student handbook 2017/2018

Bachelorprogrammes
- Theology
- Religious Studies

Masterprogrammes Theology and Religious Studies
- Religion and Pluralism, Ancient and Modern
- Religion, Conflict and Globalisation
- Religion and Cultural Heritage
- Geestelijke Verzorging

Master Theology and Religious Studies (Research)/Religion and Culture

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1. INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies. This study guide provides the information you will need about the purpose and the structure of the degree programmes in Theology and Religious Studies. It also contains general information about the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies. The course unit information can be found on the Faculty website in the Ocasys Course Catalogue: http://www.rug.nl/ocasys/ggw. The lecture and examination timetables can also be found on the website: http://www.rug.nl/ggw/onderwijs/rooster (via mobile phone: http://rooster.rug.nl/).

The degree programme’s most important regulations are included in Chapter 11 of the Student Charter (see http://myuniversity.rug.nl/infonet/studenten/regelingen-klacht-inspraak/wet-en-regelgeving/onderwijs/studentenstatuut), Chapter 18 of the Teaching and Examination Regulations (OER) and Chapter 19 of the Rules and Regulations (R&R). Registered students are expected to know and observe these regulations. They are decisive and complete. The texts below merely explain these regulations. While they were drawn up with the greatest possible care, no rights can be derived from them.

For extra information on practical matters of all kinds, please turn to the Student Administration Office located in room 004. It is open from Tuesday to Friday between 10.30 a.m. and 12.30 p.m. Tel.: +31 50 36 35568 and +31 50 36 38421.

Please contact the Faculty study advisors for information about your degree programme or for support in drawing up a study plan and monitoring study progress (studieadviseur.ggw@rug.nl). Study advisors hold regular study progress interviews with all students and advise the Board of Examiners on individual student requests. In certain cases study advisors may also refer to external aid providers. For open office hours, please check: http://www.rug.nl/ggw/organization/office-services/study-matters/.

2. THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES IN GRONINGEN

2.1. PROFILE OF THE FACULTY OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES
The role of religion is far from played out. Many people attach great importance to religious beliefs, experiences and groups, which offer them strength and support. Religions characterize the way in which they express themselves in writing, ritual and art. Religion also plays a role in conflicts and violence. The importance of academic knowledge of religion, culture and society continues to rise in our complex world. There is, perhaps more than ever, a need for specialists who use their expertise to clarify the meaning and backgrounds of the role of religion in the life of individuals and in society, for experts who know what the different religions entail and are able to substantiate this with facts and arguments, for experts who succeed in understanding the cultural and social dynamics of religion and religious phenomena. The Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies is the pre-eminent expertise centre in the field of religion and culture of the University of Groningen.
(UG). It has integrated teaching and research in a natural way and has trained generations of theologians, religious scholars and spiritual carers.

Its focus on the relatedness of religion and culture determines the teaching and research profile of the Groningen Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies. Religion and culture cannot be separated. A culture cannot be understood without knowledge of religions. Religion and culture are broad concepts which require a broad approach. All course units at this Faculty are taught from the perspective of interaction between religion and culture. This helps students to develop a broad picture of the history and significance of religion for people, culture and society.

The Faculty offers degree programmes in Theology and Religious Studies at Bachelor’s level. Both degree programmes study religions in their cultural context. Theology studies the sources, history and contemporary expressions of Judaism, Christianity and Islam in their mutual interrelatedness. In addition, course units such as Sociology of Religion and Philosophy of Religion devote considerable attention to the questions that contemporary culture poses to theology and religion. Students of Religious Studies mainly investigate the expressions of different world religions such as Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism, as well as several modern religious movements. They learn how to study religious phenomena in Europe and outside from historic, anthropological, sociological, psychological and philosophical perspectives. They also learn how to use social sciences methodologies and apply them to their research into religions.

The Faculty offers two Master-level degree programmes: The one-year Master’s degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies and the two-year Research Master in Theology and Religious Studies (Religion and Culture). Both degree programmes focus on the relationship between religion and culture, both past and present. Students will become acquainted with the dual relationship between religion and culture. One the one hand, religion aligns itself with culture, and cultural embedding and adaptation (acculturation) occurs. On the other hand, and at the same time, there is a critical distance between the two. Both Master’s specializations clearly have their own focus within this priority area. In addition, a two-year Master of Arts in Religious Studies Teaching programme will start on 1 September 2017, in conjunction with the Teacher Training Programme of the Faculty of Behavioural and Social Sciences.

See also: http://www.rug.nl/ggw/organization/profile/about

2.2 DEGREE PROGRAMMES
The Faculty offers the following degree programmes:
- Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology
- Bachelor’s degree programme in Religious Studies
- Master’s degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies (one-year Master’s programme), including the following four specializations:
  - Religion and Cultural Heritage
  - Religion and Pluralism, Ancient & Modern
  - Religion, Conflict and Globalization
- Spiritual Care
- Master of Arts in Religious Studies Teaching
- Research Master in Theology and Religious Studies (two-year Master’s programme)
- PhD programme in Theology and Religious Studies

The Research Master and the PhD programme are part of the Graduate School of Theology and Religious Studies (see http://www.rug.nl/gradschoolthrs).

The Faculty will offer two University Minors to UG students from other faculties in the 2017-2018 academic year.
- Religion in the Modern World (2x 15 ECTS)
- Religion and Art (1x 15 ECTS)

See also: http://www.rug.nl/ggw/education/programmes/

2.3 VISION ON EDUCATION
The Faculty’s educational vision closely resembles the University of Groningen’s vision on education in terms of its ambitions. At the same time, the Faculty’s educational vision reflects a number of specific characteristics of its students and degree programmes. Our students, for example, typically choose their degree programmes based on intrinsic motivation. The Faculty’s degree programmes consist of course units that reflect a wide range of academic disciplines, which set their own requirements. The programmes are characterized by their small scale, with a lot of individual contact between lecturers and students. The Faculty strives for an optimal balance between the requirements made by the various disciplines that shape the degree programmes, the wishes of the students and the signals we receive from ‘customers’, i.e. the labour market.

Objectives and learning outcomes
Our aim is to optimally prepare students for the demands that await them after graduation. For this reason, two levels can be distinguished in the design of the degree programmes offered by the Faculty: objectives and learning outcomes. Targets are set to clarify what each degree programme trains for. In the case of academic degree programmes, this is not so much a particular position or profession but areas in which knowledge is gained and for which theoretical and practical skills are acquired. The learning outcomes define what graduates should know and be able to do in terms of content and level. This includes not only expertise but also understanding and skills. Skills include both generic, i.e. general academic, skills and domain or field-specific skills. When developing generic skills, the development of an academic attitude, with its focus on critical and independent thought, as well as the promotion of students’ autonomous learning, forms one of the objectives of the Bachelor’s degree programmes in Theology and Religious Sciences (see also Chapters 5 and 6).
Interrelationship between teaching and research
Teaching which is interrelated with research in all phases is the main characteristic of an academic degree programme. Covering new theories and research outcomes in lectures, teaching research skills and performing research results in students who have acquired understanding, analytical skills and critical thought, as well as the ability to independently draw conclusions based on data. Not only does the Bachelor’s degree programme introduce students to different research methods, it also teaches them to design and implement small-scale research projects of their own and report on them in an academic and reasoned manner.

Appropriate and activating modes of teaching and assessment
The modes of teaching and assessment have been chosen to optimally realise the learning outcomes and competences. This means that a lot of attention is paid to the development of analytical skills as well as oral and written skills, for example by giving presentations and writing assignments. Promoting autonomous and active learning forms the basis in all cases. In short, teaching at the Faculty is student-oriented. This means that the student is at the heart of the teaching organization.

Assessment
Regular and professional assessment is an inherent part of high-quality education. This guarantees that the final attainment levels and the learning outcomes of the degree programme components have been attained. Sound assessment also substantiates judgements of the abilities of students and thus the selection of and advice to students. Faculty assessment policy aims to ensure that all examinations
a. are of good quality
b. dovetails with the learning outcomes of the course units
c. are assessed in a valid manner.

Competent and committed lecturers
You need capable and enthusiastic lecturers to ensure high-quality teaching. The Faculty:
1. requires its teaching staff to hold the UTQ and appoints qualified lecturers
2. facilitates the constant training of its lecturers in the field of new teaching techniques and tools.

2.4 Quality assurance of teaching
High-quality teaching is not only determined by good programming and good lecturers, but also by the commitment and motivation of students. The Faculty does not regard students as customers or consumers of teaching, but rather as participants in the learning and teaching process. High-quality teaching is impossible without motivated students who prepare thoroughly for their lectures and exams. For this reason, the Faculty expressly promotes a quality culture based on optimal effort from both lecturers and students, making it inspirational to follow and provide education.
**Internal quality assurance**
The Faculty attaches great value to the quality of the programmes offered, which is why they are regularly evaluated. This takes place at various levels: by the responsible institutions, by students and by lecturers. The course unit evaluations by students and lecturers play a central role in this process. Each lecture is typically reviewed annually, and the outcomes are used to further improve teaching. In addition to individual course units, the entire degree programme is also evaluated periodically. This programme evaluation focuses on the consistency and implementation of the programme, but also examines the link to previous and subsequent programmes as well as to the students’ future labour market.

The Programme Committees (OC) are important bodies that assess the quality of teaching. Half of the members are students and the other half lecturers. The OCs ensure that the teaching process complies with the Teaching and Examination Regulations (OER). The OCs also discuss the course unit, semester and curriculum evaluations and report on them to the Programme Directors, who supervise the evaluation process on behalf of the Faculty Board. The evaluation of course units takes place via a questionnaire for participating students. The questionnaires are sent, filled out and processed electronically through a programme called Blue. Students can consult the evaluation outcomes via the syllabi.

**External quality assurance**
An external assessment of Faculty teaching takes place once every six years. The Groningen-based degree programmes in Theology and Religious Studies were assessed as ‘good’ in the previous external assessment rounds, also from a comparative national perspective.

*Elsevier* magazine and the Higher Education Guide for Universities (*Keuzegids Universiteiten*) have rated the Faculty’s teaching as particularly good. The 2017 edition of *Keuzegids Universiteiten* even rated the Bachelor’s degree programmes in Theology and Religious Studies as ‘top programmes’, putting them among the best in the country.

