

Table of Contents

1. The Faculty, page 341
 - 1.1 Location
 - 1.2 Administrative Officers
 - 1.3 History
 - 1.4 Facilities
 - 1.5 Birks Lectures
 - 1.6 Numata Visiting Professor in Buddhist Studies
2. Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Religious Studies, page 341
3. Master of Divinity (M.Div.), page 341
4. Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.), page 342
 - 4.1 ATS Accreditation
 - 4.2 Admission Requirements
 - 4.2.1 Mature Student Admissions Policy
 - 4.3 Application and Registration
 - 4.4 Admission Appeals Procedures
 - 4.5 Graduation Requirements
 - 4.6 Course Selection
 - 4.7 Academic Standing and Course Loads
 - 4.8 Academic Achievement
 - 4.9 B.Th. Program
5. Courses, page 344
6. Academic Staff, page 347

1 The Faculty

1.1 Location

William and Henry Birks Building
3520 University Street
Montreal, QC H3A 2A7
Canada

Telephone: (514) 398-4121

Website: <http://www.mcgill.ca/religion>

1.2 Administrative Officers

B. BARRY LEVY, B.A., M.A., B.R.E.(Yeshiva), Ph.D.(N.Y.U.)
Dean

LUVANA DI FRANCESCO **Administrative Assistant**

1.3 History

The Faculty and the Colleges

During the nineteenth century several Theological Colleges in Montreal became affiliated with McGill. In 1912 they formed a Joint Board for the academic study of Theology, leaving each denominational College to provide its own professional training for Christian ministry. These relationships between the colleges and the University led naturally to the creation in 1948 of a Faculty of Divinity which assumed the academic functions of the Joint Board. This University Faculty now offers the B.Th. and graduate degree programs.

Today, the Colleges affiliated with the Faculty are: Montreal Diocesan Theological College of the Anglican Church of Canada; Presbyterian College of the Presbyterian Church in Canada; United Theological College of the United Church of Canada. They are all located close to the University Campus. In 1973 the Colleges pooled their resources in the In-Ministry year to provide joint professional training for ministry. The Colleges now also confer a Master of Divinity degree on their successful candidates for ordination.

Theology and Religious Studies

The original Faculty of Divinity not only taught theological courses for ordinands, it also engaged in teaching undergraduates in other faculties a selection of courses of more general interest, such as philosophy and psychology of religion and comparative religion. This selection grew over the years into the present B.A. Honours, Major and Minor Concentration programs in Religious Studies within the Faculty of Arts.

In 1970 the name of the Faculty was changed to the Faculty of Religious Studies to reflect the new emphasis on "the academic study of religion" in higher education.

1.4 Facilities

The Faculty of Religious Studies is located in the handsome building, erected in 1931, known as the William and Henry Birks Building, formerly Divinity Hall, at 3520 University Street. Besides the usual classrooms, offices and common rooms, this building contains the University Chapel and the Birks Reading Room.

1.5 Birks Lectures

An annual series was established in 1950 through the generosity of the late William M. Birks. The lectures are given by distinguished visitors, usually in late September or early October. The first lecturer was the Right Reverend Leslie Hunter.

More recent lecturers have included Huston Smith, Northrop Frye, Wilfred Cantwell Smith, Gregory Baum, Robert McAfee Brown, Krister Stendahl, Charles Adams, and Jon Levenson.

1.6 Numata Visiting Professor in Buddhist Studies

In recognition of the strong Buddhist Studies program in the Faculty of Religious Studies, the Numata Foundation has given a 20-year grant to the Faculty to bring a visiting scholar in Buddhist Studies to McGill each year.

The Numata Visiting Professor will teach two courses, one at the undergraduate level (260-337) and one at the graduate level (260-556), give a public lecture and be available to students during his or her term of office.

2 Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Religious Studies

Honours, Major Concentration and Minor Concentration programs in Religious Studies are offered in cooperation with the Faculty of Arts. These programs are described in the Faculty of Arts [section 11.41 on page 158](#) though Religious Studies B.A. Honours, Majors and Minor students may take any of the courses described below except where otherwise indicated.

Admission is to the Faculty of Arts and all admission requirements and procedures, academic rules and regulations of that Faculty apply to students in these programs.

For general information on B.A. Honours, Major Concentrations and Minor Concentrations and courses, consult the Adviser. For specific course information, consult the instructor.

Honours, Major and Minor students must consult the Chief Adviser prior to registration each year. Appointments can be made by telephoning (514) 398-4121 or visiting the Reception Office in the Birks Building.

