



**Faculty of Religious Studies**  
**Programs, Courses and University Regulations**  
**2010-2011**





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Not all courses are offered every year and changes can be made after publication. Always check the Minerv

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## 1 About the Faculty of Religious Studies

The Faculty of Religious Studies has a long and distinguished history at McGill University and offers programs for those seeking to pursue the academic study of religion at both the undergraduate and graduate level. The Faculty recognizes the crucial role played by religion throughout history, as well as in contemporary society, and focuses on the study and analysis of the world's religions as phenomena of human society. The Faculty takes a multi-disciplinary approach to religious scholarship, incorporating a wide range of perspectives and methods.

The programs of study explore the many cultural, historical and political issues related to both Eastern and Western religions and to religion in comparative perspective. The Faculty has four major teaching areas: (1) Asian Religions, (2) Biblical Studies, (3) Christian Thought and History, and (4) Religion and Culture. Currently, the Faculty of Religious Studies offers or contributes to six degrees — B.A., B.Th., and M.Div. (in affiliation with the Montreal School of Theology), as well as the graduate degrees S.T.M., M.A. and Ph.D. The B.A. Honours, Major, and Minor programs in Religious Studies are offered in cooperation with the Faculty of Arts.

- a Students in the Faculty develop expertise in one or more of the areas of Religious Studies at the undergraduate and graduate level. In the B.Th./M.Div. program, students prepare for the ordained ministry and for other professional careers in pastoral settings such as hospitals and schools.

The Colleges affiliated with the Faculty are the Montreal Diocesan Theological College of the Anglican Church of Canada; the Presbyterian College, Montreal; the United Methodist Church of Canada; and the Faculty of Theology of the University of Montreal.

The visiting professor teaches one course at the 500 level, gives a public lecture and is available to students for conferences and consultation. The first Numata Professor, in 1999-2000, w





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## 7 Overview of Degrees Offered

### Degrees Offered by the Faculty

*section 7.1: Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies*

*section 7.3: Bachelor of Theology*

*section 7.2: Master of Divinity*

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### 7.1 Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Religious Studies

Honours Concentration, Major Concentration and Minor Concentration in Religious Studies are offered in cooperation with the Faculty of Arts. Religious Studies B.A. Honours, Major, and Minor students may tak

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### **7.3 Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.)**

The main goals of the Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) program are:

- 1.** to offer the academic instruction in the disciplines of theology within a university setting;
- 2.** to contrib

### 7.3.4 Applying to the B.Th. Program

All applications must be made online at the McGill University website for prospective students: [www.mcgill.ca/applying](http://www.mcgill.ca/applying). The online application process should take about 20 minutes and a credit card is required for payment of the application fee. Once completed, the online application form may be printed for your own records.



**Note: Owing to McGill University's implementation of a comprehensive online application system, paper applications to the B.Th. Program can no longer be accepted. All applicants must apply online.**

#### 7.3.4.1 Required Documents

- Two letters of reference, at least one of which should be from an instructor in an academic institution previously attended.
- A personal statement, according to the directions in the application.
- Official transcript(s) of all previous post-secondary academic work.

**A complete set of these required documents must be sent to the Faculty of Religious Studies (see address below).**

If you are applying for admission to one of the Theological Colleges, another complete set of these required documents must also be sent to the College concerned.

Please note that your file will not be considered by the Admissions Committee until all the required documents have been received.

#### Mailing Address

Bachelor of Theology Program  
McGill University  
Enrolment Services Documentation Centre  
688 Sherbrooke Street West, Suite 760  
Montreal, Quebec H3A 3R1  
Canada

### 7.3.5 Application Deadlines

Applicants to the B.Th. Program may be accepted into either the Fall, Winter, or Summer term. The online application deadline is **June 15 (May 1 for International students) for September admissions; November 1 for January admissions and March 1 for May admissions**. Please note that all required documents listed above must be received by the Faculty of Religious Studies prior to these deadlines in order for the applicant to be considered by the Admissions Committee.

### 7.3.6 Tuition Fees and Funding

Information concerning current tuition fees can be found at: [www.mcgill.ca/student-accounts](http://www.mcgill.ca/student-accounts). Applicants for admission to one of the affiliated Colleges should contact the institution concerned for information regarding College-related fees.

### 7.3.7 Admissions Review Procedure

An unsuccessful applicant, or a Faculty of Religious Studies Council member acting on behalf of an unsuccessful applicant, who believes that not all factors having a bearing on the application have been fully considered may submit a request for a review of the decision.

The request must be made in writing and directed to the Chair of the B.Th. Admissions and Awards Committee. A \$40 certified cheque or money-order made payable to McGill University must accompany the request.

The request for review must include information in support of reconsideration, such as: a description of significant change in the applicant's circumstances since the initial consideration, correction of any missing or erroneous information in the application, or information that the applicant believes may have been overlooked when the original decision was made.

Requests for reconsideration must be received at McGill no more than 2 weeks after notification of refusal.

The review procedure will be carried out by the B.Th. Admissions and Awards Committee. Please note that the original admission decision will stand unless the Committee is persuaded that admissions standards have been misapplied or that an applicant's academic record has been misapprehended.

Decisions on Special, Visiting, and Exchange applications are final; requests for reconsideration will not be considered.