**2.5 Research**
The staff employed by the Faculty is multidisciplinary and consists of theologians, religious scholars, historians, philosophers, sociologists, political scientists, anthropologists and psychologists. The Faculty has an excellent research reputation, both at home and abroad. International assessments of Faculty research in the field of theology and religious studies have repeatedly rated our Faculty as the best in the Netherlands. Students at our Faculty can also benefit from our many international contacts with foreign universities, including Bremen, Marburg, Uppsala, Göttingen, Ghent, Princeton and Rice University. In the third year of their Bachelor’s degree programme, they can follow part of their programme at one of the foreign universities with which the Faculty cooperates closely.
Centre for Religious Studies (CRS)
http://www.rug.nl/research/centre-for-religious-studies/about/

The CRS has three research groups that correspond with the three departments in the Faculty:
1. Jewish, Christian and Islamic Origins
   http://www.rug.nl/ggw/onderzoek/vakgroepen/JCI
2. Comparative Study of Religion
   http://www.rug.nl/research/centre-for-religious-studies/comparative-historical-study-of-religion/
3. Christianity and the History of Ideas
   http://www.rug.nl/ggw/onderzoek/vakgroepen/CFC

Each group is working on its own long-term research programme. There are several Faculty research institutes focusing on a number of spearheads: the Qumran Institute, the Institute for Christian Cultural Heritage and the Centre for Religion, Conflict and the Public Domain, as well as in the following interdisciplinary partnerships:
- CRASIS: Culture, Religion and Society-Interdisciplinary Studies in Graeco-Roman Antiquity (http://www.rug.nl/research/centre-for-religious-studies/research-institutes/crasis/about-crasis)
- the Colloquium on Asian Religions http://www.rug.nl/research/centre-for-religious-studies/centre-religion-culture-asia/
- GIS: Groningen Islamic Studies Group http://www.rug.nl/research/centre-for-religious-studies/groningen-islamic-studies-group/

In addition, all researchers cooperate in the Faculty-wide Research Colloquium, which is devoted to the further deepening of cross-departmental research themes. It regularly hosts internationally renowned guest speakers to this end.

2.6 RESEARCH INSTITUTES

Centre for Religion and Heritage
(http://www.rug.nl/research/centre-for-religious-studies/institute-christian-cultural-heritage/)

Qumran Institute
(http://www.rug.nl/research/centre-for-religious-studies/qumran-institute/),

Centre for the Study of Religion and Culture in Asia (CSRCA)
http://www.rug.nl/research/centre-for-religious-studies/centre-religion-culture-asia/

Centre for Religion, Conflict and the Public Domain
http://www.rug.nl/research/centre-for-religious-studies/religion-conflict-public-domain
3. STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION OF THE BACHELOR’S AND MASTER’S PHASES

3.1 ADMISSION TO THE BACHELOR’S DEGREE PROGRAMMES
A Dutch VWO diploma (all profiles), as well as a diploma or a propaedeutic certificate from a university of applied sciences (HBO) grant admission to the Bachelor’s degree programmes in Theology and Religious Studies. Prospective students who want to study Theology but do not have Greek must choose the programme that integrates Greek into the curriculum. Students over 21 who do not have a VWO diploma, a diploma from a university of applied sciences or a propaedeutic certificate from a university of applied sciences can take the entrance examination (Colloquium Doctum). This examination tests your knowledge of Dutch, English and History at VWO level. More information about this procedure is available from the Student Administration Office or via:

3.2 STARTING THE BACHELOR’S DEGREE PROGRAMMES
Propaedeutic phase
Students can start a Bachelor’s programme on 1 September if they took part in the matching activities prior to the start of the relevant academic year. This applies both to students from outside the University of Groningen and students already enrolled at the University of Groningen (‘switchers’). Once students have met the matching obligation, they can start on 1 November, 1 February and 1 April after consultation with the study advisor. Students with a prior registration for the same degree programme can still start after 1 September after consultation with the study advisor.

Post-propaedeutic phase
Starting after 1 September is only possible for students with a prior registration for the same degree programme. In such cases the students can start on 1 November, 1 February or 1 April after consultation with the study advisor. New students who want to start the post-propaedeutic phase may only start on 1 September.

Pre-Master’s programmes
The main starting dates are 1 September and 1 February. It may be possible to start on 1 November or 1 April after consultation with the study advisor. No distinction is made between students from outside the University of Groningen or students already registered at the University of Groningen.

Please contact the study advisors with any questions about starting your programme after 1 September ([studieadviseur.ggw@rug.nl](mailto:studieadviseur.ggw@rug.nl)). Admission requests for the Bachelor’s degree
programme can be addressed to the Admissions Board, care of Kees van den Ende MA (k.van.den.ende@rug.nl).

3.3. General structure of the Bachelor’s degree programmes
The Bachelor’s degree programmes in Theology and Religious Studies each consist of a propaedeutic phase of one year and a post-propaedeutic phase of two years. Students who have met all the requirements of the second and third years will receive a Bachelor’s degree certificate.

The first and second-year course units in the Bachelor’s degree programme in Religious Studies are mandatory for all. The programme is varied and covers a very wide range of subjects and disciplines. Students can personalize through their choice of subjects for papers or presentations. The Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology has different specializations from the first year. Students who did not take the final VWO exam in Greek must follow the programme that includes Greek. In addition, students of Theology can choose course units that are part of the Protestant Theological University (PThU) path as early as the first year, which further prepares them for the Master Predikantschap (Master’s degree programme in Ministry) (see Chapter 5).

The third year of the programme without Greek of the Bachelor’s degree programmes in Theology and Religious Studies students can choose broadening and deepening course units. Students follow a broadening University Minor of 15-30 ECTS in the first semester. They also follow a deepening Faculty Minor and write their Bachelor’s thesis in the second semester, totalling 30 ECTS. Students can also choose to stay at a foreign university or take the Minor in Spiritual Care, which further prepares for the Master’s specialization in Spiritual Care. Students finish the degree programme by writing a Bachelor’s thesis. The relevant research for this thesis is embedded in the research course unit of the chosen Faculty Minor.

See the Theology programme: http://www.rug.nl/bachelors/theology/programme
See the Religious Studies programme: http://www.rug.nl/bachelors/religious-studies/programme

3.4. Admission to the Master’s degree programmes
Starting any Master’s specialization requires first meeting all the requirements of the Bachelor’s degree certificate.

Follow-on Master’s specializations
A Bachelor’s degree certificate in Theology or Religious Studies grants immediate admission to the following Master’s specializations:
- Religion and Cultural Heritage
- Religion and Pluralism, Ancient & Modern
- Religion, Conflict and Globalization
Students who apply for any of these specializations must submit a letter of motivation including a curriculum vitae, a summary of their results from the Bachelor’s degree programme and a sample of an academic paper students wrote themselves. More
information about the admission procedure and application deadlines can be found on the Faculty website: [http://www.rug.nl/ggw/education/master/](http://www.rug.nl/ggw/education/master/)

**Master’s specialization in Spiritual Care**
Admission to the Master’s in Spiritual Care based on a Bachelor’s degree certificate in Theology or Religious Studies requires successful completion of the preparatory Minor in Spiritual Care from the Bachelor’s degree programme. Further relevant information can be found in Sections 5.12 and Section 6.10 of the Student Handbook. More information about the admission procedure and application deadlines can be found on the Faculty website: [http://www.rug.nl/masters/spiritual-care/](http://www.rug.nl/masters/spiritual-care/).

**Master’s specialization in Theology and Religious Studies (Research)**

**Master of Arts in Teaching: training secondary school teachers of Religious Studies**
This Master’s programme deepens students’ knowledge of religion and teaches them to transfer that knowledge to secondary school pupils. It combines a substantive programme in the fields of Theology and Religious Studies with a teacher-training programme. [http://www.rug.nl/ggw/education/master/opleiding-leraar-voortgezet-onderwijs-godsdienst-levensbeschouwing](http://www.rug.nl/ggw/education/master/opleiding-leraar-voortgezet-onderwijs-godsdienst-levensbeschouwing)

Please contact the study advisors for further information about admission to the various Master’s specializations ([studieadviseur.ggw@rug.nl](mailto:studieadviseur.ggw@rug.nl)).

**3.5 Starting the Master’s degree programmes**
Students seeking to follow an English-taught Master’s specialization can register to start on 1 September. Students re-registering for the English-taught one-year Master’s specializations can do so for the starting dates of 1 September or 1 February. The two-year Master’s specialization only starts on 1 September. Students seeking to follow a full-time, Dutch-taught Master’s specialization can also only register for the starting date of 1 September. Students seeking to start the part-time equivalent of this specialization can also register for a starting date of 1 February. Students can re-register for the specialization for the starting dates of 1 September or 1 February.

**3.6 Master’s labels and specializations**
**Master’s in Theology and Religious Studies (60 ECTS)**
The Faculty has offered a one-year Master’s in Theology and Religious Studies with a student workload of 60 ECTS since September 2012. This broad Master’s label comprises the following four interdisciplinary specializations, which are closely interlinked with the research of the departments that offer them:
- Religion and Cultural Heritage
- Religion and Pluralism, Ancient & Modern
- Religion, Conflict and Globalization
- Spiritual Care

The first three specializations are English-taught. They comprise 30 ECTS of course units, a 10 ECTS placement and a 20 ECTS thesis. Students can only start these specializations on 1 September.

Spiritual Care is a Dutch-taught specialization that is being offered both full-time and part-time. This specialization builds on the pre-Master’s programme in Spiritual Care and comprises four course units of 5 ECTS each, a 20 ECTS placement and a 20 ECTS thesis. Part-time students can start both on 1 September and on 1 February; full-time students can only start on 1 September.

Further information on objectives, learning outcomes and the organization of these specializations can be found in Chapters 7 to 12. Twice a year, in spring and autumn, the Faculty organizes Think Bold, an information meeting where students can focus on their choice of Master’s specialization. During this event, information will also be provided on placement opportunities in the Master’s specializations Religion, Conflict and Globalization, Religion and Pluralism, Ancient and Modern, Religion and Cultural Heritage.

Master’s in Theology and Religious Studies (Research) (120 ECTS)

The Faculty offers one 120 ECTS research-oriented specialization under the degree programme Theology and Religious Studies: Religion and Culture. This Master’s programme focuses on research, thus providing sound preparation for the PhD programme. The specialization offers a lot of space for specialization in addition to the three mandatory course units.

Further information on the objectives, learning outcomes and organization of this specialization can be found in Chapter 13. The Research Master will also be extensively discussed during the Think Bold Faculty information meetings in spring and autumn.

3.7 ECTS CREDIT POINTS SYSTEM AND STUDENT WORKLOAD

Ocasys lists the number of ECTS credit points for each course unit. This abbreviation stands for European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System, a European system for the transfer and accumulation of student workload credit points. The system was developed by the European Commission in 1989 as part of the Erasmus programme for student mobility, in close cooperation with the academic world, including the University of Groningen.

The European System for the transfer and accumulation of credit points is a system that puts students first and is based on student workload to achieve the objectives of a particular programme. These objectives must be specified in terms of learning outcomes. ECTS is based on the understanding that 60 credit points correspond to the student workload of a full-time student during one academic year. The student workload for students of a full-time degree programme in Europe is typically 1500-1800 hours per year, in which case one ECTS credit point corresponds to 25 to 30 working hours.

