

Faculty of Divinity

# Theology and Religious Studies

A broad degree programme with  
wide-ranging choice

Themed tracks



**Top of the Guardian University Guide 2014 League  
Table for Religious Studies and Theology**

“If you want to learn more with some of the best lecturers and supervisors in the world, apply!”

*Thomas*

Some students prefer to follow a specific pathway that matches their interests for one or more years. The following tracks through the Tripos (a degree programme at the University of Cambridge) are indicative and there are in many cases other options you could choose, while still remaining within a particular pathway. In all cases these are optional and non-binding for subsequent years of your degree but they may provide a useful way of approaching the broad choice of papers you will be able to choose from if you study Theology and Religious Studies at the University of Cambridge.

- [Islamic Studies](#)
- [Jewish Studies](#)
- [Religious Traditions of India](#)
- [Biblical Studies](#)
- [Christian Theology](#)
- [Christian History](#)
- [Philosophy of Religion](#)

### [An Islamic Studies Track](#)

#### **Part I**

Paper A1d     Elementary Qur'anic Arabic  
Paper A2     One God? Hearing the Old Testament  
Paper A7     World Religions in Comparative Perspective  
and two other papers such as  
Paper A6     Understanding Contemporary Religion  
Paper A8     Philosophy of Religion and Ethics

#### **Part IIA**

Paper B1d     Intermediate Qur'anic Arabic  
Paper B15     Introduction to Islam  
and two other papers, such as  
Paper B11     Ethics and faith  
Paper B16     Life and thought of religious Hinduism and of Buddhism

#### **Part IIB**

Paper C1d     Advanced Qur'anic Arabic.  
Paper C9     Islam II  
Paper D1d     The Doctrine of God  
And one other paper or a dissertation in Islamic Studies

## A Jewish Studies Track

### Part I

- Paper A1a Elementary Hebrew
- Paper A2 One God? Hearing the Old Testament
- Paper A7 World Religions in Comparative Perspective

And two other papers such as

- Paper A6 Understanding Contemporary Religion
- Paper A8 Philosophy of Religion and Ethics

### Part IIA

- Paper B1a Intermediate Hebrew
  - Paper B2 The Literature, History and Theology of the Exilic Age
  - Paper B14 Life, thought and worship of modern Judaism
- and one other paper such as
- B10 Philosophy of religion

### Part IIB

- Paper C1a Advanced Hebrew
  - Paper C8 Judaism II
  - Paper D1a Old Testament Study
  - Paper D2c\* Judaism and Philosophy
- or a dissertation on a topic in Jewish Studies

## A General Religious Studies Track

### Part I

A scriptural language (A1), and a scriptural paper (A2 or A3), and

- Paper A6 Understanding Contemporary Religion
- Paper A7 World Religions in Comparative Perspective
- Paper A8 Philosophy of Religion and Ethics

### Part IIA

- Paper B10 Philosophy of Religion: God, freedom and the soul
- Paper B13 Religious Themes in Literature
- Paper B14 Life, thought and worship of modern Judaism
- Paper B16 Life and thought of religious Hinduism and of Buddhism

### Part IIB

- Paper C4 Themes in world Christianity
  - Paper C7 Topics in the study of religion
  - Paper D2e The Rise of Pentecostalism
  - Paper D2f Topics in Christian ethics
- or a dissertation on a topic in the Study of Religion

## A Religious Traditions of India Track

### Part I

A scriptural paper (A2 or A3)

- Paper A1c Elementary Sanskrit
- Paper A7 World Religions in Comparative Perspective

and three other papers such as

Paper A6      Understanding Contemporary Religion

Paper A8      Philosophy of Religion and Ethics

### **Part IIA**

Paper B1c      Intermediate Sanskrit

Paper B16      Life and thought of religious Hinduism and of Buddhism

and two other papers such as

Paper B8      Study of Theology I

Paper B11      Ethics and faith

### **Part IIB**

Paper C1c      Advanced Sanskrit

Paper C10      Hinduism and Buddhism II

and two other papers, which could include a dissertation on a topic in Indian religious studies

## **A Biblical Studies Track**

### **Part I**

Either Paper A1a      Elementary Hebrew

or Paper A1b      Elementary New Testament Greek

Paper A2      One God? Hearing the Old Testament

Paper A3      Jesus and the Origins of the Gospel

Two further papers from A4 – A8

### **Part IIA**

Either Paper B1a      Intermediate Hebrew

or Paper B1b      Intermediate New Testament Greek

Paper B2      The Literature, History and Theology of The Exilic Age

Paper B4      Letters of Paul

Paper B5      The Johannine Tradition

You could drop the language and take four other papers, but if you are likely to want to do further study in the field it is worth noting that you will need to maintain your language study

### **Part IIB**

Paper C1      Advanced level study of the language you took at Intermediate level in IIA

Paper C2      Creation and Covenant

Paper C3      New Testament Christology

Paper D1a      Old Testament Study

or a dissertation on a Biblical Studies topic

## **A Christian Doctrine Track**

### **Part I**

Paper A1b      Elementary New Testament Greek

Paper A3      Jesus and the Origins of the Gospels

Paper A5      Who is Jesus Christ?

and two other papers such as

Paper A4      Christianity and the Transformation of Culture

Paper A8      Philosophy of Religion and Ethics

**Part IIA**

Paper B8      Study of Theology I  
Paper B13      Christian culture in the western world  
and two other papers such as  
Paper B4      The letters of Paul  
Paper B6      Christianity in Late Antiquity (to circa 600)

**Part IIB**

Paper C5      Study of Theology II  
Paper C6      Disputed Questions in the Christian Tradition  
Paper D1d      The Doctrine of God  
Paper D2b      Theological Interpretation of the Gospel of John  
or a dissertation on an aspect of Christian Doctrine

[A History of Christianity Track](#)

**Part 1**

Paper A1b      Elementary New Testament Greek  
Paper A3      Jesus and the Origins of the Gospels  
Paper A4      Christianity and the Transformation of Culture  
Paper A6      Understanding Contemporary Religion

**Part IIA**

Paper B6      Christianity in Late Antiquity (to circa 600)  
Paper B7      Reform and renewal in Christian History  
Paper B13      Christian culture in the western world  
and another paper such as  
Paper B9      God and the Imago Dei

**Part IIB**

Paper C4      A topic in the History of Christianity  
Paper D1c      Councils in context to ca. 500  
Paper C7      Topics in the study of religion  
and another paper or dissertation of an aspect of Christian History

[A Philosophy and Ethics Track](#)

**Part I**

A scriptural language (A1), and a scriptural paper (A2 or A3), and  
Paper A8      Philosophy of Religion and Ethics  
and two other papers such as  
Paper A6      Understanding Contemporary Religion  
Paper A7      World Religions in Comparative Perspective

**Part IIA**

Paper B10      Philosophy of religion: God, freedom and the soul  
Paper B11      Ethics and faith

Paper B17     Philosophy: Logic  
and another paper such as  
Paper B8     Study of Theology I

**Part IIB**

Paper C6     Disputed Questions in the Christian Tradition  
Paper C11    Metaphysics  
Paper D2c    Judaism and Philosophy  
Paper D2f    Topics in Christian Ethics  
Or a dissertation of an aspect of Philosophy of Religion and Ethics