
RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Joseph F. Kelly	Chair; Early Christianity; Historical Theology
Doris K. Donnelly	Systematic Theology; Spirituality
Paul J. Lauritzen	Bioethics; Religious Ethics
David R. Mason	Systematic Theology; Protestant Theology
Sheila E. McGinn	Biblical Studies; Early Christianity
Paul K. Nietupski	Asian Religions
Joan M. Nuth	Systematic and Historical Theology; Feminist Theology
Zeki Saritoprak	Islam
Thomas L. Schubeck, S.J.	Christian Social Ethics; Latin American Theology
John R. Spencer	Biblical Studies; Biblical Archaeology
Paul L. Heck	Tuohy Chair (2006-2007); Islam
Pastor in Residence Valentino Lassiter	African-American Theology and History
Writer in Residence Donald B. Cozzens	Pastoral Theology; Christian Spirituality; Religion and Psychology

The Department of Religious Studies offers graduate courses in scripture, historical theology, systematic theology, religious ethics, Asian religions, and spirituality, leading to the degree Master of Arts. The department also offers a post-master's certificate program in general religious studies. The master's program meets the educational requirements of those interested in religious education, ministry, other professional careers related to religion, and continued academic study.

Admission Requirements

Applicants to the master's program are required to submit the following:

- A bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year institution.
- An acceptable score on the GRE General Test or the Miller Analogies Test (MAT). This requirement is waived for students who have already completed an advanced degree, and may occasionally be waived in other special circumstances.
- Two letters of recommendation from persons acquainted with the applicant's academic qualifications. If appropriate, one letter should be from someone familiar with the applicant's professional work.
- A 500-word statement by the applicant, indicating his/her purpose in seeking admission to the master's or certificate program.

The department is honored to sponsor the Walter and Mary Tuohy Chair of Interreligious Studies, which annually brings to the department a distinguished visiting scholar who offers RL 385/585 (see course listing below). The chair, named in honor of the late Walter Tuohy, a leading railroad executive, and his wife Mary, was established in 1966. For more information, please refer to the Tuohy website (www.jcu.edu/tuohy).

Tuition scholarships are available to all qualified students enrolled in Religious Studies Master of Arts or Certificate of Advanced Studies programs. Please contact The Graduate School office or website (www.jcu.edu/graduate) for more information.

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Master of Arts Program

It is desirable that students seeking to enroll in the master's program should have six undergraduate courses in theology or religious studies. Since few undergraduates actually major in these fields, the department offers introductory courses in biblical studies (RL 400) and systematic theology (RL 430) to acquaint students with the basic themes and methods in those areas. The department also offers a non-credit course in research methods (RL 490). RL 490 is required of all students. RL 400 and 430 are prerequisites for other courses in those areas; they may be waived for students who have taken similar courses at other institutions.

General Degree Requirements

- A. 30 graduate semester hours of study
- B. RL 490, Research Methods in Religious Studies, ordinarily taken during the first year of enrollment (taught each fall)
- C. RL 400, Introduction to Biblical Interpretation (taught each fall); RL 430, Introduction to Systematic Theology (taught each spring); One course in Religious Ethics
- D. At least 15 semester hours of 500-level courses
- E. A comprehensive examination
- F. For students in Plan A (see page 12):
 - 1. successful completion of a foreign language examination demonstrating a reading knowledge of a classical or modern language consistent with the student's plan of study
 - 2. the completion of a master's thesis (RL 599), for six semester hours of course credit
- G. For students in Plan B (see page 12): the completion of a research essay

Note: Students accepted under the requirements for the Master of Arts in Religious Studies listed in previous Graduate School bulletins normally should fulfill those requirements, but they may petition for permission to follow the requirements introduced in this *Bulletin* instead.

Course of Studies

Ordinarily graduate courses are three semester hours; no more than nine semester hours toward the degree may be taken in one-credit or two-credit courses. No more than six semester hours or the equivalent of two comparable John Carroll University courses may be transferred from another graduate institution. Initial acceptance of students is made under Plan B, the non-thesis option. Authorization of Plan A, the thesis option (see page 12), is contingent upon the completion of at least one 500-level course, the successful completion of the foreign language exam, request of the student, and the approval of the department chair and the Graduate Dean. A change from Plan B to Plan A is accomplished by academic petition.

Since the Master of Arts degree in Religious Studies is designed to provide students with the necessary background for diverse careers and ministries or for further graduate or professional study, the student and advisor will work out a program of study best suited to individual needs and goals. This program may include a concentration in a particular area.

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Certificate Program

The department also offers a Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS). This program is for students who have already acquired a master's degree in a recognized academic discipline. While in itself this certificate does not guarantee Religion Teacher or Pastoral Ministry Certification in the Diocese of Cleveland, the proper selection of courses within the certificate program can lead to such certification.

Program Requirements

To attain the Certificate of Advanced Studies a student must complete 18 graduate credits in Religious Studies beyond the master's degree.