The Netherlands, and thus the University of Groningen too, uses ECTS both for accumulation and transfer purposes. The application of the ECTS is regulated by law. The
law stipulates that 42 study weeks of 40 hours, i.e. one academic year, corresponds to a student workload of 60 ECTS credit points. This means that 1 ECTS credit point is equivalent to 28 hours of work. An academic Bachelor's degree programme equals 3 years of full-time study, which corresponds to 180 ECTS credit points.

Student workload is the time spent attending lectures, i.e. contact hours, as well as on the preparation and processing of the lecture material, including reading the literature, doing assignments, writing papers and preparing presentations. Also included in the student workload is the preparation time for examinations. The following allocation formula applies to the student workload of literature to be read for lectures and examinations: 1 student workload hour = 5 to 7 pages of literature, depending on the difficulty level, excluding the literature covered in the lectures. Credit points are only awarded after a course unit has been completed with adequate results, i.e. after the required work has been finished and the intended learning outcomes have been attained.

See also: [http://www.rug.nl/education/find-out-more/studying-at-university/diploma-supplement-ects-labels](http://www.rug.nl/education/find-out-more/studying-at-university/diploma-supplement-ects-labels)

And: [http://www.rug.nl/education/find-out-more/studying-at-university/workload](http://www.rug.nl/education/find-out-more/studying-at-university/workload)

### 3.8 Year structure

The academic year is divided into two semesters of 21 weeks each. The first semester begins in September and ends in early February, the second semester runs from early February to early July. Each semester comprises two blocks, followed by two examination weeks. There are no lectures during examination weeks. Each block also contains a lecture-free week, during which the resits from the previous exam period are planned. In blocks 2, 3 and 4 this is the fifth week of the block. There are typically no lectures during that week.

The resits for second-year course units and any examinations for third-year course units from block 4 will take place in weeks 27 and 28, from 2 to 13 July 2018.

The deadlines for the first and second versions of the Bachelor's theses have been set in advance. Please refer to the syllabi of the BA-3 research course units for these. Students who want to start a Master's degree programme on 1 September must ensure that the mark for their Bachelor's thesis is known to the Student Administration Office no later than Monday 30 July 2018.


The academic year calendar for 2017-2018 can be found in Chapter 21.

**Holidays 2017-2018**

- Christmas break: Monday 25 December 2017 to Friday 5 January 2018
- Good Friday: Friday 30 March 2018
- Easter Monday: Monday 2 April 2018
• King’s Day: Thursday 27 April 2018
• Liberation Day: Friday 5 May 2018
• Ascension Day: Thursday 10 May 2018
• Whit Monday: Monday 21 May 2018
• Summer Break: week 29 to week 35 (Monday 13 July 2018 to Friday 31 August 2018)

As stated in the Student Charter, all students are expected to be available for study-related activities between the first and the last scheduled day of the academic year, i.e. from 4 September 2017 to 13 July 2018. Activities may be scheduled on the days on which participation is mandatory.

3.9 LECTURE AND EXAMINATION TIMETABLE
The lecture and examination timetable of your degree programme can be found on the Faculty website (http://www.rug.nl/ggw/onderwijs/rooster) and via http://rooster.rug.nl/ for mobile phones.

The order of the course units listed in this Student Handbook may change in the course of the academic year, which will also have consequences for the timetabling. In addition, it is also possible that a course unit may have to be moved to a different room at the last moment due to the number of students who register for it. Students should therefore regularly check the information on the website and on Nestor for timetable changes. No legal rights may be derived from any errors in lecture and examination timetables.

3.10 HONOURS COLLEGE
The University of Groningen has a university-wide Honours College, which challenges talented and motivated students to seek further broadening and deepening of their knowledge by following an extra honours programme. Bachelor’s students take an extra 45 ECTS credit points in addition to their regular Bachelor’s degree programme of 180 credit points, and Master’s students take an additional 15 ECTS credit points on top of their regular Master’s degree programme of 60 or 120 credit points.

Honours College Bachelor’s programme
The Honours College programme for the Bachelor’s phase has a broadening component of 20 ECTS credit points, to be followed at another faculty, and a programme-specific deepening component of 25 ECTS credit points, to be followed within the Faculty. The broadening component consists of two course units of 5 ECTS each, to be followed at another faculty, and the Petrus Camper curriculum, in which students work on a current theme, related to one of the Honours course units. The knowledge, skills and personal-development components are addressed by approaching this theme from different perspectives and by working in an interdisciplinary constellation.

The deepening course units are taken within the Faculty. The Faculty component of the Honours programme of the Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology or Religious Studies is organized as follows:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Level</th>
<th>Honours Course</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ba-1 TH Honours</td>
<td>5 ECTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ba-2 TH Honours</td>
<td>10 ECTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ba-3 TH Honours</td>
<td>10 ECTS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The second and third-year Faculty specialization offers a large degree of freedom within a certain framework. Modes of instruction vary from extra lectures to research practicals and tutorials.

- **Ba-1: Honours course unit The Sacred Book (5 ECTS).**
- **Ba-2:** all students from the same cohort participate in the same research project: Religion and Health. Students will have their own specialization with a student workload of 10 ECTS within this research project, in consultation with the supervising lecturer.
- **Ba-3:** in the first semester, students follow a 5 ECTS course unit, culminating in a symposium organized by the students concerned, together with people inside and/or outside the Faculty (5 ECTS, block 3-4). This is where students will also present their own contributions.

The Honours College programme starts in the second half of the first year of study, thus lasting a total of 5 semesters. The extra student workload is 25% and amounts to approximately 10-12 hours of extra student workload per week.

A selection procedure takes place at the end of the first semester of the first year of the Bachelor’s degree programme. First-year students can apply for a place at the Honours College. Information about the procedure can be found on the Honours College website: [http://www.rug.nl/honours](http://www.rug.nl/honours). The Faculty organizes an annual information meeting about the Honours College as an initial introduction.

**Honours College Master’s programme**
The theme of the Honours College Master’s programme is ‘Leadership: making the difference’. The programme has an interdisciplinary character, but is not a management course in leadership. The Master’s Honours specialization introduces students to different theories and models of leadership and stimulates students to further develop their leadership skills. The specialization consists of four Masterclasses, a leadership lab and a Masterwork. There is also attention for personal development.

Students can apply for a place in the Master’s Honours specialization. Information about the procedure can be found on the Honours College website: [http://www.rug.nl/honours/masterprogramme](http://www.rug.nl/honours/masterprogramme)

The Faculty coordinator for the Master’s Honours specialization is Dr J. Tarusarira ([j.tarusarira@rug.nl](mailto:j.tarusarira@rug.nl)).

**3.11 Studying abroad**
Studying abroad is an enrichment of the degree programme and stimulates both academic
and personal development. The degree programme offers the opportunity to study at a foreign university for one semester in the third year of the Bachelor’s programme (see Chapters 5 and 6).

The Master’s degree programme includes the option of doing a placement and research abroad. It is important that students start making arrangements for a placement or field work abroad in good time in order to avoid study delay as much as possible. Requirements to take into account for placements can be found in Nestor, under Master’s Placement THRS.

Agreements between universities in and outside Europe have made studying abroad an attractive and easy-to-realize option. It remains necessary, however, to thoroughly plan any stay abroad, preferably one year in advance. Clear agreements will have to be made in advance regarding the course units students intend to follow abroad, and permission must be obtained from the Board of Examiners to avoid successfully completed course units at a foreign university and the associated credit points not being counted towards your degree. This should preferably take place prior to actually following those course units to avoid disappointment, and thus unwanted study delay later. Students should also take into account the tight deadlines for registration and application for a scholarship.

Study results obtained abroad are registered with a ‘V’ for completed (Dutch: Voldaan) in Progress once the course units followed have been completed successfully.

The steps to be taken prior to travelling abroad are described on My University under Studying abroad: http://myuniversity.rug.nl/infonet/studenten/ggw/studereninhetbuitenland/. This webpage describes where students can go, which forms to fill out, how to finance a study period abroad and what to do in case of study delay. It also includes information on practical issues such as letting and subletting rooms, visas, insurance, student finance, experiences of others and tips. If you still have any questions, please contact us at internationaloffice.thrs@rug.nl.

For an overview of partner organizations, please check: http://www.rug.nl/ggw/education/prosstud/exchangeprogrammes/partneruniversities

3.12 Part-time programmes

The Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology can also be followed part-time. Religious Studies does not offer a separate part-time programme. Theology only schedules those course units that are also part of the pre-Master’s programme in Spiritual Care on a fixed day of the week. Part-time students are encouraged to promptly contact the study advisors, Ms T.M.L. de Boer MA or Mr K. van den Ende MA. They can provide further information about timetabling and any additional facilities studieadviseur.ggw@rug.nl).

Additional information can be found on: http://www.rug.nl/society-business/increase-your-knowledge/deeltijd/
3.13 INFORMATION ACTIVITIES
Several information meetings are organized during the academic year. Below is an overview of the standard information events. These are aimed at providing further information about the options in the Bachelor’s degree programme, and also devote attention to orientation on further education and the labour market.

Twice a year, in spring and autumn, the Faculty organizes Think Bold, an information meeting where students can focus on their choice of Master’s specialization. During this event, information will also be provided on placement opportunities in the Master’s specializations Religion and Pluralism, Ancient and Modern, Religion, Conflict and Globalization, Religion and Cultural Heritage.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Information meetings</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Notification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction (firstyear students)</td>
<td>End of August, beginning of September</td>
<td>Invitation by letter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information about PThU-traject (for firstyear Theology students)</td>
<td>September</td>
<td>Announced via e-mail and/or in introduction letter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honours College</td>
<td>November/March</td>
<td>Invitation by e-mail, Announced via posters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University minors (for upcoming thirdyear students)</td>
<td>April</td>
<td>Announced via website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty minors (secondyear students)</td>
<td>November</td>
<td>Announced via e-mail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Studying abroad (first-and secondyear students)</td>
<td>variable</td>
<td>Announced via e-mail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job market</td>
<td>Twice a year (semester 1 and semester 2)</td>
<td>Announced via e-mail and posters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master ‘Think Bold’</td>
<td>November en March</td>
<td>Announced via e-mail, posters and website</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more general information, please visit: [http://www.rug.nl/education/find-out-more/](http://www.rug.nl/education/find-out-more/)

4. TEACHING AND EXAMINATIONS

4.1 COURSE UNIT OVERVIEW IN OCASYS
The descriptions of the course units of the Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies can be found in the course catalogue on the Faculty website [www.rug.nl/ocasys/ggw](http://www.rug.nl/ocasys/ggw). Ocasys gives learning outcomes for each course unit as well as a short description of the content. It also provides additional information on the teaching and examination methods used. The course unit learning outcomes are derived from the learning outcomes of the Bachelor’s and Master’s degree programmes. The teaching and examination methods are derived from the learning outcomes of the relevant course unit. Ocasys will list any attendance requirements for certain course units.
Ocasys abbreviations for the Bachelor’s degree programmes, University Minors and Master’s degree programmes

Ba TH-vlt Bachelor’s programme in Theology - full-time
Ba TH-vlt (incl. Grieks) Bachelor’s programme in Theology - full-time, with Greek
Ba TH-dlt Bachelor’s programme in Theology - part-time
Ba TH-dlt (incl. Grieks) Bachelor’s programme in Theology - part-time, with Greek
Ba RW Bachelor’s programme in Religious Studies
PreMa GV Pre-Master’s programme in Spiritual Care
Mi TH RMW Minor Religion in the Modern World
Mi TH RA Minor Religion and Art
Ma GV Master’s programme Spiritual Care - full-time
Ma GV-dlt Master’s programme Spiritual Care - part-time
PreMa GV Pre-Master’s programme in Spiritual Care
RM Religion and Culture Research Master’s programme in Religion and Culture

4.2 Syllabi
Each course unit syllabus contains additional information on the learning outcomes, teaching content, modes of instruction, modes of assessment and the examination material. It also includes a weekly schedule detailing the preparations for each lecture and the deadlines for any assignments. The syllabus can be found in the relevant Nestor environment.