3 Master of Divinity (M.Div.)

Students who have completed a first degree prior to the B.Th. with a minimum CGPA of 2.70 are eligible to apply the B.Th. degree towards the Master of Divinity (M.Div.) degree conferred by the Theological Colleges. This degree requires, in addition to the B.Th. degree, successful involvement in integrative seminars during the two B.Th. years and a year of

professional pastoral study beyond the B.Th., the "In-Ministry Year" offered by the three affiliated theological colleges under the auspices of the Joint Board of Theological Colleges.

The affiliated Colleges underwrite the cost of tuition for their properly registered candidates for ministry. Information about church requirements and the professional year should be sought from the College Principals.

It should be noted that one biblical language, usually Greek, is required by some of the Colleges. Ministerial candidates should consult with the College advisers regarding biblical language requirements.

Prospective candidates for ordination with a B.A. Honours or Major in Religious Studies and a CGPA of 3.30 (B+) may apply for the S.T.M. degree followed upon completion by the professional year.

Applicants for the M.Div. program apply for entry into the McGill B.Th. program (for procedure see below) *as well as* to one of the Theological Colleges. Supporting documents sent to McGill will automatically be shared with the College in question. College application forms should be requested from one of the following:

- 1) Montreal Diocesan Theological College,
3473 University Street, Montreal, Quebec, H3A 2A8
- 2) The Presbyterian College,
3495 University Street, Montreal, Quebec, H3A 2A8
- 3) United Theological College,
3521 University Street, Montreal, Quebec, H3A 2A8.

Prospective students should contact the Chair of the B.Th. Committee to discuss their qualifications, expectations and objectives. Appointments can be made by telephoning (514) 398-4121 or by visiting the Reception Office in the Birks Building.

4 Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.)

The Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) program is meant mainly for those who intend to qualify for the ordained ministry.

The main goals of the program are:

- 1) to offer the academic disciplines of theology within a university setting.
- 2) to contribute to preparation for ministry in the contemporary world by giving special attention to:
 - a) the Canadian and North American contexts;
 - b) the Quebec context;
 - c) religious pluralism.

Though most B.Th. students are ordination candidates who are sponsored by one of the three affiliated Theological Colleges, some students pursue the degree for purposes other than ordination.

4.1 ATS Accreditation

The B.Th. program and the combined B.Th./M.Div. program offered with the colleges are fully accredited by the Association of Theological Schools in the U.S. and Canada.

4.2 Admission Requirements

Applicants will normally be required to give satisfactory evidence of one of the following:

- a) For the 90-credit (first degree) program: the Diploma of Collegial Studies (D.C.S.) of a Quebec CEGEP. A minimum average of 75% is required for admission.
- b) For the 60-credit (second degree) program: Bachelor's degree in Arts, Science, Engineering, Commerce, Education, Music, etc., whether or not it contains courses in religion or theology. Those who have obtained a minimum CGPA of 2.70 in such a degree will be considered for admission into the two-year (60-credit) program.

4.2.1 Mature Student Admissions Policy

Residents of Canada who will be 27 years of age or older by September 1 of the year that they seek admission (for admission to the Fall Term) or January 1 (for admission to the Winter Term), and who lack the academic background normally required for entry into the B.Th. program, may apply for entrance as Mature Students.

If accepted, such students are enrolled in a qualifying year of designated Religious Studies and Arts courses (assigned by the Chair of the B.Th. Committee) before being considered for the 90-credit B.Th. program. A minimum CGPA of 2.50 (with no grade less than 60%) is required for advancement into the 90-credit B.Th. program.

Those who achieve a GPA of at least 3.00 (with no grade less than 65%) during their first full term of the qualifying year may, upon approval of the B.Th. Committee, be advanced to the 90-credit B.Th. retroactively.

4.3 Application and Registration

Application forms may be obtained from the Faculty of Religious Studies.

Applicants for the B.Th. program should submit, to the Chair of the B.Th. Committee, an application with supporting documents by June 1 for fall admission, or November 1 for January admission.

Supporting documents are:

- 1) application fee;
- 2) official transcripts of previous academic work;
- 3) Two letters of reference, at least one of which should be from an instructor in an academic institution previously attended.

Application procedure for admission in September, 2002.

It is anticipated that a web-based electronic application form will be available in the Fall of 2001 for use by candidates applying for entry to the Faculty of Religious Studies in September 2002.

Further information will be made available on the McGill website <http://www.mcgill.ca/applying> during the summer of 2001.

4.4 Admission Appeals Procedures

If an unsuccessful applicant, or a Faculty of Religious Studies Council member acting on behalf of the applicant, believes that not all factors having a bearing on the application have been fully considered, he/she has the right to request that the B.Th. Admissions and Awards Committee review the application.

If the findings of the review procedure uphold the initial decision of the B.Th. Admissions and Awards Committee, the applicant has the right to appeal in writing to the Dean. The Dean shall put the appeal before the B.Th. Appeals Committee, which shall consist of three full-time members of the Faculty of Religious Studies Council who are not at the same time members of the B.Th. Admissions and Awards Committee.