Certificate Program Admission Requirements

To be admitted to the CAS Program a candidate must:

- Have attained a master's degree in a recognized academic discipline.
- Present 18 semester hours of undergraduate or graduate work in religious studies, theology, or their equivalent.

Specific courses and requirements will be determined according to the needs and interests of each student by the student's advisor after discussion with the student and with the approval of the chair of the department.

Ordinarily the program will comprise at least one course in each of the following areas: Scripture, Historical Theology, Systematic Theology, and Religious Ethics. Students who already have graduate-level experience in a specific area need not fulfill further requirements in that area. For the certificate, no transfer credits are allowed.

Ignatian Spirituality Institute

The department is also home to the Ignatian Spirituality Institute (ISI), which offers an educational program for the training of spiritual directors in the tradition of the *Spiritual Exercises* of Ignatius Loyola. It is ideally suited to those interested in the ministry of spiritual direction and/or retreat work. More generally, the ISI offers adult Christians of any denomination theological and spiritual tools for deepening Christian life and ministry, whether in the home, parish, congregation, or workplace. Since the ISI is an affiliate program of the Department of Religious Studies, all of its courses are conducted at John Carroll University.

The ISI is a non-credit, non-degree certificate program running concurrently with the fall-spring academic calendar at the University. It is designed around three areas of study: theology/scripture, spirituality, and psychology/communication skills. Year I is academically focused, with classes meeting twice a month in the evenings along with occasional weekend workshops. Year II is focused on the supervised practicum in spiritual direction.

Requirements for admission include official transcripts from all institutions attended, a written spiritual autobiography, three letters of recommendation, a record of education and work history, and an interview with the ISI Admissions Committee. Generally it is expected that ISI candidates will have completed a college degree, have several years of steady work and a variety of life experiences. The ISI Admissions Committee may make exceptions to these general criteria.

The ISI is endowed by a grant from the F. J. O'Neill Charitable Corporation and by gifts from other generous donors.

For further information, contact the Ignatian Spirituality Institute office at (216) 397-1599. **Director:** Dr. Joan Nuth, Department of Religious Studies.

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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

400. INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION 3 cr. Problems of and approaches to understanding scripture. Special focus on the methods essential for doing exegesis, biblical interpretation, and contemporary applications.

404. PROPHECY IN ISRAEL AND THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST 3 cr. Study of prophecy and prophets in ancient Israel and its ancient Near Eastern context. Specific focus on such biblical prophets as Amos, Hosea, Isaiah, and Jeremiah.

408. PAUL AND HIS WRITINGS 3 cr. Introduction to the cultural and historical background of the Apostle Paul's life and career, an examination of his major writings, and a discussion of their impact.

420. EARLY CHRISTIANITY 3 cr. Emergence of Christianity into the Greek and Roman world from the first to the sixth centuries. Trinitarian theology and Christology, Church and State, the role of women, monasticism, the interaction with pagan culture, the establishment of ecclesiastical structures, early Christian art, and the Church's growing self-understanding.

430. INTRODUCTION TO SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY 3 cr. Nature, method, and content of systematic theology, with emphasis on the influence of history and culture on the articulation of doctrine. Readings and discussions centered on significant contributors to Christian systematic theology.

437. READINGS IN FEMINIST THEOLOGY 3 cr. Various topics in feminist theory and its impact on religion and theology. Specific content and number of credits announced when the course is offered.

466. JUSTICE AND THE ECONOMY 3 cr. Team-taught interdisciplinary seminar. Interrelationship between economic and ethical choices and their ethical and economic implications. Basic economic and theological-ethical frameworks for decision making. Case studies.

480. INTRODUCTION TO CANON LAW 3 cr. Introduction to the 1983 *Code* in its historical context, with a view to its pastoral application. Special attention to canons on Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist, and Marriage.

490. RESEARCH METHODS IN THEOLOGY 0 cr. An orientation to the Master's program in Religious Studies and an introduction to basic resources and methods for research in theology.

496. BORROMEO SENIOR SEMINAR 3 cr. Synthesis of four years of collegiate priestly formation.

499. SPECIAL TOPICS 1-3 cr. Selected topics in one of the areas of religious studies. Specific content and number of credits to be announced when offered.

501. OLD TESTAMENT EXEGESIS 3 cr. Detailed exegetical analysis of a major Hebrew Bible text that will be specified when the course is offered.

505. NEW TESTAMENT EXEGESIS 3 cr. Detailed exegetical analysis of a major New Testament book that will be specified when the course is offered.

506. HISTORICAL JESUS 3 cr. History of research on the historical Jesus from Strauss through Wrede and Schweitzer to the present. Analysis of the primary data using the standard criteria of authenticity. Examination of the value of historical Jesus research for contemporary christology.