4.3 Modes of instruction
The course units are offered in one of the following forms:

Lectures: Lectures and other activities with a fixed starting time and duration. The literature list is published in advance.
Practicals: Practical exercises, training or any other form of practice with a fixed starting time and duration. Full participation in the activities and assignments, i.e. a 100% attendance record, is mandatory. Seminars, progress tests and assignments may form part of the practical.
Bachelor’s or Master’s thesis: A reasoned report of completed academic research.

Each course unit is offered once a year, with the student workload in ECTS credit points fixed in advance.

4.4 Testing and assessment
Each course unit is typically awarded a mark. Testing and assessment can take place in a variety of ways. While students mainly take written examinations in the first and second Bachelor’s years, written assignments or presentations can also contribute to the final mark for a course unit. During the third Bachelor’s year and in the Master’s phase testing will predominantly take place through writing and presenting assignments or giving a presentation. Sometimes oral examinations are held. The exam materials include both the literature list and the lecture material, unless a lecturer decides otherwise.

There is one exam opportunity a year for oral and written examinations, at the end of the relevant block. The resit opportunity is in the next block, five to six weeks after the first
exam opportunity. Course units with examinations at the end of the second semester have a resit in July. Oral resits may take the place of examinations that were originally written.

Course units assessed with several partial examinations are considered passed if the average final overall mark is 5.5 or higher and a minimum mark of 5 was obtained for each of the individual components. It is only necessary to resit those components with a mark lower than 5.

Students must retake the entire course unit in the next academic year if the final overall mark for a course unit is still a fail after the resit. This includes attending lectures and those components that have already been passed.

It is not possible to resit course units that have been passed.

Examinations passed are valid for six years, unless otherwise specified in the Teaching and Examination Regulations.

To ensure an even spread of student workload across the year, it is important that students take and pass their examinations promptly at the first opportunity. Otherwise, they will face a combination of resits and regular examinations in the course of the next block or the second semester.

Papers or assignments are subject to the deadline(s) set by the relevant lecturer in the syllabus or assigned to the relevant course unit in Nestor. You must keep to these deadlines; this is important for both the progress of the course units and your own study progress. Assignments will usually be presented during tutorials or lecture periods.

Lecturers must correct examinations within ten working days and assignments within fifteen working days. This means that they have a maximum of ten, respectively fifteen, working days to correct the examination or assignment and submit the results to the Student Administration Office, counting from the day after the examination was taken or the assignment had to be submitted. The correction term for the examinations and resits of first-year students in July is five working days, because the binding (negative) study advice (BSA) is issued in the final week of July (see Section 4.9). It will then take another three days at most before you can see your results in ProgRESS WWW. Collective post-mortem meetings are planned for each examination. Students who wish to discuss their examinations outside those meetings can make an appointment with their lecturer or the coordinator of the course unit.

4.5 Sequential regulations and entry requirements

Certain course units from the Bachelor’s degree programme assume prior knowledge from other course units or build on previously taught course units. Such course units have entry requirements, for instance successful completion of a specific first-year course unit to be able to follow a certain second-year course unit. The specific entry requirements for the different course units are listed in the course unit descriptions in Ocasys. The Teaching and Examination Regulations set out these entry requirements in detail.

Third-year course units, i.e. the University Minor and the Faculty Minor, may only be started after completion of the propaedeutic phase.
4.6 Registration for course units
Students must register for the course units they wish to follow through ProgRESS-WWW. ProgRESS-WWW can be found on the Student Portal (http://studentportal.rug.nl), under the RUG tools heading (Marks and Progress registrations) or via: https://progresswww.nl/rug/

Your student number serves as your login name, and the password will be sent to you immediately after registration for a University of Groningen degree programme (see also Chapter 15.7). Answers to most questions can be found via the extensive Help function in ProgRESS-WWW.

The registration period for course units closes on 31 August 2017 (except for the propaedeutic phase) for the first semester and on 19 January 2018 for the second semester of the relevant academic year. The obligation to register for the first semester does not extend to first-year students, as they won't yet have an account at the closing date. The Student Administration Office will organize the registration for this group. Students who wish to register for course units at other faculties should do so within the registration period of the relevant faculty. This period may differ from that of our Faculty, so please check this with the relevant faculty in good time.

4.7 Registration for examinations
Registration for the course units of choice through ProgRESS-WWW leads to automatic registration for the relevant examinations, including any resits if necessary. Students who are unable to take the resit must de-register through ProgRESS-WWW.

4.8 Study results
The results course unit of ProgRESS-WWW generates a personal overview of your study results. This list of results can be organized in different ways by clicking one of the triangles above the information, and the overview can also be printed. Students who have registered for more than one degree programme should note that where different overviews include the same course unit, the ECTS credits for this course unit will be included too, and thus the total number of ECTS credit points from all overviews may be higher than the actual number of ECTS.

4.9 Binding (negative) study advice (BSA) in the Bachelor's phase
The BSA is a system designed to quickly place students in the most suitable degree programme with proper supervision, and retain them. Full-time students must observe the following criterion in academic year 2017-2018:
attain at least 45 of 60 ECTS credit points in propaedeutic course units in the first year. Students who do not attain at least 45 of the 60 ECTS in propaedeutic course units will not be allowed to continue the degree programme. Students who fail to attain at least 45 ECTS from the propaedeutic programme will receive a BSA. This means that they must quit the degree programme and cannot re-register for that degree programme for the next two academic years.
Part-time students will also receive a BSA if they do not attain 20 ECTS credit points in the first academic year.
To support students in meeting these requirements, the Faculty guarantees a feasible timetable, active supervision of students by mentors, lecturers, student assistants and the study advisor, swift correction times for examinations and good accessibility to lecturers and the study advisor.

The Faculty notifies students after each examination period whether they are on the right track for a positive BSA in terms of ECTS attained. Students whose results are worrisome will receive an invitation to an interview with the study advisor to discuss the help and support they need to achieve better results.

Students who have attained 45 or more ECTS credit points after the first study year but have not met all requirements of the propaedeutic phase are provisionally admitted to the second year of the degree programme. They must write a study plan for the second year together with the study advisor, giving precedence to the first-year course units still to be completed. Students who still have room within the 30 ECTS of the relevant semester will be allowed to follow second-year course units, provided they meet the entry requirements for that course unit.

Please visit the University of Groningen website for more specific information about, for instance, the BSA and part-time programmes, the BSA and force majeure situations, the BSA and committee grants or the BSA and elite sport: http://www.rug.nl/education/find-out-more/studying-at-university/the-binding-study-advice. The website also contains more information about the BSA when pursuing two degree programmes and how to appeal against a BSA.

4.10 Study progress supervision in the Bachelor’s phase
Mentors and study advisors play an important part in study progress supervision during the Bachelor’s phase.

Mentor programme
The Faculty uses mentors for the study progress supervision of first-year students. These senior students are selected for their study results and their high visibility and accessibility at the Faculty. They receive special training to prepare them for and support them during their mentorship. Each mentor group is supervised by two mentors. The introduction committee will allocate first-year students to mentor groups during the introduction.

Mentor programme: purpose and content
The Faculty’s introduction and mentor programmes serve six purposes:
- acquainting students with the Faculty and the University
- supervising students at both group and individual levels
- early signalling
- stimulating mutual coaching among students
- presenting a realistic image of:
  - the degree programme
  - study choice
• studying: combining studying in the strict sense of the word, i.e. having study skills, with being a student and participating in student life
• required results, also in relation to the BSA
• options for further study
• opportunities for study and placement abroad
• opportunities on the labour market
- relating current affairs to the field.

In eight meetings, at least four of which are during the first semester, the mentors will introduce their students to the Faculty and Groningen student life and will guide and advise them in study matters. In addition, first-year students will have regular opportunities during the first and second semesters to ask their mentors questions or raise issues that can’t be addressed during the group sessions. All first-year students can seek the personal advice of their mentors during open office hours. Mentors may refer to the study advisor if necessary.

Study advisor
Studying successfully takes time and effort. Students may, at some point, feel doubts about their own abilities, encounter problems planning their studies, or face study delays due to extracurricular issues. In such cases you are advised to contact your study advisor, who can give you information about the degree programme, offer planning support and supervise your study progress, but can also give confidential advice regarding problems of an academic or personal nature. Study advisors can refer students to other aid providers if necessary. Students who face study delays due to demonstrable force majeure can sometimes seek the support of the University of Groningen Graduation Fund, provided they report to the study advisor within four weeks of the occurrence of the force majeure situation.

The study advisor has introductory interviews with all first-year students at the start of the academic year. During these interviews, students can express their expectations of the degree programme and report any special circumstances. Alongside the study advisor, the BSA Committee is involved in monitoring study progress. This Committee reviews and discusses the exam results of first and second-year students after each examination period.

All first-year students receive an invitation to a study progress overview with the study advisor at the end of the first semester. All first-year students receive a written study advice from the Faculty at the end of the second semester of the first year. This advice is based on study progress, more specifically the number of ECTS credits attained, as well as on the information provided to your study advisor during the study progress overview in the first semester.

4.11 Study skills
Recent research has shown that student behaviour in the first three months of their studies is decisive for the rest of their time at university. This makes it very important that students acquire the proper study skills right from the start. For this reason, all first-year Bachelor’s students are taught academic writing and presentation skills.
Master’s students are further trained in research skills in a course unit on research methods specifically aimed at the Master’s specialization they are following.

4.12 ILLNESS AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS
Students who can’t participate in lectures or examinations for a longer or shorter period of time due to illness or other circumstances must inform the study advisor or the Student Administration Office of this as soon as possible. In addition, they must inform the lecturers whose lectures have compulsory attendance about their absence personally.