The decision of the B.Th. Appeals Committee may be appealed to the Vice-Principal (Academic).

4.5 Graduation Requirements

- a) The B.Th. is a 90-credit program.
- b) The minimum residency requirement is 60 credits.
- c) For students entering the 90-credit B.Th. program not more than 30 credits are eligible for transfer from another degree program.
- d) Qualification for the degree shall include satisfactory standing (a grade of C or better) in all required courses and the complementary courses specified in year three, and the accumulation of sufficient acceptable credits to make a total of 90 credits.
- e) Normally the program credits must be earned within five years from the date of entrance.

4.6 Course Selection

Candidates for the ministry from the three Theological Colleges associated with the Faculty must select their courses in consultation with their denominational advisers and with the Chair of the B.Th. Committee.

Those seeking the degree who are not sponsored by one of the three denominational colleges associated with the Faculty will clear their course selections with the Chair of the B.Th. Committee.

In all cases this consultation should take place before registration.

4.7 Academic Standing and Course Loads

SATISFACTORY STANDING

Students enter the University in satisfactory standing and remain in this standing unless their GPA/CGPA for any year drops below 2.00. The normal course load in any academic session is five courses per term (15 credits per term). A student with a high GPA (at least 3.00) may take more than the normal five courses per term.

PROBATIONARY STANDING

A student is placed in probationary standing if the GPA/CGPA falls between 1.50 and 1.99. Probationary students **may take a maximum of 12 credits per term**, and must raise their CGPA to 2.00 within one academic session. Those who fail to do so will be placed in unsatisfactory standing.

A student in probationary standing may return to satisfactory standing at the end of the next academic session by obtaining either a GPA of at least 2.50 or both a GPA and a CGPA of 2.00 or greater unless the student was admitted on probationary standing. A student admitted on probationary standing must obtain a GPA of 2.50.

Students in probationary standing who obtain a GPA between 1.50 and 1.99 remain in probationary standing if they also have a CGPA of 2.00 or greater.

A student in probationary standing who fails to achieve the levels of performance specified above will be placed in unsatisfactory standing.

UNSATISFACTORY STANDING

A GPA of less than 1.50 places a student in unsatisfactory standing.

A student in unsatisfactory standing will have to withdraw, or seek readmission as a probationary student with special permission from the B.Th. Committee and the Dean. A student who is readmitted on probationary standing may have additional restrictions or conditions to meet over and above those required of students referred to above under "Probationary Standing".

A student in unsatisfactory standing for the second time must withdraw permanently.

INCOMPLETE STANDING

A student whose record in any year shows a mark of K, K*, L, L*, or && will have no GPA or CGPA calculated for that year, and the record will show "Standing Incomplete". After completing the appropriate course requirements the GPA and CGPA will be calculated and the student's standing determined as described above.

Students whose standing is still "incomplete" at the time of registration for the next academic year must obtain a Letter of Permission to Register from the Chair of the B.Th. Committee.

4.8 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 Faculty:

- Distinction: to designate graduating students, not in Honours, who have completed a minimum of 60 credits at McGill and achieved a CGPA of 3.30 - 3.49.
- Great Distinction: to designate graduating students, not in Honours, who have completed a minimum of 60 credits at McGill and achieved a CGPA of 3.50 or better.

- 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.
- Dean's Honour List: to designate graduating students with a CGPA of 3.50 or better. This designation applies in addition to those described in b) and c) above; except that it may not normally be awarded to more than 10% of the graduating class.
- 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.

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.

4.9 B.Th. Program

Unless otherwise authorized by the B.Th. Committee, the structure of the B.Th. program is as given below.

Students entering the B.Th. as a first degree program take 90 credits, beginning with the following courses:

Year 1 - Required Courses (12 credits)

260-252A	(3)	Hinduism and Buddhism
260-253B	(3)	Religions of East Asia
260-320A	(3)	History of Christian Thought I
260-327B	(3)	History of Christian Thought II

Students entering the B.Th. as a second degree program take 60 credits, beginning with Year 2 courses:

Year 2 - Required Courses (24 credits)

260-302A	(3)	Literature of Ancient Israel I
260-303B	(3)	Literature of Ancient Israel II
260-311A	(3)	New Testament Studies I
260-312B	(3)	New Testament Studies II
260-322A	(3)	The Church in History I
260-323B	(3)	The Church in History II
260-333B	(3)	Principles of Christian Theology I
260-341A	(3)	Introduction to Philosophy of Religion

Year 3 - Required Courses (12 credits)

260-420B*	(3)	Canadian Church History
260-434A	(3)	Principles of Christian Theology II
260-470A	(3)	Theological Ethics
260-479B	(3)	Christianity in Global Perspective

* Exception permitted if recommended by College adviser.

