed., The Ethics of the Talmud: Sayings of the Fathers (1962). Selections from medieval prose and poetic works</i>

## Exercises

### A GREEK EPIGRAPHY

Candidates will be assessed by submission of a portfolio of work, as directed.

### B GREEK PALAEOGRAPHY

This subject will be assessed by a submission of 5,000 words commenting on **two** manuscripts chosen from among those discussed at the relevant classes, and commenting on the style, the hand, the content of the manuscript, the formation of the book in which it occurs, and issues that arise from the text as presented.

### C TEXTUAL CRITICISM OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

This subject will be examined by two 3,500 word essays on the textual problems of particular passages or manuscripts. The choice of the latter should be determined in consultation with the student's supervisor and with the approval of the New Testament Section Director

### D NEW TESTAMENT ARCHAEOLOGY:

An introduction to methods of biblical archaeology with special reference to sites in Greece and Turkey. Assessed by submission of an essay of not more than 5,000 words on a topic of the candidate's choice, to be approved by the Degree Committee.

### E LATIN PALAEOGRAPHY

Candidates will take the examination in Palaeography set for the Examination in Medieval History for the degree of Master of Philosophy in the Faculty of History, and the regulations for this paper of the Faculty of History will apply. This examination is held in the Lent Term. Candidates will be required to transcribe and identify the script type of three passages, two from prepared, and one from unprepared, texts, within the option chosen. Three options are available: Early Medieval Scripts; Central Medieval Hands; Late Medieval Hands.

### F EMPIRICAL PSYCHOLOGICAL OF RELIGION

This subject will be examined by submission of an essay of not more than 5,000 words on a subject of the candidate's choice, to be approved by the Degree Committee, reporting the design of an empirical investigation of religious, beliefs, experience or behaviour from the perspective of psychology of religion and/or empirical theology.

### G CONTEXTUAL STUDY OF WORLD CHRISTIANITY OR SOCIAL STUDY OF RELIGION

The exercise will be examined by submission of an essay of not more than 5000 words. Three choices are offered: either examine three of the texts from Section One or three of the texts from Section Two, or investigate and describe a social scientific method for gaining reliable knowledge concerning religious practices, e.g. the comparative method, sociological survey, anthropological fieldwork. (Texts to be announced.)

### H EARLY MODERN ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH PALAEOGRAPHY

This exercise will require candidates to transcribe material from a specified manuscript in the University Library and to write a description and analysis of that manuscript. The word limit of 4,000 words includes the transcription.

## THE CERTIFICATE IN POSTGRADUATE STUDY

Applicants for a Certificate in Postgraduate Study must gain admission as Graduate Students and should therefore normally hold First or good Second Class Honours or the equivalent. Applicants for the Ph.D. degree may be accepted as candidates for the Certificate of Postgraduate Study in the first instance; in appropriate circumstances the Certificate may then be counted towards a research degree. The Examination for the Certificate takes place in June. The scheme of examination for the Certificate in Postgraduate Study in Theology consists of:

- 1 (a) attendance at lectures, seminars, or classes approved by the Degree Committee for the Faculty of Divinity;
- (b) research on a topic approved by the Degree Committee pursued under the guidance of a supervisor;
- (c) completion of the registration procedure prescribed by the Degree Committee for Graduate Students in their first year of study;
- 2 a dissertation in the form of *either* a substantive essay on the topic approved under Regulation 1(b) or a specimen of written work having an evident and central relation to the larger dissertation which the student intends to submit in candidature for the M.Litt. or Ph.D. Degree. A dissertation shall be of not more than 10,000 words in length, and shall have been composed wholly or largely in the period since the student's admission as a Graduate Student;
- 3 an examination including not more than two written papers on subjects cognate to the lectures or classes attended by the candidate; such papers may include passages for translation and comment in one or more languages relevant to the candidate's original research.

## THE PH.D. AND M.LITT. DEGREES

The Ph.D. and M.Litt. degrees are awarded for a dissertation which must not exceed 80,000 words. First-year students are not registered for any degree, but must undergo an assessment at the end of the first year in order to be registered for the Ph.D. or M.Litt. degree. This assessment takes the form of a discussion between the student, Supervisor and an independent Assessor over a written progress report. The Degree Committee of the Faculty will act upon the recommendations of the Supervisor and Assessor. Occasionally, and where appropriate, candidates are also required to sit a progress examination, e.g. in a language. After this assessment, if the student is permitted to proceed to the Ph.D. (or M.Litt.), there will be no more course work or examinations other than the final oral examination of the dissertation and the general field of knowledge in which the dissertation falls. Supervisors report annually on each candidate's progress.

The only requirement for completion of the Ph.D. and the M.Litt. is a substantial research dissertation which makes a contribution to scholarly knowledge. It is the normal expectation that a Cambridge Ph.D. will be published.

### What happens when you get here

The expected standards and degree of independence of postgraduate study in the UK often come as a shock to our overseas applicants, and our own 9-month M.Phil. (or its equivalent elsewhere) is increasingly being recommended to students in need of substantial preparatory work.

