

JOINT MASTER OF ARTS RELIGION (GREL / RLGN)

April 14, 2025

Note: This is a joint program with the University of Manitoba.

The University of Winnipeg
Graduate Chair: Assistant Professor Y. He;
Professors: J. Barter, M. Ruml, A. Walker-Jones, C. Colorado;
Associate Professors: W.R. Dickson (Department Chair), J. Newmark, L. Szekely.
Lecturer: Z. Khamisa

The University of Manitoba
Graduate Chair: Associate Professor E. Alexandrin ;
Professors: H. Marx, D. McCance, I. Whicher;
Associate Professors: D. Dubois, K. MacKendrick (Department Head), J. Lewis, D. Drewes.

The Department of Religion & Culture at The University of Winnipeg and the Department of Religion at the University of Manitoba offer a joint Master of Arts program (JMP) in Religion. The JMP in Religion prepares students to undertake advanced study in the interdisciplinary field of religious studies. There are two streams within the JMP in Religion: the Thesis MA and the Course MA. Students completing the Joint MA Program in Religion will receive a joint parchment and may choose to convocate from either of the participating universities. Two types of programs are available:

Thesis Option: a minimum of 12 credit hours of course work including:

- a) Major Course - a minimum of 6 credit hours at the 7000-level.
- b) Ancillary course - a minimum of 6 credit hours at the 7000-level, 5000(UW)/4000(UM) or, in special cases, at the 3000-level.
- c) A thesis.

Course Option: a minimum of 24 credit hours beyond the level required for admissions to the MA, with at least 6 credit hours to be ordinarily taken from each of the two Departments involved in the Joint Masters Program (JMP) in Religion, at least 18 credit hours to be taken at the 7000-level, and at least 18 credit hours to be taken in Religion. Students may take 6 credit hours at the 5000(UW)/4000(UM) level or in exceptional circumstances at the 3000-level, and this is usually chosen from an extra-departmental field or ancillary. Students can, however, elect to take all 24 credit hours from within the two Departments of the JMP in Religion. Students in the course option must demonstrate competence in a breadth of areas within the study of religion. Students in the course stream will consult the Graduate Chairs to develop a program of study.

Language Requirement: In both programs the student is required to demonstrate reading knowledge of a second language. In the Thesis Option program, this reading knowledge normally must be demonstrated before the thesis proposal is reviewed.

Methodology Requirement: Students must have 6 credit hours in Methodology from a recognized university or college. A student who does not have this training in methodology will be required to take 6 credits in methodology in addition to normal credit hours required for their program.

Note: University of Winnipeg Religion and Culture graduate level courses carry a "GREL" prefix; University of Manitoba Religion courses bear an "RLGN" prefix.

COURSE OFFERINGS

The following list of seminar courses represents areas in which the Department offers graduate courses. Topics covered in individual courses vary from year to year. For information on current topics, please consult the Graduate Chair.

GREL-7101(6) or RLGN 7040	Seminar in Biblical Religions
GREL-7201(6) or RLGN 7050	Seminar in History of Christian Thought
GREL-7301(6) or RLGN 7000	Seminar in the History of Religions
GREL-7501(6) or RLGN 7010	Seminar in Religion and Culture
GREL-7701(6) or RLGN 7060	Seminar in Comparative Religion
GREL-7801(6) or RLGN 7070	Seminar in Religion in the Modern World
GREL-7901(3) or RLGN 7020	Special Topics I
GREL-7902(3) or RLGN 7030	Special Topics II

Admission Requirements

The following are eligible to apply for admission to the program:

- Graduates of the University of Manitoba holding an Honours BA degree in Religion;
- Graduates of The University of Winnipeg holding an Honours or a 4-Year BA in Religion & Culture (Religious Studies);
- Students who hold degrees equivalent to the Honours BA in Religion from other recognized universities or colleges;
- Students who have completed a recognized pre-Master's program in Religion.

- Honours BA graduates in other disciplines with a strong background in Religion. (Such students may be admitted at the pre-Master's level and/or required to complete a program of study to bring them up to the level of an Honours BA degree in Religion.)

Students who have courses with equivalent content or cognate courses in recognized departments or faculties other than Religion or Religious Studies may be given credit for up to 12 credit hours towards admission.

To be eligible for admission, applicants must have achieved a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 (on a 4.0 point scale) in their last 60 credit hours of study and they must have completed a total of 60 credit hours in Religion. Breadth in preparation is expected as indicated by the description of the Honours or the 4-Year BA in Religion & Culture in the UWinnipeg Calendar or the Honours BA in Religion in the UManitoba Calendar.

Please consult the Departmental websites regarding areas of research interest of individual faculty.