Year 3 - Complementary Courses (12 credits)

One 3-credit course in a religious tradition other than Christianity, such as:*

260-252A	(3)	Hinduism and Buddhism
260-253B	(3)	Religions of East Asia
260-306B	(3)	Rabbinic Judaism
260-352B	(3)	Japanese Religions
260-354B	(3)	Chinese Religions

9 credits, 3 in each of the following areas:

Old Testament

260-407A	(3)	The Writings
260-408A	(3)	The Prophets

New Testament

260-411B	(3)	New Testament Exegesis
260-482B	(3)	Exegesis of the Greek New Testament

Christian Theology

260-330B	(3)	Reformed Theology
260-336B	(3)	Contemporary Theological Issues
260-399B	(3)	Texts of Christian Spirituality
260-423A	(3)	Reformation Thought

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

With permission of the B.Th. Committee and the instructors concerned, students may substitute courses for any of the courses specified above if they have already taken them or similar courses for credit elsewhere.

Students proceeding towards the M.Div. degree are required, in addition, to participate in pre-term ministry seminars.

Additional Complementary courses

The remaining courses needed each term to make up the normal load may be chosen from among the 300- or 400-level courses offered in the B.Th. or B.A. Religious Studies programs (or 260-280D). The following courses are recommended and do not have a time conflict with B.Th. 2 and/or B.Th. 3 courses listed above:

- 260-320A (3) History of Christian Thought I
- 260-327B (3) History of Christian Thought II
- 260-338A (3) Women in the Christian Tradition
- 260-361B (3) Religious Behaviour
- 260-423A (3) Reformation Thought

Permission is needed from the B.Th. Committee for courses selected from the curriculum of other departments of the University.

By permission of the Dean and the Chair of the B.Th. Committee, students may also enrol for courses at any university in the province of Quebec. See Inter-University Transfer Agreement in the General University Information section for details.

Professional and vocational courses (e.g., leading to ordination) are available through the In-Ministry Year (see Section 3 above) upon the completion of the B.Th. degree.

Returning students are required to pre-register prior to the end of the previous academic year.

Summer Session Courses for B.Th. Students

B.Th. students may, **with their Advisor's prior consent**, take summer courses offered through the Faculty of Religious Studies as electives within their B.Th. program. Any B.Th. student in satisfactory standing may take 260-280C "New Testament Greek" as a B.Th. elective. No student, however, may take both summer and regular term versions of the same course, e.g., 260-280C and 260-280D; 260-336L and 260-336A or B, etc.

B.Th. students wishing to use summer courses to satisfy specific B.Th. requirements (e.g., the non-Christian religion requirement) must apply to the B.Th. Committee for permission before registering.

B.Th. HONOURS

Students who have achieved a CGPA of 3.30 at the end of B.Th. 2 year may apply to the B.Th. Committee for permission to enter the Honours program. They will be required to complete 260-494A/495B in the B.Th. 3 with a grade of B or better, to complete the degree with Honours.

5 Courses

The names of course instructors are listed on the Course Timetable available on **infoMcGill** via the Web <http://www.mcgill.ca/students/courses/>.

The course credit weight is given in parentheses after the title.

- Denotes courses not offered in 2001-02.
- ★ Denotes courses offered in alternate years.

260-201A THE RELIGIONS OF THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST. (3) Deities, death and rebirth in the religions of ancient Egypt, Mesopotamia and Canaan; myth and ritual with reference to the geographical, historical and cultural conditions which influenced religious expression.

260-202B THE RELIGION OF ANCIENT ISRAEL. (3) (Not open to students who are taking or have taken 260-302A.) An examination of the religion of Ancient Israel by a study of selected texts (narratives, laws, prophetic sayings, wisdom traditions, and psalms) from the Hebrew Scriptures/Old Testament in translation.

260-203A THE BIBLE AND WESTERN CULTURE. (3) To provide students of the humanities with knowledge of the Bible as a tool for interpreting religious references in Western literature, art and music. Biblical stories (e.g. Creation, Exodus), key figures (e.g. David, Job, Mary), and common motifs (e.g. Holy City, Pilgrimage, Bride) are explored, then illustrated by later cultural forms.

260-204B JUDAISM, CHRISTIANITY, AND ISLAM. (3) (Not open to B.Th. students.) An introduction to the beliefs, practices, and religious institutions of these three world religions.

260-207A THE STUDY OF WORLD RELIGIONS 1. (3) An introduction to the study of Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam and Primal Religions.

260-210A JESUS OF NAZARETH. (3) A critical study of selected ancient and modern accounts of the aims and person of Jesus. Attention will be given also to the question of the historical sources and to the relationship between faith and history.