The following is a guide as to what to expect. In the first week of their course, all Ph.D. students will be invited to attend a series of research skills seminars to prepare them for the work ahead. After this, there are no taught courses for Ph.D. students; each student has his or her own academic Supervisor with whom he or she meets on a regular, individual basis.

One-to-one teaching takes place with your Supervisor. The Supervisor is usually a Lecturer or Affiliated Lecturer in the Faculty, but may be from another Faculty within the University if the appropriate person to deal with the topic proposed is not located in Divinity. If no one in Cambridge can be found to supervise your thesis, you will have been recommended to apply to another university instead. The format of supervisions depends entirely on the arrangements made between supervisors and students. Many supervisors start by meeting their graduate students weekly or fortnightly, and then once every 4-6 weeks, once written work has been produced.

Graduate students attend fortnightly Research Seminars, along with established scholars, some of whom are spending their sabbatical leave in Cambridge. These Seminars have been running for over 50 years; many influential books and articles have had their first airing in this setting.

Research students are also free to attend any course or seminar offered in the University, without further payment (although prior agreement should normally be sought from chairmen of graduate seminars as a matter of courtesy).

The importance of languages cannot be overemphasised in the biblical subject areas. For the Old Testament, an advanced knowledge of Hebrew is essential and normally a good grounding in Greek as well. Other languages such as Aramaic, Ugaritic, other Semitic languages or Latin may also be needed, but there are facilities for learning them

here. For the New Testament, solid competence in German will be required, though it can be developed during study at Cambridge. A reading knowledge of French, too, is highly desirable. As for ancient languages, solid Greek is essential; a good grounding in Hebrew is highly recommended, but can be developed once you arrive, as can Aramaic and Latin which may be necessary for some research topics.

### **Allowances**

There are certain allowances which the B.G.S. can make to students registered for the Ph.D. and M.Litt. degrees. For example, permission may be granted to work outside Cambridge for part of a course in order to undertake fieldwork, to consult archives, or for similar academic reasons, but such permission is not usually granted until after the first year of a course. Provision also exists for the granting of exemption from three of the required terms of research on the basis of research or other work done after graduation but before starting research at Cambridge, but applicants for such exemption are not considered until a student is registered for a research degree and has a dissertation ready or virtually ready to submit. Details of the various allowances are included in the official regulations and in the Memorandum to Graduate Students issued on admission. Further copies may be obtained on request from the Secretary of the B.G.S.

### **Checklist for admissions • M.Phil./Ph.D.**

#### **Academic Record and Transcripts**

- A 1<sup>st</sup> class or 2:1 Honours Degree from a UK university with marks of at least 67% or the equivalent, or an equivalent standard from an overseas university (in the U.S. system a GPA of at least 3.8 is normally required in relevant subjects). Where applicants are already candidates for a Diploma or Master's Degree at the time when they apply, we expect the requirements for this qualification to be met with marks of at least 67% or the equivalent.
- Evidence of some coursework in all relevant major fields of a theology/religious studies degree (e.g. history/doctrine/Bible, or philosophy/religious traditions/religious texts)
- Ancient Languages: for Ph.D. in biblical areas, some evidence of both Greek and Hebrew. In all cases likely to require it, evidence of some relevant aptitude.
- Modern Languages: evidence of some reading competence in at least one relevant modern language; aptitude to learn more if necessary.

#### **References**

Referees should be invited to comment on:

- Analytical reasoning
- Capacity for original thought
- Thoroughness and attention to detail
- Motivation, industry, ability to sustain effort over time
- Writing: grammar, syntax, argument, clarity of style
- Ability to work independently with limited supervision
- Oral presentation skills (one-to-one, seminars, etc.)
- Preparation for research (e.g. any previous thesis or long essay)
- Co-operation with supervisors and peers, e.g. in a seminar context

**GRE (North American applicants)**

- GRE results are always required from North American applicants (and in certain circumstances from applicants outside North America).
- Percentile score above 90 in the verbal section of the test.
- A suitably high score in the analytical writing test.

**English as a Foreign Language (where applicable)**

- **Either:** International English Language Testing System (IELTS), including oral, academic reading and writing tests, an overall band score of 7.5 with not less than 7.0 in speaking, listening, writing and reading.
- **Or:** Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), minimum score 637 (paper) and Test of Written English (TWE) 5.5.
- **Or:** iBT, a minimum score of 110 with no element below 25
- **Or:** UCLES Certificate of Proficiency (passed at level A, B or C) or Advanced (passed at level A or B) is also acceptable.

**Written Work**

- Must be included

**Research Proposal (for Ph.D.)**

- The research proposal should either be feasible as it stands, or show sufficient originality and focused awareness of relevant critical issues to suggest that a workable definition of the research topic could be achieved early in the first year of research.

**M.Phil degree**

- Applicants can either supply a research proposal or the subject area of their thesis.
- Applicants must indicate a first and second choice of seminar course (see list of choices on page 10 under section b).

**Supervision**

- We must have a suitable supervisor who is both willing and competent to ensure the successful guidance and implementation of the project during the candidate's proposed stay in Cambridge.

Contact details:

**for Applications:**

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**for Course Information:**

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*We wish you all the best in your academic pursuits.*