

Programme Specification

I. Programme Details

Programme title	Religions & [...]	
Possible combinations	African Studies Arabic Burmese Chinese Development Studies Economics Hebrew History History of Art/Archaeology Indonesian International Relations Japanese Japanese Studies Korean Law Linguistics Middle Eastern Studies Music Persian Politics Social Anthropology South Asian Studies South East Asian Studies Swahili Thai Tibetan Turkish Vietnamese	
Final award (<i>exit awards will be made as outlined in the Taught Degree Regulations</i>)	UG – FHEQ level 6	PGT – FHEQ level 7
	BA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MA <input type="checkbox"/>
	BSc <input type="checkbox"/>	MSc <input type="checkbox"/>
	LLB <input type="checkbox"/>	MRes <input type="checkbox"/>
		LLM <input type="checkbox"/>
	Other ... <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	If other, please specify FHEQ level: ...	
Mode of delivery	Distance-learning <input type="checkbox"/>	On-campus <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Professional body accreditation (<i>if applicable</i>)	n/a	
Academic year this specification was created	2017/18	
Dates of any subsequent amendments	May 2018 for 2019/20 intake	

II. Programme Aims: What will the programme allow you to achieve?

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| 1. Acquire in-depth knowledge of the history, beliefs, and practices of multiple religious traditions in their respective contexts. |
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2. Study and analyse various social, political, cultural factors that influenced the historical development and present-day dynamics of religions locally and globally.
3. Learn to identify, assess, and apply multiple approaches and methods to studying religions in various academic disciplines.
4. Acquire essential research and writing skills in the humanities that enable a critical and constructive engagement with present-day developments and debates regarding religions.

III. Programme Learning Outcomes: What will you learn on the programme?

There are four key areas in which you will develop:

Learning Outcomes: Knowledge	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In-depth knowledge of beliefs and practices in multiple religious traditions 2. Detailed knowledge of historical, cultural, political, and social factors influencing the development of religions in specific geographic contexts 3. In-depth understanding of the local conditions and dynamics informing religious practice in peace and conflict 4. Comprehensive understanding of a wide range of approaches and methods in the study of religions within their respective historical and disciplinary settings 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • teaching: lectures; guided and independent reading • learning: review opportunities in lectures and tutorials; exam preparation; independent study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • exams • comprehension exercises (e.g. journals)

Learning Outcomes: Intellectual (thinking) skills	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ability to situate and evaluate religious articulations and practices within broader historical and cultural contexts 2. Ability to conduct independent research on specific traditions, cultural histories or comparative topics 3. Ability to combine various approaches, theories and methods in a multi-dimensional analysis 4. Ability to critically assess and comment on public debates about religions and religious conflict 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • teaching: discussions in tutorials and seminars; Q&A during lectures; project assignment and guidance (ISP, essays) • learning: active participation in lectures, tutorials, and seminars; essay writing; ISP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • essays • ISP • smaller writing exercises

Learning Outcomes: Subject-based practical skills
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ability to read, analyse, and evaluate multiple types of primary sources in the study of religions 2. Ability to conduct and critique comparative analyses of multiple religious practices and beliefs

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Ability to locate, compile, and combine the most pertinent resources for studying religions in specific cultural contexts 4. Ability to critically assess scholarly publications in the study of religions by locating them within their specific historical and theoretical contexts 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • teaching: formative exercises in tutorials and seminars; library training; visits to museums and archives • learning: tutorial participation; smaller response papers and exercises (e.g. in learning journals); application in essay writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • formative feedback in tutorials or consultations • essay writing

Learning Outcomes: Transferable skills	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ability to dismantle and analyse complex problem configurations and offer new insights in their discussion 2. Ability to approach subjects from various methodological and theoretical angles, while accounting for the respective paradigmatic differences 3. Ability to conduct independent research, including the selection of feasible topics, the formulation of research questions, and the construction of plausible arguments. 4. Ability to offer a nuanced and well-written analysis and commentary of current developments 	
Typical Teaching Methods	Typical Assessment Methods
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • teaching: provision summaries and application examples in lectures and tutorials; facilitation of critical analysis through tutorial and seminar discussion; project management via ISP consultation • learning: group discussion and collaboration in tutorial and seminars, informal collaboration beyond the classroom (e.g. reading groups) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISP evaluation • multi-type assessment process individual consultation and feedback (including personal advisory system)