260-232B EASTERN ORTHODOX MYSTICISM AND CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE. (3) A survey of Eastern Orthodox mystical thought in 19th - 20th century authors studied against the background of early texts (in translation) of the Syro-Byzantine and Russian spiritual tradition and examined in light of modern literary-religious trends.

260-252A HINDUISM AND BUDDHISM. (3) The interaction of Hinduism and Buddhism in India with special reference to the law of Karma, caste, women, ritual, death, yoga, and liberation. Determination of interpretative principles for understanding the religious psychology of Hindus and Buddhists.

260-253B THE RELIGIONS OF EAST ASIA. (3) Harmony with nature, society, and cosmos to be explored through the religions of the Far East (Confucianism, Taoism, Buddhism and Shinto).

260-256B WOMEN IN JUDAISM AND ISLAM. (3) The role of women in Judaism and Islam from the point of view of institutionalized religious traditions and of women's religious subjectivity; how women's spiritual and social roles within their religious traditions are shaped by Revealed Law, Holy Text and the Authority of Interpretation. Comparative sociology of religion approach.

260-257D SANSKRIT I. (6) To develop basic language and reading skills.

260-270A,B RELIGIOUS ETHICS AND THE ENVIRONMENT. (3) (Given on the Macdonald Campus "A" term.) A general survey of the issues and debates in environmental ethics, with particular consideration given to the values of humanity in relation to the environment and the connection between those values and religious conviction.

260-271A,B SEXUAL ETHICS. (3) A study of the social construction of sexual identity and of selected issues regarding sexual behaviour.

260-280D ELEMENTARY NEW TESTAMENT GREEK. (6) (Open to students in the Honours and Major programs in Religious Studies. Other Arts and Science students may take the course as an elective outside their faculty, in accordance with Arts and Science regulations.) An introduction to the grammar and syntax of New Testament Greek.

● ★ **260-285B THE GNOSTIC WORLDVIEW.** (3)

● **260-300A POST-BIBLICAL JEWISH TRADITION.** (3)

260-301B JEWISH SECTARIAN THOUGHT (200 B.C.E. – 200 C.E.). (3) (Prerequisite: 260-300A or the consent of the instructor.) The religion and literature of sectarian groupings; Apocalyptic thought; Wisdom; Dead Sea Scrolls; Josephus.

260-302A LITERATURE OF ANCIENT ISRAEL I. (3) An introduction to the literature of Ancient Israel in English translation. Reading and interpreting representative selections.

260-303B LITERATURE OF ANCIENT ISRAEL II. (3) Approaches to historical-critical scholarship and to the historical background of the Old Testament. Part of the course will be an examination of methods of biblical analysis through the use of learning cells.

260-306B RABBINIC JUDAISM. (3) (Prerequisite: 260-202B or 260-204B or permission of instructor.) (Not open to students who have taken 260-206.) The beliefs, practices and religious institutions of the Jews from ancient times to the present.

★ **260-307B SCRIPTURAL INTERPRETATION.** (3) Jewish, Christian, Moslem responses to the Hebrew Bible. The debates, polemics, interpretative strategies and intellectual and spiritual sharings produced by these three religions in explaining, applying, amplifying, modifying, and selectively rejecting the sacred literature of Ancient Israel.

260-311A NEW TESTAMENT STUDIES I. (3) An introduction to the interpretation of the New Testament.

260-312B NEW TESTAMENT STUDIES II. (3) An introduction to the critical study of the Gospels.

260-315B SPECIAL TOPICS IN RELIGION. (3) This course focuses on a topic of current interest in, or between, world religions. For example: Death and Dying; Ritual Theory and Ritual Practice; New Methodologies in the Study of Religion. (Awaiting University approval)

260-316A NEW RELIGIOUS MOVEMENTS. (3) A critical analysis of the origins, character and influence of one or more religious movements of the 19th century and beyond, with special attention to their religious principles and social functions. (Awaiting university Approval)

260-320A HISTORY OF CHRISTIAN THOUGHT I. (3) The development of Christian theology in the Patristic and Medieval periods. Focus on the controversial development of Christian doctrines and disciplines.

260-322A THE CHURCH IN HISTORY I. (3) A survey of major developments in the history of Christianity from the end of the apostolic age to 1500. Selected readings from primary and secondary sources will be used.

260-323B THE CHURCH IN HISTORY II. (3) Significant events and persons in the history of western Christianity from 1500-1948 will be studied. Attention is focused on mainline denominations in Britain and continental Europe.

● ★ **260-326A THE ANCIENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH (64-604 C.E.).** (3) (Not open to students who have taken 260-322A or 260-323B.)

260-327B HISTORY OF CHRISTIAN THOUGHT II. (3) The development of Christian theology in the Reformation, Post-Reformation and Modern periods.