Students who expect their study delay to exceed four weeks must report this to the study advisor immediately, as they may be eligible for financial support from the Graduation Fund. Students whose study delay exceeds or is going to exceed three months must make an appointment with a student counsellor from the Student Service Centre for a follow-up report. For more information, please refer to Chapter 17 of the University of Groningen Student Charter.

Students with a functional impairment, long-term psychological complaint or dyslexia are eligible for special provisions to follow teaching and take examinations. It is wise to contact the study advisor if there are matters that need to be arranged within the degree programme. Please do so in good time, as some arrangements may take some time to realize. Problems that are not specific to the degree programme, such as financial issues or other matters not pertaining to the degree programme, may be addressed with one of the student counsellors of the Student Service Centre. The address of the Student Service Centre can be found in Chapter 20.

Students who experience or fear early RSI symptoms can obtain an extensive information brochure from the IT Service Desk or the Faculty Occupational Health and Safety coordinator (w.c.van.de.pol@rug.nl). There are also courses and exercises available for download from the internet (http://www.rsi.pagina.nl). The University of Groningen presents a CD-ROM with information on preventing RSI to all students.

4.13 GRADUATION CEREMONIES
Bachelor’s and Master’s degree programmes are concluded with final assessments for the Bachelor’s or Master’s phase respectively. Students receive a Bachelor’s or Master’s degree certificate once all the requirements have been met. This means completing and passing all components. Further information on the application procedure for the Bachelor's or Master’s degree certificate can be found on My University:
http://myuniversity.rug.nl/infonet/studenten/ggw/onderwijszaken/afstuderen

There are two graduation ceremonies per year: on the first Fridays of October and March. The certificate can also be presented at another time if desirable. Students are entitled to use the title ‘Bachelor of Arts (BA)’ or ‘Master of Arts (MA)’ once the result of the relevant final assessment has been confirmed and the relevant certificate has been presented. The abbreviation of the title is placed after your name: A.B. Surname BA or A.B. Surname MA.
4.14 **Predicates**
The following predicates are in place for both the Bachelor’s final assessment and the Master’s final assessment:

a. ‘Cum laude’: the mark for the thesis is at least an 8.0 and the weighted average (not rounded off) of all course units of the examination programme approved by the Board of Examiners, excluding the thesis, is greater than or equal to 8.0.

b. ‘Summa cum laude’: the mark for the thesis is at least a 9.0 and the weighted average (not rounded off) of all course units of the examination programme approved by the Board of Examiners, excluding the thesis, is greater than or equal to 9.0.

Please see Chapter 18 of the Teaching and Examination Regulations of the Bachelor’s degree programmes in Theology and Religious Studies and of the Master's degree programmes in Theology and Religious Studies.

Students who started the Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology before 1 September 2010 remain subject to the predicates that were applicable on 31 August 2010.

4.15 **Information Provision**
The degree programme communicates with its students via several media, including:
- E-mail: the account provided by the University of Groningen to every student
- Letters: to the address known to the University of Groningen through Studielink
- Nestor via the Student Portal: the electronic learning environment: [http://nestor.rug.nl](http://nestor.rug.nl)
- ProgRESS-WWW: the registration system for course units and examinations
- Need to know (Student Portal)

Students must check these media regularly to avoid missing important information. Please use the official University of Groningen e-mail account or forward the incoming messages to a private account. Please log in on Nestor regularly, so that you receive announcements for course units. Also, please keep your postal address up to date and inform the Faculty of any changes. Letters containing the BSA, for instance, are sent by regular mail. Your reachability is your responsibility.


4.16 **Student Portal**
One example of an important IT application for University of Groningen students is the electronic learning environment Nestor, which is used by many lecturers to support their teaching. It is accessible via [http://studentportal.rug.nl](http://studentportal.rug.nl) or [http://nestor.rug.nl](http://nestor.rug.nl). You will then find links to specific course unit pages on the right-hand side of the screen. Registration on these pages takes place based on your registration in ProgressWWW. Nestor enables you to download study material and syllabuses, complete individual and group assignments, have discussions with your fellow students and lecturers, exchange information and much more. You must register for the relevant course units in ProgRESS WWW to gain access to the Nestor sections for these course units. You can log in to Nestor with your University computer account (see Section 15.7 for more information).
4.17 Costs of study material
The overview of study costs per degree programme and study phase below only includes mandatory literature. Ocasys lists the prices of the syllabuses to be used in the course unit descriptions. The actual study costs may be somewhat higher or lower since the cost of a number of publications, such as readers, will not be known until after publication.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education/training</th>
<th>Ceiling amount</th>
<th>BA TH</th>
<th>BA RW</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BA-1 (60 ECTS)</td>
<td>€ 740</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA-2 +</td>
<td>€ 1110</td>
<td>€ 1093</td>
<td>€ 997</td>
</tr>
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<td>BA-3 faculty minor</td>
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<tr>
<td>University minor (15 ECTS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>University minor (30 ECTS)</td>
<td>€ 370</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honours College (45 ECTS)</td>
<td>€ 555</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master (60 EC) incl. pre-master (60 EC)</td>
<td>€ 1480</td>
<td>MA GV</td>
<td>€ 849</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master (60 EC)</td>
<td>€ 740</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master’s Honours programme (15 EC)</td>
<td>€ 185</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The University of Groningen has a policy on study costs. This scheme was introduced to limit study costs, so that students won’t have to spend more than a set amount on course material and study essentials, i.e. the ceiling amount. The ceiling for 2017-2018 has been set at EUR 740 per year of study. The guideline for electives is EUR 12.33 per ECTS. Although the Faculty strives to keep costs below this amount, sometimes they cannot avoid exceeding the ceiling. In relevant cases, half of the amount spent above the ceiling can be reclaimed from the Faculty, or another arrangement will be made. Students who reclaim money from the Faculty must be able to present proof of payment.
Information on the policy regarding study costs can also be obtained from http://www.rug.nl/education/hoezithet/, the study advisor or the University of Groningen Student Service Centre.

4.18 Readers
Students who have registered through ProgRESS-WWW for a course unit that uses a reader are required to actually purchase that reader!

4.19 Complaints and comments
Students may have comments or complaints about the teaching or the content. Please contact the lecturer of the relevant course unit first. Problems with the organization of the degree programme can be discussed with the programme coordinator and the Programme Committee. The Programme Director will address complaints regarding teaching.

Students who think that the rules set out in the Teaching and Examination Regulations have been misapplied can turn to the Board of Examiners. Students can turn to the Central Portal for the Legal Protection of Student Rights if no satisfactory solution is found (see also Chapter 17 of the Student Charter). This body also helps students contest the BSA.

Complaints of a more general nature must be submitted via the complaints form on: http://www.rug.nl/education/laws-regulations-complaints/
In addition, students have a collective right of complaint. This means that they can submit a written complaint to the Faculty Board if the University fails to meet, fully meet or insufficiently meets its obligations, making it impossible for students to follow their studies without interruption. The collective right of complaint can be exercised by students from the same degree programme who together constitute at least 10 percent of all registered students on this degree programme.

5. BACHELOR’S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN THEOLOGY

5.1 PROFILE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GRONINGEN BACHELOR’S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN THEOLOGY
The Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology of the University of Groningen has a clear profile: religion never exists in a vacuum but is part of the relevant culture. The University of Groningen Bachelor’s degree programme thus always studies religion in a broader context and in interaction with the relevant culture. This is noticeable, for instance, in the broad attention for the history of Islam, or course units on heterodox movements in Judaism and Christianity, such as gnosticism and the Qumran community, and on the influence of the Hellenic environment on early Christianity. Teaching and research are thus naturally integrated in the programme. Another characteristic is that learning the languages Greek and Hebrew, which is an integral part of the curriculum, does not stand by itself but is tailored to the Religion and Culture profile. This means that students learn to apply Greek and Hebrew directly to the study of the Bible and its cultural environment.

In addition, the degree programme is characterized by an open and critical approach. Students are challenged to put the tension between science and religion that is present in contemporary culture on the agenda and to think through its consequences for themselves and others.

5.2 TWO PROGRAMMES: INCLUDING AND WITHOUT GREEK
A successfully completed final VWO exam in Greek is not a requirement to be admitted to the Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology. Students who did not take or successfully complete a final VWO exam in Greek will follow a 20 ECTS programme in which Greek has been integrated.

Both in the programme including and that without Greek, students will follow mandatory course units in the first two years of the Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology. Broadening takes place in the third year of the programme without Greek by taking a University Minor of choice. This Minor room can also be used for study abroad or for the Minor in Spiritual Care for those students who wish to prepare for the Faculty Master’s specialization in Spiritual Care. The programme including Greek has a more limited number of subsidiaries. There is no 30 ECTS University Minor as the credit points involved are largely taken up by Greek. There is room, however, to earn 15 ECTS credit points in course units from another Faculty or for choosing the Minor in Spiritual Care. In the second semester of the third year, students of both programmes follow the 30 ECTS Faculty Minor in Text, Tradition and Interpretation. The Bachelor’s thesis is written as part of this Minor.
For students of the new Bachelor’s curriculum following the programme including Greek, subsidiaries are more limited in the second year rather than the third. In the third year, they too have the option to choose a 30 ECTS University Minor, just like the students who follow the programme without Greek.

5.3 University of Groningen Bachelor’s Degree Programme with PThU Specialization

Since 1 September 2011, the Faculty has been cooperating closely with the Groningen branch of the Protestant Theological University (PThU), to optimally facilitate students of Theology who wish to follow the PThU Master’s degree programme in Ministry immediately after completion of their Bachelor’s degree programme. This Bachelor’s programme, nevertheless, will also grant access to the University of Groningen Master’s degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies.

The result of the cooperation is a unique programme which combines the profile of the UG Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology, with its attention to the dynamic interaction between religion and culture, with the philosophical profile of the PThU. The course units included in the PThU specialization within the UG Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology study the Christian religion as critically and academically as the Theology course units from the UG Bachelor in Theology, only from within. In Dogmatics, for example, students not only examine what the Christian tradition has said about the relationship between God and people, but also how this affects us today, and what their own position is. In addition, students learn to see the theological knowledge they acquire as a coherent whole: they follow an integration course unit on a theological question in each year of the programme.

The PThU specialization consists of 45 ECTS credit points for students following the Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology as of 1 September 2016. Students follow a course unit with a student workload of 7.5 ECTS credit points during the first and second years of the Bachelor’s phase and four course units at the PThU in the first semester of the third year. In addition, the Theology: Concepts and Methods course unit in the first block of the first year is organized jointly by lecturers from the Faculty and from the PThU.