507. SYNOPTIC GOSPELS 3 cr. In-depth analysis of current research on theories of synoptic relations; the relationship of the synoptics to the non-canonical *Gospel of Peter* and *Gospel of Thomas*; the literary and

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heological characteristics of each of the synoptics; the christology, soteriology and ecclesiology of the synoptics. Students will engage in independent, critical research on one or more pericope/ae as case studies for pursuing these issues.

509. SPECIAL TOPICS IN OLD OR NEW TESTAMENT HISTORY AND LITERATURE 1-3 cr.

Selected questions from the text and background of the Old or New Testament. Specific content and number of credits to be announced when offered.

522. GOD AND RADICAL EVIL IN THE MODERN WORLD 3 cr. Development of the idea of God's relation to evil from the Renaissance until today; emphasis on the changing notion of evil in response to cultural changes such as the Enlightenment and Darwinism; the demonic and the Gothic in the nineteenth century; modern literary and philosophical theodicies; scientific theories; theological responses.

529. SPECIAL TOPICS IN THE HISTORY OF CHRISTIAN THOUGHT 1-3 cr. Selected questions from the history of Christian thought with emphasis on reading in primary sources. Specific content and number of credits to be announced when offered.

531. MODELS OF GOD 3 cr. Comparison of several models for understanding God and God's relations to the world. Personal models (Parent, Friend); the Soul-Body model; Traditional models (Monarch, Being Itself); Process models (Cosmic Lover, Creator-Redeemer-Liberator); God as Mystery.

532. SIN, GRACE AND WHOLENESS 3 cr. The human being understood in relation to God and in conflict with evil, as seen in the Bible and in the works of Paul, Augustine, Julian of Norwich, Martin Luther, Karl Rahner, and contemporary liberation and feminist theologians.

533. METAPHYSICS AND THEOLOGY 3 cr. Examination of the ideas of several modern philosophers whose thought has been utilized by important theologians. Among the philosophers to be read are Whitehead, Heidegger, and Hartshorne. Among the theologians are Rahner, Ogden, and Griffin.

534. CHRISTOLOGY 3 cr. The person and work of Jesus Christ according to the scriptures, historical theology, and contemporary theology.

535. THEOLOGY OF THE CHURCH 3 cr. Origin, nature, and mission of the Church in light of its evolution from the preaching and mission of Jesus and his disciples, through its developing history, to its current self-understanding since Vatican II.

538. SACRAMENTAL THEOLOGY 3 cr. Focus on sacramental theology and PRAXIS with particular attention to symbol, liturgical celebration, and pastoral issues which have emerged in the historical and theological development of sacraments in the Christian tradition.

539. SPECIAL TOPICS IN SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY 1-3 cr. Selected problems or authors in systematic theology. Specific content and number of credits to be announced when offered.

554. ISLAMIC SPIRITUALITY 3 cr. An elaboration of the mystical/Sufi tradition of Islam and the emergence of Islamic spirituality. Detailed study of the Qur'anic verses and paradigms from the sayings of the Prophet that constitute the main sources for the spiritual dimensions of Islam.

559. SPECIAL TOPICS IN ASIAN RELIGIONS 3 cr. Focus on different topics in Buddhist, Hindu, Chinese, and Japanese religions. Approaches include the study of social and political history, philosophy, ethics, and ritual.

562. CHRISTIAN SOCIAL JUSTICE 3 cr. Examination of Catholic and Protestant social teachings which contribute to a social ethic. Special focus on political, economic, and cultural problems, including war and peace, poverty, and prejudice.

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569. SPECIAL TOPICS IN RELIGIOUS ETHICS 1-3 cr. Selected issues or authors in the history of Christian ethics. Specific content and number of credits to be announced when offered.

573. CLASSICS IN SPIRITUALITY 3 cr. Selected readings from the works of religious leaders with attention to historical and cultural background, theological and psychological insights, and practical application. Authors to be considered : Ignatius Loyola, Teresa of Avila, Catherine of Siena, C.S. Lewis, Thomas Merton.

580. PASTORAL COUNSELING 3 cr. Theory and practice of pastoral counseling. Emphasis on specific approaches to intervention that match the needs, populations, and contexts in which the pastoral counselor functions. Offered in conjunction with HU 580.

585. TUOHY CHAIR 3 cr. Specific content will be announced; see the most recent *Undergraduate Bulletin* or the Tuohy website (www.jcu.edu/tuohy) for further information.

592. INDEPENDENT RESEARCH 1-3 cr. Directed research on a topic selected by the student, in consultation with a Religious Studies faculty member who will supervise the project, and culminating in one or more papers, the precise parameters of which are negotiated with the supervising faculty member and then detailed in the Independent Study Contract. The RL 592 proposal form may be obtained from the department secretary or from the JCU website at <http://www.jcu.edu/bible/592/Contract.htm>.

Registration for RL 592 is contingent upon the approval of the supervising faculty member, the chair of the department, and the Dean of The Graduate School; such approval should be obtained no later than three weeks prior to the semester in which the student wishes to enroll in the course.

599. MASTER'S THESIS 6 cr. upon approval.