★ **260-330A REFORMED THEOLOGY.** (3) Selected topics illustrating the Reformers' theological agenda, with special reference to Luther, Zwingli and Calvin.

260-333B PRINCIPLES OF CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY I. (3) An introduction to the central categories of Christian theology. The course will include discussion of the nature of theology, and of all the primary areas of doctrine (Theology, Christology, Pneumatology, Anthropology, Ecclesiology, Eschatology). Throughout, a conscious attempt will be made to reflect on the Christian faith in the light of the contemporary apologetic situation.

● ★ **260-336B CONTEMPORARY THEOLOGICAL ISSUES.** (3) (Prerequisite: 260-320 or 260-338 or permission of instructor.)

260-337A THEMES IN BUDDHIST STUDIES. (3) (Prerequisite: 260-252 or 260-253 or permission of instructor.) A focussed examination of major themes within a branch of Theravada, Mahayana or Vajrayana Buddhism. Emphasis will be placed on both the close study of primary texts (in translation) in historical context and the application of recent methods to fundamental Buddhist concepts, ritual practices and community institutions.

260-338A WOMEN IN THE CHRISTIAN TRADITION. (3) (Core course for the Women's Studies Minor program.) Survey of women's involvement in the Christian tradition. Topics include feminist interpretation of scripture, ideas of virginity, marriage and motherhood, mysticism, asceticisms, European witchhunts, contemporary women's liberation theories.

260-339B HINDU AND BUDDHIST IMAGES OF THE FEMINE. (3) (Core course for the Women's Studies Minor program.) An analysis of the richness (and ambivalence) of feminine imagery from three perspectives: mythic (goddesses, epic figures); philosophic (material nature, the power to create, wisdom, compassion); human (mothers, wives, daughters, temptresses, nuns).

● **260-340B RELIGION AND THE SCIENCES.** (3)

260-341A INTRODUCTION TO PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION. (3) Introduction to the subject. Faith and reason, theistic arguments, values and destiny, the problem of evil, religious language.

● **260-342A THERAVADA BUDDHIST LITERATURE.** (3) (Prerequisite: 260-252A or permission of instructor.)

260-344A MAHÁYANA BUDDHISM. (3) The development of Buddhist sects examined through accounts of the first pan-Buddhist councils in India and an investigation of Mahayana through key sutras (in translation).

260-345A RELIGION AND THE ARTS. (3) Myths and symbols approached through literary criticism to examine art forms as self-images, social critique and forms of ultimate concern: concentration on Western culture.

● **260-348B CLASSICAL HINDUISM.** (3) (Prerequisite: 260-252A or permission of the instructor.)

260-350B BHAKTI HINDUISM. (3) (Prerequisite: 260-252A or permission of the instructor.) Foundation of theism in the Upanisads, Epics, Gita and puranas; image worship and temple religion in the Agamas; Vaisnavism, Saivism, Saktism, and competition with Buddhism and Jainism; the relation of Bhakti and Tantra; interaction of Hinduism, Islam, and Sikhism.

● ★ **260-352B JAPANESE RELIGIONS.** (3) (Prerequisite: 260-253B or permission of instructor.)

★ **260-354B CHINESE RELIGIONS.** (3) This course studies the Confucian classics, philosophical and religious Taoism, and Neo-Confucianism and also examines the syncretism between the Chinese religions and Indian Buddhism.

260-357D SANSKRIT II. (6) (Prerequisite: 260-257D or permission of the instructor.) Advancement of grammar and vocabulary with readings in epic and similar texts.

260-361B RELIGIOUS BEHAVIOUR. (3) A study of the psychological origins of religion, of some aspects of the religious life (e.g. prayer, conversion, mystical experiences), and of some contemporary religious phenomena (e.g. marginal religious groups, the charismatic movement, glossolalia). The views of Freud and Jung are also considered.

● **260-362A CONTEMPORARY JUDAISM.** (3)

● **260-369A GENDER AND WORLD RELIGIONS.** (3)

● **260-370B JUSTICE, HUMAN RIGHTS AND RELIGION.** (3)

260-371B ETHICS OF VIOLENCE AND NON-VIOLENCE. (3) Forms of violence and the reaction of religious groups are assessed both for their effectiveness and for their fidelity to their professed beliefs. Different traditions, ranging from the wholesale adoption of violent methods (e.g. the Crusades) to repudiation (e.g. Gandhi; the Peace Churches).

● **260-375A RELIGION AND SOCIETY.** (3) (Course restricted to U2 and U3 students.)

260-376A RELIGIOUS ETHICS. (3) A discussion of ethical theory will provide the background for an analysis of the relationship between religious world views and moral reason. Attention will be given to the way in which the dominant religious traditions view the exemplars of religious virtue, and to how the virtues exemplified are related to and justified by the faith tradition in which they operate.