### 7.3.8 Registration Procedures

Students register online at [www.mcgill.ca/minerva](http://www.mcgill.ca/minerva).

Minerva provides web access to registration, class schedules, course descriptions, and address changes.

- Returning students must register via Minerva between April 7 and the first day of classes. After this period, a late re

If your standing is still “incomplete” at the time of registration for the next academic year, you must obtain a *Letter of Permission to Register* from the Chair of the B.Th. Committee.

### 7.3.13 Academic Achievement

Several designations are used to acknowledge the superior academic achievement of in-course and graduating students. These designations are awarded at the discretion of the Faculty.

**Dean's Honour List:** to designate *in-course* students who have completed a minimum of 27 credits during regular session (14 credits for those registered for one term) and have attained a GPA placing them in the top 5% - 10% of their class.

#### 7.3.13.1 Graduation Honours

**Dean's Honour List:** For information on the designation of Dean's Honour List awarded at graduation, see the *University Regulations and General Information* section of this publication.

**Distinction:** For information on the designation of Distinction awarded at graduation, see the *University Regulations and General Information* section of this publication.

**Honours:** to designate graduating students who have completed a minimum of 60 credits at McGill and have fulfilled the Honours course requirements with a CGPA of 3.20, or 3.50 for First Class Honours.

### 7.3.14 Evaluation

Competence in a course may be determined by examinations and/or essays, or by other means chosen by the instructor and approved by the Dean.

### 7.3.15 Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) - Religious Studies (120 credits)

The Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) degree requires 120 credits. Many students enter the program with advanced standing, and their credit requirement for the degree is adjusted accordingly.

All students should discuss their course selection with their program adviser.

The required and complementary course requirements below describe the program for students who enter in Year 1 (U1) with 30 credits of advanced standing based on a Quebec Diploma of Collegial Studies (D.E.C.).

Students admitted directly from high school into U0 should consult their program adviser regarding appropriate courses for their first year of study.

Students admitted on the basis of a bachelor degree will have advanced standing and should consult their program adviser to determine any course equivalencies completed during their first degree and how these affect their program requirements for the Bachelor of Theology 0 Honour List:grerses fAg414YY

Students entering the B.Th. as a second degree program would normally take 60 credits and begin with Year 2 (U2) courses. These students should verify with their program adviser regarding course substitutions if they have completed similar courses elsewhere.

RELG 302	(3)	Literature of Ancient Israel 1
RELG 303	(3)	Literature of Ancient Israel 2
RELG 311	(3)	New Testament Studies 1
RELG 312	(3)	New Testament Studies 2
RELG 322	(3)	The Church in History 1
RELG 323	(3)	The Church in History 2
RELG 333	(3)	Principles of Christian Theology 1
RELG 341	(3)	Introduction: Philosophy of Religion

### Year 2 (U2) - Complementary Courses (6 credits)

To be chosen from among the 300- or 400-level courses offered in the B.Th. or B.A. Religious Studies programs (or RELG 280D1/ RELG 280D2) in consultation with the B.Th. program adviser.

RELG 280D1	(3)	Elementary New Testament Greek
RELG 280D2	(3)	Elementary New Testament Greek

### Year 3 (U3) - Required Courses (12 credits)

\*Note: RELG 420 may be replaced with another course if recommended by the program adviser.

RELG 420	(3)	Canadian Church History
RELG 434	(3)	Principles of Christian Theology 2
RELG 470	(3)	Theological Ethics
RELG 479	(3)	Christianity in Global Perspective

### Year 3 (U3) - Complementary Courses (18 credits)

18 credits selected as follows:

One 3-credit course in a religious tradition other than Christianity, such as the courses listed below.

Students who have previously completed a university-level course in world religions may replace this with another complementary course.

ISLA 380	(3)	Islamic Philosophy and Theology
RELG 252	(3)	Hinduism and Buddhism
RELG 253	(3)	Religions of East Asia
RELG 306	(3)	Rabbinic Judaism
RELG 352	(3)	Japanese Religions
RELG 354	(3)	Chinese Religions

9 credits, one 3-credit course in each of the following areas:

#### Old Testament

3 credits from:

RELG 407	(3)	The Writings
RELG 408	(3)	The Prophets

#### New Testament

3 credits from:

RELG 411	(3)	New Testament Exegesis
RELG 482	(3)	Exegesis of Greek New Testament

**Christian Theology**

3 credits from:

RELG 330	(3)	Reformed Theology
RELG 336	(3)	Contemporary Theological Issues
RELG 399	(3)	Christian Spirituality
RELG 423	(3)	Reformation Thought

6 credits, to be chosen from among the 300- or 400-level courses offered in the B.Th. or B.A. Religious Studies programs (or RELG 280D1/ RELG 280D2) in consultation with the B.Th. program adviser.

**7.3.16 Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) - Honours Religious Studies (120 credits)**

Students who have achieved a CGPA of 3.30 at the end of B.Th. Year 2 (U2) may apply to the B.Th. Committee for permission to enter the Honours program. They will be required to complete the normal requirements for the B.Th. degree and the honours courses RELG 494 and RELG 495 in the B.Th. Year 3 (U3) with a grade of B or better.

**Year 3 (U3) - Required Courses - Honours (6 credits)**

RELG 494	(3)	B.Th. Honours Seminar 1
RELG 495	(3)	B.Th. Honours Seminar 2