Students who started the Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology before 1 September 2016 can follow the PThU specialization within the University of Groningen Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology with and without Greek. The PThU specialization consists of 50 or 60 ECTS credit points, depending on qualifications. It starts in the first year of the Bachelor’s phase and continues to the third year. In the first year of the Bachelor’s phase, students follow two course units with a student workload of 5 ECTS credit points each at the PThU, three in the second year and five in the third year. These PThU course units partially replace course units from the University of Groningen Bachelor’s degree in Theology. They also use the University Minor room. An information meeting will be organized by the student counsellor of the PThU at the beginning of the academic year for students who are considering following the PThU Minor as part of the Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology.
Students following the PThU specialization and thus considering following the degree programme in Ministry in the Dutch Protestant Church (PKN) are advised to annually register in the Prospective Ministers’ Register during the Bachelor’s phase. Registration indicates, entirely without obligation, a potential interest in following the Master Predikantschap (Master’s degree programme in Ministry) after completion of the Bachelor’s degree programme. Students will be automatically notified of the registration procedure at the beginning of the academic year.

5.4 Objectives and learning outcomes of the Bachelor’s degree programme
The objective of the Groningen Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology is training students to become independent, critical, academically formed professionals in Theology who have the knowledge, skills and attitude required to study religion in its historical and current manifestations, including the relevant questions about truth, norms and values. The Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology is part of a long academic tradition, which becomes apparent from the demands that are made of students’ knowledge of the classical languages Hebrew and Greek and the importance attached in teaching to the analysis of classical texts and the cultural diversity they emanate. At the same time, it allows room for the philosophical pluriformity that exists in present-day society.

Students who start the Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology on or after 1 September 2016 will have attained the following learning outcomes on passing the final assessment:

Knowledge and understanding
1. Knowledge and understanding of the theoretical and methodological foundations of Theology and the ability to identify the position that Theology occupies within the social sciences and the humanities
2. Knowledge and understanding of Judaism, Christianity and Islam, including their early history, texts and cultural contexts
3. Knowledge of Greek and Hebrew, so as to be able to read relevant sources
4. Knowledge and understanding of the different disciplines in Theology:
   a. Biblical Studies
   b. Social Sciences (Sociology, Psychology, Anthropology)
   c. Humanities (History, Philosophy, Ethics)
5. Knowledge and understanding of the research methods of the above-mentioned disciplines of Theology:
6. For students who followed the University of Groningen Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology without PThU course units: knowledge and understanding of a discipline or field of choice outside Theology
7. For students who followed the University of Groningen Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology with PThU course units: knowledge and understanding of systematic, biblical and practical theology.

Application of knowledge and understanding
8. Students are: able to clarify the interrelationship between religion and culture from the disciplines listed under 4, using the knowledge and understanding acquired.
9. Able to plan and perform research of limited scale under supervision, using the knowledge and understanding acquired, by:
   a. autonomously collecting material and information in electronic or regular catalogues and electronic or regular databases and assessing their validity, using the knowledge and understanding acquired
   b. formulating problems, using the knowledge and understanding acquired
   c. analysing a problem from different perspectives and using different methods and theoretical concepts, based on the knowledge and understanding acquired
   d. Providing arguments for potential solutions to the problems formulated, using the knowledge and understanding acquired

*Forming judgements*

10. The ability to draw sensible conclusions from one’s own and other people's research
11. The ability to reflect critically on current academic and societal debates about the role of religion in society

*Communication*

12. The ability to present to an audience of specialists and non-specialists a correct, motivated and critical oral report on the state of research in one or more areas of Theology
13. The ability to present to an audience of specialists and non-specialists an ethically responsible, academically correct, motivated and critical written report on the state of research in one or more areas of Theology

*Learning skills*

The ability to act in a social and communicative manner in collaborative situations
14. The ability to give constructive feedback to fellow students and receive feedback from fellow students, using justified criticism to come to a revision of one’s own position or argumentation
15. The ability to constructively handle the instructions and criticism of supervisors and take earlier instructions and criticism into account in new situations
16. The ability to draw up a realistic planning and to adhere to agreed schedules and prioritizations
17. The ability to integrate the knowledge and skills acquired into a profession that is not strictly within the scope of the training
18. The learning skills needed to follow a Master’s degree programme.

Students who started the Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology before 1 September 2016 will have attained the following final learning outcomes after completion of the Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology, regardless of how their Minor room has been filled:
Knowledge

1. A general orientation in the foundations of theology, the relationships between the different subdomains and the place of theology within scholarship as a whole
2. Knowledge and understanding of the following subdomains, including their methods: Biblical Studies, including the source languages, the history of Christianity and its theology, the history of philosophy, philosophy of religion and philosophical theology, ethics, religious studies, the social sciences and the ongoing debates in these areas
3. Broadened and deepened knowledge and understanding of the history and development of the Judeo-Christian tradition, including its interrelation with different cultures, as well as of the early history of Islam and the history of the Quran and Hadith
4. More advanced knowledge and understanding of one or more of the areas of theology listed under 2
5. For students who followed the University of Groningen Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology with 20 ECTS credit points in Greek: elementary knowledge and understanding of a discipline of choice outside Theology
6. For students who followed the University of Groningen Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology without 20 ECTS credit points in Greek: knowledge and understanding of a discipline of choice outside Theology.

Skills

1. The ability to collect, select and organize secondary literature and primary sources and the ability to work with both sources independently
2. The ability to analyse academic texts and report on them in a correct, well-motivated and critical manner
3. Bibliographical search skills using electronic catalogues and databases relevant to the discipline
4. The ability to identify the religious dimensions of social issues and to evaluate these issues from a theological perspective
5. Skills in debating and defending written and oral reports
6. Sufficient active and applicable knowledge and understanding of Theology to gain admission to the 60 ECTS Master’s degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies or the 180 ECTS Master’s degree programme in Ministry at PThU if the PThU specialization was chosen
7. The ability to apply the acquired knowledge and skills in further studies or a social position
8. Additional learning outcome for the PThU specialization: After completion of the University of Groningen Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology including the PThU specialization, students will have the ability to integrate the different subdisciplines of theology into their own theological vision.

Academic attitude

1. Demonstrable ability to form judgments within one’s field, partly based on the weighing up of relevant social, academic and ethical aspects
2. The ability to critically reflect on the philosophical pluriformity in today’s society and on the tension between religion and science that is present in contemporary culture.
Alignment with the labour market
The learning outcomes of the degree programme are in line with the demands of the labour market. Career options include teaching (a grade two teaching qualification) or a faith-based job. Professionally, however, the Bachelor's degree programme in Theology should primarily be regarded as generalist training, which derives its value on the labour market from the academic development and the skills described above.

With a Bachelor's degree certificate in Theology, students can
1. enter one of the following specializations of the University of Groningen Master’s degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies:
   - Religion, Conflict and Globalization
   - Religion and Cultural Heritage
   - Religion and Pluralism, Ancient and Modern
2. gain admission to the Spiritual Care specialization of the University of Groningen Master's degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies with the appropriate Minor
3. gain admission to the University of Groningen Research Master in Theology and Religious Studies (Religion and Culture), provided the relevant selection criteria are met
4. gain admission to the three-year Master's degree programme in Ministry or Spiritual Care with ministerial competence at the Protestant Theological University (PThU)
5. gain admission to other Master's degree programmes, with observance of the current entry requirements of these degree programmes
6. make their academic knowledge relevant in a societal position that requires an academic education at Bachelor's level or where such an education is desirable and where knowledge of Theology is necessary or useful.

5.5 Research in teaching and academic skills
The interaction between teaching and research is addressed in every year of the Bachelor's degree programme and in almost all course units in the curriculum. In part, this is teaching in which students gain knowledge of current and relevant field-specific research, including theory building, in part teaching devoted to discussing or reflecting on research, in part the acquisition of research skills and in part teaching in which students learn to conduct their own research. In a large number of course units students are directly familiarized with their lecturers' research, among which Paul as Communicator: Exegesis of the New Testament; Heterodox Movements in Judaism and Christianity: from Qumran to Nag Hammadi; Islamic Origins: Examining the Sources; and Cultural History of Christianity 3. The research course unit of the third-year deepening Minor, Biblical Figures and Themes in the Old Testament and After, directly links to the present conference theme of the joint research project of the staff involved in this course unit: Themes in Biblical Narratives (TBN). This course unit offers talented students the opportunity to make their own substantive contribution to the next TBN conference theme.

The generic academic skills and the domain-specific skills have been integrated in the Bachelor's degree programme as learning pathways. They are tested through mandatory analytical summaries (KAVVs), research assignments, exegetic assignments and presentations.
5.6 Learning Outcomes for the Third Year (Curriculum Before 1 September 2016)
The aim of the third year of the Bachelor’s degree programme is to further expand and
deepen students’ knowledge, understanding and research skills in the field of theology and
offer them the opportunity to prepare for further studies, partly through the choice of
Minor topics in the third year. The third year also teaches students to apply the knowledge
and skills gained in research and to report on that research. The learning outcomes of the
Bachelor’s degree programme are described in Section 5.4.

Students who have sufficiently completed all course units of the Bachelor’s degree
programme will have met all the requirements of the final assessment.

5.7 Schematic Overview of the Options in the Propaedeutic Phase
Students who did not complete a final VWO examination in Greek must follow the
specialization including Greek. Students who wish to prepare for the three-year Master
Gemeentepredikant (Master’s degree programme in Ministry) in the Dutch Protestant
Church (PKN) or Master Geestelijk Verzorger met ambtsbevoegdheid (Spiritual Care with
ministerial competence) must choose the PThU specialization. The schematic overviews of
the different options can be found below. The left column displays the course units of the
University of Groningen Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology. The course units in the
right column are part of the Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology with PThU
specialization. The PThU course units are displayed in italics.

Year 1 Bachelor’s degree in Theology - full-time, Greek integrated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>sem</th>
<th>Theology-RUG</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>Theology with PThU- specialization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>Hebrew 1</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Hebrew 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>Theology: Concepts and Methods</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Theology: Concepts and Methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td>Hebrew 2</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Hebrew 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td>Hebrew Bible and Ancient Judaism: Texts and cultural context</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Hebrew Bible and Ancient Judaism: Texts and cultural context</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IIa</td>
<td>Old Testament Exegesis</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Old Testament Exegesis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IIa</td>
<td>Psychology and Sociology of Religion</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Practical Theology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IIb</td>
<td>Religion and Philosophy</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Religion and Philosophy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Year 1 Bachelor’s degree in Theology - full-time, (completed VWO exam in Greek)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>sem</th>
<th>Theology-RUG</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>Theology with PThU- specialization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>Hebrew 1</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Hebrew 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>Theology: Concepts and Methods</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Theology: Concepts and Methods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td>Hebrew 2</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Hebrew 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td>Hebrew Bible and Ancient Judaism: Texts and cultural context</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Hebrew Bible and Ancient Judaism: Texts and cultural context</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IIa</td>
<td>Old Testament Exegesis</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Old Testament Exegesis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IIa</td>
<td>Psychology and Sociology of Religion</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Practical Theology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IIb</td>
<td>Religion and Philosophy</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Religion and Philosophy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The first year begins with an introduction weekend on the island of Schiermonnikoog, where you will meet your fellow students, mentors and several lecturers. The introduction period will continue for two more weeks after your return. Lectures will also start during this period. All course units in the first year are mandatory. Two course units are scheduled for each block, which you will complete during the same block by taking different tests per course unit. There is one resit opportunity for each test component in the next block.