260-377A RELIGIOUS CONTROVERSIES. (3) A comparative survey of types and topics of argumentation developed in the literature of controversy. Texts discussed include disputations, missionary sermons and polemical treatises.

260-381A ADVANCED NEW TESTAMENT GREEK. (3) (Prerequisite 260-280D or equivalent, with a minimum grade of 70%.) A review

of grammar and syntax with an emphasis on rapid reading of sections chosen from different parts of the New Testament.

260-390D ELEMENTARY BIBLICAL HEBREW. (6) An introduction to the grammar and syntax of Biblical Hebrew. Emphasis is placed on both the oral and the written language.

260-399B TEXTS OF CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY. (3) Texts from the tradition of Christian spirituality will be studied in order to explore the phenomena of internal religious experience in relation to received formularies of Christian thought and practice. Seminar discussion will focus on the interpretation of selected primary texts, e.g., Augustine's Confessions. (Awaiting University approval)

★ **260-407A THE WRITINGS.** (3) (Prerequisites: 260-202B, or 260-302A and 260-303B, or equivalent.) A study of Job with some attention to Proverbs and Ecclesiastes (in English translation).

● ★ **260-408A THE PROPHETS.** (3) (Prerequisites: 260-202B, or 260-302A and 260-303B.)

260-409A SCRIPTURE AND HERMENEUTICS. (3) Comparative approach to the interpretation and meaning of scriptures and sacred texts, and to the ways that scriptures are composed by various practices of reading as by practices of writing.

● **260-410A MAJOR MOTIFS IN NEW TESTAMENT THEOLOGY.** (3) (Prerequisite 260-311A and 260-312B or equivalent.)

260-411B NEW TESTAMENT EXEGESIS. (3) (Prerequisites: 260-311A and 260-312B) A seminar in exegesis on the basis of representative passages chosen from different parts of the New Testament in English.

● **260-412A MORAL TEACHING IN THE NEW TESTAMENT.** (3) (Prerequisite 260-311A and 260-312B or equivalent.)

260-420B CANADIAN CHURCH HISTORY. (3) (Prerequisite: 260-323B) A survey of the major Christian traditions in Canada from the settlement of New France to the present. Lectures and seminars with use, where possible, of primary source materials.

● ★ **260-423A REFORMATION THOUGHT.** (3)

260-434A PRINCIPLES OF CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY II. (3) (Prerequisite: 260-333B) This course is a continuation of 260-333B.

260-438B TOPICS IN JEWISH THEOLOGY. (3) A topic in Jewish Theology will be studied from a variety of approaches, including historical sociological and phenomenological.

260-442A PURE LAND BUDDHISM. (3) (Prerequisite: 260-252A and 260-253B, or 260-342A or 260-344B, or permission of instructor.) The concept of Buddha Countries and Pure Lands in Buddhism, the Western Pure Land of Amida (Jodokyo) and its basic scriptures, the Chinese Buddhist schools, the introduction to Japan and the foundation of the Pure Land school by Honen, the Pure Land School of Shinran and its development, and the other Pure Land related schools.

● **260-443B JAPANESE ESOTERIC BUDDHISM.** (3) (Prerequisites: 260-252A and 260-253B, or 260-342A, or 260-344B.)

● **260-451A ZEN: MAXIMS AND METHODS.** (3) (Prerequisites: 260-252A, 260-342A/B or 260-344A/B, or permission of instructor.)

260-452B TOPICS IN EAST ASIAN RELIGIONS. (3) (Prerequisite: 260-253B or 260-344B) Topic for 2000: Precept and Ritual in East Asian Buddhism and Confucianism.

● **260-454B MODERN HINDU THOUGHT.** (3) (Prerequisite 260-252A)

260-456A METHODS OF STUDYING RELIGIONS. (3) (For Religious Studies Majors and Honours students or with permission of the Chair of the Religious Studies B.A. Committee.) The history of the academic study of religions from its beginnings in the 19th century until the present. Key texts by figures such as Max Mueller, Sigmund Freud, Emile Durkheim, Max Weber, Mircea Eliade, Claude Levi-Strauss and Clifford Geertz will be studied.

● **260-457D ADVANCED SANSKRIT.** (6) (Prerequisite: 260-357D or permission of instructor.)

260-470B THEOLOGICAL ETHICS. (3) (Prerequisite: 260-341A or 260-333B) A study of the biblical and theological foundations of Christian ethics, and the nature, application and relevance of the Christian norm.

260-479B CHRISTIANITY IN GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE. (3) This course examines traditional Western Christianity, aiming at theological integration in light of religious and cultural pluralism and with reference to issues of world wide concern (e.g. gender, ethnicity, poverty, work, environment).