General statement on contact hours – undergraduate programmes
<p>All full-time undergraduate programmes consist of 120 credits per year, in modules of 30 or 15 credits. They are taught over 10 or 20 weeks. The programme structure shows which modules are compulsory and which optional.</p> <p>As a rough guide, 1 credit equals approximately 10 hours of work. Most of this will be independent study (see https://www.soas.ac.uk/admissions/ug/teaching/). Also included are class time, which may include lectures, seminars and other classes. Some subjects may have more class time than others – a typical example of this are language acquisition modules.</p> <p>In the Department of [...], most undergraduate modules have a [...]-hour lecture every week. Some, but not all, also have a [...]-hour seminar every week/every [...] weeks.</p> <p>More information can be found on individual module pages.</p>

BA Religions & [...]

Year 1	credits	30	+	30	+	60
	module code	158000096		from "Introduction to Religious Traditions"		second subject
	module title	R101 Understanding Religion: Theories and Themes		guided option*		open option
	FHEQ status	level 4 compulsory module				

Year 2	credits	30	+	30	+	60
	module code	tbc		from "Religions in Cultural & Historical Contexts" <u>according to stipulations below</u>		second subject
	module title	R201 Approaches & Methods in the Study of Religions		guided option*		open option
	FHEQ status	level 5 compulsory module				

Year 3	credits	30	+	30	+	60
	module code	from "Comparative Study" or "Specialised Study" <u>according to stipulations below</u>		from "Specialised Study" <u>according to stipulations below</u>		second subject
	module title	guided option*		guided option*		open option
	FHEQ status					

List of modules (subject to availability)

Year 1

Introduction to Religious Traditions – 30 credits in total

FHEQ level	Code	Title	Credits
4	158000110	R110 Introduction to Buddhism	15
4	158000118	R120 Introduction to Hinduism	15
4	158000189	R130 Introduction to Islam	15
4	158000148	R150 Introduction to Judaism	15
4	158000119	R160 Introduction to the Religions of Africa	15
4	158000100	R170 Introduction to the Religions of East and Central Asia	15
4	158000117	R180 Introduction to World Christianity	15
4	158000187	R190 Introduction to Zoroastrianism	15

Year 2 and 3 - NB: not all modules will run every year

Religions in Cultural and Historical Contexts – 30 credits in total

FHEQ level	Code	Title	Credits
5	158000005	R210 Religion, Power, and Society in Modern Africa	30
5	155906012	R230 Religions of the Early Near and Middle East	30
5	155906013	R240 The Politics of Spirituality in South Asia	30

Comparative Study – 0–30 credits in total

FHEQ level	Code	Title	Credits
6	158000172	R310 Death and the Meaning of Life	30
6	154800316	Mysticism in the Great Traditions	15
6	158000199	Comparative Ethics	15

Specialised Study – 30–60 credits in total

FHEQ level	Code	Title	Credits
6	154800310	R430 Political Islam	30
6	154800312	Islam in Britain	15
6	158000205	Introduction to Jainism	15
6	158000206	R440 Jaina Philosophy	15
6	158000154	R450 The Role and Representation of Women in Judaism	15
6	158000168	R451 Jewish Identity from Ancient to Modern Times	15
6	158000043	R470 Themes in Japanese Religions	15
6	158000181	R471 Taoism: the Great Tradition	15
6	158000103	R472 Classical Chinese Thought	15
6	158000132	R480 Christianity in the Middle East: Historic and modern Dynamics	15
6	158000029	R490 Zoroastrianism in the Ancient and Modern Worlds	30
6	155901338	Islamic Intellectual History	30
6	154800315	Japanese Buddhist Thought	15
6	158000154	Shi'a Islam: Religious Authority and Community Identity	15
6	158000156	The Holocaust and the Problem of Evil	15