Students who have passed all the course units of the first year will have met all the requirements of the propaedeutic phase. They can then start following second-year course units in the Bachelor’s degree programme. Students who earn less than 45 ECTS credit points cannot continue the degree programme. They will be issued a binding (negative) study advice (BSA). The BSA Committee has the authority to diverge from these rules in certain cases and at the request of the person concerned (see http://www.rug.nl/education/find-out-more/studying-at-university/the-binding-study-advice)

Students who have earned at least 45 ECTS credit points from the propaedeutic phase can take examinations in second-year course units, provided that they meet the entry requirements for the relevant course unit. They must, however, write a study plan in consultation with the study advisor.

5.8 New Bachelor's degree programme, continued
The second year of the Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology is structured as follows:

Study programme Bachelor’s degree in Theology - full-time (including Greek)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 2 (new)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sem</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
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<td>Ia</td>
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<td>Ib</td>
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<td>Ia</td>
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<td>Ia</td>
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<tr>
<td>IIb</td>
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<td>IIb</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Study programme Bachelor's degree in Theology - full-time (completed VWO exam in Greek)

Year 2 (new)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>sem</th>
<th>Theology-RUG</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>Theology with PThU- specialization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>Rituals in Theory and Practice</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Rituals in Theory and Practice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>Christianity: Constantine-Reformation</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Christianity: Constantine-Reformation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td>Optional [1 out of 2]:</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Optional [1 out of 2]:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Text Awakens</td>
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<td>The Text Awakens</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Sacred Image</td>
<td></td>
<td>The Sacred Image</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td>Christianity, Reformation-the Present</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Christianity, Reformation-the Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>New Testament Exegesis</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>New Testament Exegesis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>Optional [1 out of 2]:</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Psychology and Sociology of Religion</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Religion, Media and Popular Culture</td>
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<td>Religion and Politics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iib</td>
<td>Islam</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Islam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iib</td>
<td>Ethics and Secularity</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Dogmatics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The structure of the third year of the Bachelor's phase is outlined below. The design of this third year is still subject to change.

5.9 Schematic overview of the programme in the third year

Only students who have completed the propaedeutic phase can follow third-year course units. How much room is left for an University Minor depends on the Bachelor's specialization chosen. During the second semester, students of the University of Groningen Bachelor's degree programme in Theology can follow the Faculty Minor Text, Tradition and Interpretation. Students who have chosen the Bachelor's programme with the PThU specialization follow this 25 ECTS Faculty Minor and another course unit at PThU with a student workload of 5 ECTS credit points. All specialization complete the Faculty Minor, and thus the Bachelor's degree programme, with a Bachelor's thesis.

Study programme Bachelor's degree in Theology (including Greek)

Year 3 (old)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>sem</th>
<th>Theology-RUG</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>Theology with PThU- specialization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Judaism</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Judaism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Islamic Origins: Examining the Sources</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Islamic Origins: Examining the Sources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Optional space for courses at another faculty or internal minor GV</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Theological Ethics</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>On being a Theologian</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Dogmatics 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faculty Minor Text, Tradition and Interpretation</td>
<td>Faculty Minor Text, Tradition and Interpretation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>- Old Testament Exegesis 2 (5)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>- Old Testament Exegesis 2 (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Philosophical Hermeneutics (5)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>- Thematic module Biblical Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Psychology of Religion 2 (5)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>- Practical Theology 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Study programme Bachelor's degree in Theology (completed VWO exam in Greek)

### Year 3 (old)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>sem</th>
<th>Theology - RUG</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>Theology with PThU- specialization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| I   | University-level Minor  
     - Outside the faculty, within the RUG  
     - Intern (Spiritual Care)  
     - Foreign University (Theology)  
     | 30  | University-level Minor (15); (Max. 1 course on B1-level (5 ects), min. 1 course on B3-level)  
     |     | Theological Ethics (5)  
     |     | On being a Theologian (5)  
     |     | Dogmatics 2 (5) |
|     | A. Text, Tradition and Interpretation | 30  | Researchmodule Biblical Figures and Themes in the Old Testament, incl. Bachelorthesis |
| II  | Researchmodule Biblical Figures and Themes in the Old Testament, incl. Bachelorthesis  
     | 10  | Researchmodule Biblical Figures and Themes in the Old Testament, incl. Bachelorthesis |
|     | Old Testament Exegesis 2 (5)  
     | 5   | Old Testament Exegesis 2 (5)  
     | 5   | Thematic module Biblical Studies |
|     | Philosophical Hermeneutics (5)  
     | 5   | - Old Testament Exegesis 2 (5)  
     | 5   | - Thematic module Biblical Studies |
|     | Psychology of Religion 2 (5)  
     | 5   | - Psychology of Religion 2 (5)  
     | 5   | - New Testament Exegesis 2 (5) |

*C=compulsory; O=optional

NB The PThU specialization offers a joint thematic course unit for first, second and third-year students every academic year. The themes are: Biblical Studies, Community, Reformation. In 2017-2018 the theme will be Biblical Studies.

## Study programme Bachelor's degree in Theology - full-time (including Greek)

### Year 3 (new curriculum) subject to

### Text, Tradition and Interpretation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>sem</th>
<th>courseworkname</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>C/O*</th>
<th>PThU- specialization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| I   | University Minor / language (15 EC) + Optional space, incl. possibility Internship (7.5 EC)  
     | 15  | 15  | C    | PThU – Historical Theology  
     |     | --- | 15 of 30 | PThU – Biblical Theology  
     |     | --- | 30 | PThU – Theological Ethics  
     |     | --- | 30 | PThU – Intercultural Theology |
|     | Study abroad (15 EC of 30 EC)  
     |     | --- | 30  |
|     | EducationMinor  
     |     | --- | 30  |
|     | Pre-master Minor  
     |     | --- | 30  |
| II  | Specialization programme (Optional 1 out of 3):  
     | 15  | C    | Specialization programme (Optional 1 out of 3):  
     |     |     | Specialization 1: Jewish, Christian and Islamic Origins  
     |     |     | Specialization 2: Lived Religion  
     |     |     | Specialization 3: The Limits of Being Human |
|     | Specialization 1: Jewish, Christian and Islamic Origins  
     |     |     | Specialization 2: Lived Religion  
     |     |     | Specialization 3: The Limits of Being Human |
| II  | Bachelor Project including  
     Thesis Seminar (5 EC)  
     Thesis (10 EC)  
     | 15  | C    | Bachelor Project including  
     Thesis Seminar (5 EC)  
     Thesis (10 EC) |

*C=compulsory; O=optional
### Study programme Bachelor's degree in Theology (completed VWO exam in Greek)

#### Year 3 (new curriculum) subject to

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>sem</th>
<th>coursename</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>C/O*</th>
<th>PThU- specialization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| I   | University Minor / language (15 EC) + Optional space, incl. possibility Internship (7.5 EC) | 15 | C | PThU – Historical Theology  
|     | Study abroad (15 EC of 30 EC) | 15 |  
|     | Education Minor | 30 |  
|     | Pre-master Minor | 30 |  |
| II  | Specialization programme (Optional 1 out of 3): | 15 | C | Specialization programme (Optional 1 out of 3):  
|     | Specialization 1: Jewish, Christian and Islamic Origins |  
|     | Specialization 2: Lived Religion |  
|     | Specialization 3: The Limits of Being Human |  |
| II  | Bachelor Project including Thesis Seminar (5 EC) | 15 | C | Bachelor Project including Thesis Seminar (5 EC) |
|     | Thesis (10 EC) |  |

*C=compulsory; O=optional

### 5.10 The University Minors

Students who follow the University of Groningen Bachelor's degree programme in Theology without Greek and without PThU specialization may take a 30 ECTS University Minor in their third year. The University Minor is typically followed at another Faculty within the University of Groningen. Students can choose from a fixed range of University Minors, see [http://www.rug.nl/studenten/opleidingen/Minor/](http://www.rug.nl/studenten/opleidingen/Minor/). The University organizes an annual Minors’ market where students can prepare for their choice of University Minor.

Other options are:
- the Faculty Minor in Spiritual Care for students who aim to take the Master's specialization in Spiritual Care next (see Section 5.12).
- a Minor at another university in the Netherlands or abroad, whether or not in preparation for further studies; see [http://myuniversity.rug.nl/infonet/studenten/ggw/studereninhetbuitenland/](http://myuniversity.rug.nl/infonet/studenten/ggw/studereninhetbuitenland/).

**N.B. Students who aim to follow a Minor at another university in the Netherlands or abroad or compose their own Minor package must receive the prior approval of the Board of Examiners.**

Students who follow the programme including Greek or the programme without Greek but with the PThU specialization will have room for half a University Minor, i.e. 15 ECTS credit points, in the first semester of the third year and will be able to follow course units outside the Faculty or choose the Faculty Minor in Spiritual Care (see Section 5.12). Students who
choose the programme including Greek and the PThU specialization will be taking all course units within the available Minor room at the PThU and will have no room left for electives.

5.11 The Faculty Minor
The Faculty Minor of the Bachelor’s degree programme actively involves students in the research that is being conducted in the departments of the Faculty and deepens their knowledge of a certain area of theology, including the corresponding research methods. The Faculty Minor Text, Tradition and Interpretation has an interdisciplinary character. It focuses on the explanation and interpretation of the Old and the New Testaments, as well as the underlying hermeneutic principles. The Bachelor’s thesis to be written as part of this Minor is anchored in the research course unit Biblical Figures and Themes in the Old Testament and After.

5.12 The Faculty Minor in Spiritual Care
Students who wish to prepare for the Master’s specialization in Spiritual Care must follow the 30 ECTS Faculty Minor in Spiritual Care in the third year. This Minor is only offered as a part-time option and is therefore divided across the first and second semesters. In addition, students will follow 15 ECTS in course units at another faculty during the first semester. During the second semester, students can follow the course units from the Minor in Spiritual Care as part of the Faculty Minor Text, Tradition and Interpretation, from which they will also follow the mandatory 10 ECTS research course unit Biblical Figures and Themes in the Old Testament and After, which is linked to the Bachelor’s thesis. In addition, they will follow another 5 ECTS course unit of choice from this Faculty Minor.