260-482B EXEGESIS OF THE GREEK NEW TESTAMENT. (3) (Prerequisite: 260-381A or equivalent, and 260-311A, 260-312B.) An intensive seminar in exegesis on the basis of representative passages chosen from different parts of the New Testament.

● **260-490D ADVANCED BIBLICAL HEBREW.** (6) (Not open to students who have taken or are planning to take 135-327, 135-328, 135-329, 135-330.)

260-491A HEBREW TEXTS. (3) Translation and exegesis of selected texts.

260-492B HEBREW TEXTS. (3) Translation and exegesis of selected texts.

260-494A B.Th. HONOURS SEMINAR I. (3) (Prerequisite: permission of the Chair of the B.Th. Committee.) Open to students in the final year of B.Th. Honours. Provides opportunity for advanced development of research interests and methods in the student's area of Honours specialization.

260-495B B.Th. HONOURS SEMINAR II. (3) (Prerequisite: 260-494 and permission of the Chair of the B.Th. Committee.) Open to students in the final year of B.Th. Honours. Provides further opportunity for advanced development of research interests and methods in the student's area of Honours specialization.

260-496A,B SPECIAL STUDIES: THE RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE. (3) (Students wishing to take this course must have the permission of the Religious Studies Adviser.) A survey of the Religious Dialogue, its formal and thematic diversity, as representative of the history of Western spirituality from antiquity to modernity. Texts read in English include dialogues by Plato, Cicero, Augustine, Abelard, Judah Halevy, Cusanus, Erasmus, Thomas More, Bodin, Spinoza, Leibniz, Hume.

260-497A,B RESEARCH SEMINAR. (3) (Students wishing to take this course must have the permission of the Religious Studies Adviser.)

260-498A,B SPECIAL STUDIES. (3) (Prerequisite: permission of the Chair of the B.Th. Committee.)

260-499A,B RESEARCH SEMINAR. (3) (Prerequisite: permission of the Chair of the B.Th. Committee.)

260-546B INDIAN PHILOSOPHY. (3) (Prerequisites: 6credits in Indian religions, philosophy of religion, philosophy, or permission of the instructor.) Introduction to the orthodox systems of Hindu Philosophy leading up to Vedanta i.e. Nyaya, Vaisesika, Sankhya, Yoga and Mimamsa, which will include discussion of such topics as: grounds for belief and disbelief in God, the nature of revelation, means of knowledge, etc.

● **260-547B HINDU PHILOSOPHY II.** (3) (Prerequisites: 6credits in Indian religions, philosophy of religion, philosophy, or permission of the instructor.)

● **260-548A INDIAN BUDDHIST METAPHYSICS.** (3) (Prerequisites: 260-252A or 260-342A or permission of instructor.)

● ★ **260-549B TOPICS IN EAST ASIAN PHILOSOPHY.** (3) (Prerequisites: 260-253B and 260-342A or 260-344B or approval of instructor.)

● ★ **260-552A ADVAITA VEDANTA.** (3) (Prerequisites: 6 credits in Indian religions.)

● ★ **260-553A RELIGIONS OF SOUTH INDIA I.** (3) (Prerequisite: 6 credits in Indian religions.)

● ★ **260-554B RELIGIONS OF SOUTH INDIA II.** (3) (Prerequisite: 260-553A)

260-555B HONOURS COLLOQUIUM. (3) (For Religious Studies Honours students or with permission of the Chair of the Religious Studies B.A. Committee.) Religion and Pluralism Debates: Foucault, Said and Feminists will be used to explore the presuppositions and methods of current scholars reflecting on the nature of pluralism from the perspectives of particular religious traditions, comparative studies, metaphysics, politics, ethics and law.

260-556A ISSUES IN BUDDHIST STUDIES. (3) (Prerequisite: permission of instructor.) A graduate seminar taught by the Numata Visiting Professor on critical issues in contemporary Buddhist Studies. Emphasis will be placed on the intensive application of different methods – philological, philosophical or social scientific – to some area of modern Buddhist research. (Awaiting University approval)

260-557A ASIAN ETHICAL SYSTEMS. (3) (Prerequisites: 260-252A, 260-253B, or permission of instructor.) An examination of the ethical ideals that have evolved in Asia with reference to Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, and Taoism. Issues to be explored include competing views of the individual's duties to social and political institutions, the individual's right to non-conformity, the relationship between morality and metaphysics, and a comparison of moral principles in theistic and atheistic contexts.

260-571B BIOETHICS AND WORLD RELIGIONS. (3) A study of the resources of major world religions (Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism and Shinto) for thinking about ethical issues related to modern medicine, e.g., health, illness, suffering; new reproductive technologies; genetic engineering; euthanasia; palliative care; animal research; transplants.

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