Schematically, the third year looks as follows:

**Study Year 3 Bachelor’s degree in Theology with Minor in Spiritual Care**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>sem</th>
<th>Theology- RUG</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>Theology with PThU-minors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>Spiritual Care</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Spiritual Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>Professional Ethics</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Professional Ethics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td>Trauma, Grieving, Purpose and Wellbeing</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Trauma, Grieving, Purpose and Wellbeing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib + Ia</td>
<td>Optional courses outside the Faculty (Max. 1 course of B1-niveau (5 ects), min. 1 course of B3-niveau)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Theological Ethics On being a Theologian Dogmatics 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IIa</td>
<td>Philosophy as the Art of Living</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>Philosophy as the Art of Living</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>Faculty Minor Text, Tradition and Interpretation Biblical Figures and Themes in the Old Testament, incl. Bachelor thesis and an optional module from this minor (5 ects)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Faculty Minor Text, Tradition and Interpretation Biblical Figures and Themes in the Old Testament, incl. Bachelor thesis (10 ects) Thematic module Biblical Studies (5 ects)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

N.B.
The shifting of the course unit Trauma, Grieving, Meaning and Wellbeing from the second to the first semester has made the first semester 7.5 ECTS heavier than it should be for students who are seeking to combine the Minor in Spiritual Care with the PThU specialization.
Students who are following Theology-UG have a total room of 15 ECTS credit points for electives in blocks 1b and 2a.
There will be information meetings in November and March for students considering the Master’s specialization in Spiritual Care. Further information can be obtained from Dr J.K. Muthert, Coordinator of Spiritual Care. Spiritual Care has its own Nestor environment: Agora GV. Students who are following the pre-Master's programme in Spiritual Care and or the Minor in Spiritual Care can register here.

5.13 Schematic overview of the part-time programme
The part-time Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology has the same structure and content as the full-time Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology, but with a formal study duration of six years, i.e. twice as long as the full-time programme. The part-time programme also has a specialization including Greek in the first two years for students who did not graduate from secondary school (VWO) in Greek. These students will use the University Minor room for Greek, as in the full-time programme. It is also possible to follow the course units of the Protestant Theological University, i.e. the PThU specialization, in the part-time specializations including and without Greek.

Since academic year 2011-2012, the Faculty no longer offers separate part-time programmes for all course units of the Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology. Please contact the study advisor at an early stage for good planning and a suitable integration plan.

### Studiejaar 5  BA-TH – deeltijd

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sem</th>
<th>Course name RUG</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>Course name with PThU- specialization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Islamic Origins: Examining the Sources</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Islamic Origins: Examining the Sources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Optional courses outside the Faculty or pre-master Spiritual Care</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Theological Ethics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>Modules from Faculty Minor</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Module from Faculty Minor (5) Practical Theology (5)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Studiejaar 6  BA-TH – deeltijd

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sem</th>
<th>Course name RUG</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>Course name with PThU- specialization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Optional courses outside the Faculty or pre-master Spiritual Care</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>On being a Theologian Dogmatics 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>Modules from Faculty Minor</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Module from Faculty Minor (5) Thematic module Christian Congregations / Reformation / Biblical Studies (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>Modules from Faculty Minor</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Module from Faculty Minor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students seeking to follow the Master’s specialization in Spiritual Care after the Bachelor's degree programme in Theology must take the 30 ECTS preparatory Minor in Spiritual Care instead of an University Minor outside the Faculty. See Section 5.12 for the relevant study programme. See Section 5.11 for an explanation of the Faculty Minors.
Students who started the part-time Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology in September 2010 or earlier must contact the study advisor about their study programme.

See also: http://www.rug.nl/bachelors/theology/

5.14 Opportunities after completion of the degree programme
What can you do after obtaining your Bachelor’s degree certificate? Generally speaking, there are two options:

1. Follow a Master’s degree programme
The primary option once you have gained your Bachelor’s degree is to continue on to a Master’s degree programme. This creates optimal chances on the labour market and allows for further deepening of your academic education through specialization. The Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies offers a one-year regular Master’s degree programme, with choice between four different Master’s specializations. This one-year Master’s programme offers thorough academic training and prepares students for the labour market. A mandatory placement has been included in all specializations to this end. In addition, the Faculty offers a two-year Research Master, which pays attention to the development of the skills required to do independent research.

The Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology grants automatic access to three of the four one-year Faculty Master’s specializations. Additional requirements apply to admission to the Master’s specialization in Spiritual Care. A separate admission procedure has been designed for the Research Master. An overview of the follow-on opportunities and the entry requirements for the various Faculty Master’s degree programme and Master’s specializations can be found in Section 7.

Students who completed the Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology with the PThU specialization can directly enter the three-year Master’s degree programme in Ministry at the PThU, which is also being offered in Groningen. Further information can be found at http://www.pthu.nl/opleidingen/master/Master%20Groningen%20Gemeentepredikant/.

2. Find a job after completion of the Bachelor’s degree programme
The second option is to find a job in the labour market, for which academic training at Bachelor’s level is required or desired and for which knowledge of theology is necessary or useful.

To offer students an early opportunity of becoming acquainted with the follow-on degree programmes and the labour market, twice a year, the Faculty organizes a Master’s information meeting and a job-market day for Bachelor’s and Master’s students. The Faculty invites former students from the Master’s degree programmes in Religious Studies, Theology, Spiritual Care, Theology and Religious Studies as well as from the Research Master to these events, to talk about the choices that they have made, their careers and their professions.
Further study and career-related advice and workshops can also be obtained from CareerServices, which is located in the University Library. See also http://www.rug.nl/careerservices/.

6. BACHELOR’S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES

6.1 PROFILE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GRONINGEN BACHELOR’S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES

The guiding principle for the design and structure of the University of Groningen Bachelor’s degree programme in Religious Studies has been the fact that the cultural situation in Europe is increasingly characterized by philosophical and religious pluriformity and weakening ties to traditional religious institutions. At the same time, religion is culturally, socially and politically a factor of such importance worldwide that academic training leading to expertise in this field is indispensable. Academically trained religious scholars are ideally suited to interpret the meaning and role of religion in modern society.

The content of the degree programme focuses on the major world religions: Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. The degree programme is characterized by the fact that it links cultural historical, philosophical and social-scientific approaches. Its focus is on social-scientific approaches through qualitative, and to a lesser extent also quantitative, research methods and techniques.

6.2 OBJECTIVES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE BACHELOR’S DEGREE PROGRAMME

The objective of the Groningen Bachelor’s degree programme in Religious Sciences is to train students to become autonomous, critical, academically educated professionals in religious studies with the knowledge, skills and attitude required to study religion and ideology in a historical and modern context at an academic level. In addition to a broad orientation, the degree programme also aims to acquaint students with a number of specific, mostly current, religious themes, which they have to be able to analyse and evaluate in a methodically sound manner. In this context, students acquire a critical and self-critical attitude that enables them to not only formulate a nuanced analysis of the complex issues facing a multicultural society, but to also develop a critical perspective on these issues that takes into account the diverse cultural beliefs, practices and values at stake.

Students who started the Bachelor’s degree programme in Religious Studies on or after 1 September 2016 will have attained the following learning outcomes after gaining their Bachelor’s degree certificate:

Knowledge and understanding
1. Knowledge and understanding of the theoretical and methodological foundations of Theology and the ability to identify the position that Theology occupies within the social sciences and the humanities
2. Knowledge and understanding of Judaism and Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism, including their history, sources and interrelations with various cultures
3. Knowledge and understanding of the different disciplines in Religious Studies:
a. Anthropology, Sociology and Psychology within the social sciences
b. History, Philosophy and Ethics within the humanities
4. knowledge and understanding of the research methods used in the Religious Studies fields listed under 3
5. knowledge and understanding of a discipline or field outside Religious Studies.

Application of knowledge and understanding
1. the ability to clarify the interrelationship between religion and culture in the fields listed under 3 above, using the knowledge and understanding acquired
2. the ability to plan and perform research of limited scale under supervision, using the knowledge and understanding acquired, by:
   a. autonomously collecting materials and information in electronic or regular catalogues and electronic or regular databases and assessing their validity, using the knowledge and understanding acquired
   b. formulating problems, using the knowledge and understandings acquired
   c. analysing a problem from different perspectives and using different methods and theoretical concepts, based on the knowledge and understandings acquired
   d. Providing arguments for potential solutions to the problems formulated, using the knowledge and understandings acquired

Judgement
1. the ability to draw sound conclusions from one's own and other people's research
2. the ability to reflect critically on current academic and societal debates about the role of religion in society

Communication
1. the ability to present to an audience of specialists and non-specialists a correct, motivated and critical oral report on the state of research in one or more areas of Religious Studies
2. the ability to present to an audience of specialists and non-specialists an ethically responsible, academically correct, motivated and critical written report on the state of research in one or more areas of Religious Studies

Learning Skills
1. the ability to act in a social and communicative manner in collaborative situations
2. the ability to give constructive feedback to fellow students and receive feedback from fellow students, using justified criticism to come to a revision of one's own position or argumentation
3. the ability to constructively handle instructions and criticism of supervisors and take earlier instructions and criticism into account in new situations
4. the ability to make a realistic planning and to adhere to agreed schedules and priorities
5. the ability to integrate the knowledge and skills acquired into a profession that is not strictly within the scope of the training
6. the learning skills needed to continue on to a Master's degree programme
Students who started the Bachelor's degree programme in Religious Studies before 1 September 2016 will have attained the following learning outcomes after gaining their Bachelor's degree certificate, regardless of how their Minor room has been filled:

Knowledge
1. a general orientation on the foundations of theology, the relationships between the different subdomains and the place of theology in academia as a whole
2. broadened and deepened knowledge and understanding of different religious traditions, including their history and interrelation with various cultures
3. knowledge and understanding of the social sciences, literary science, historical science and philosophy and the topical debates in these areas
4. understanding of the historical, literary, philosophical and social scientific approaches within the domain of Religious Studies
5. a broadened and deepened understanding of the coherence of the various subfields
6. knowledge and understanding of a discipline of choice outside Religious Studies

Skills
1. the skill to apply qualitative and quantitative research methods
2. the skill to analyse a problem from different perspectives and using different methods and theoretical concepts and to communicate this
3. the skill to produce a correct, motivated and critical oral or written report of the state of affairs regarding topics within one or more subfields of Religious Studies and of drawing sound conclusions from these findings
4. bibliographical search skills relevant to the discipline using electronic catalogues and databases
5. the ability to apply the knowledge acquired in a context which is typical of Religious Studies
6. the flexibility to integrate the knowledge and skills acquired into a profession that is not strictly within the scope of the training
7. sufficient active and applicable knowledge and understanding of Religious Studies to gain admission to the 60 ECTS Master's degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies
8. the ability to independently orientate him or herself to relevant professional sectors

Attitude
a. demonstrable ability to form judgements within the field, partly based on the weighing of relevant social, academic and ethical aspects
b. respect for the opinions and beliefs of others
c. the ability to critically reflect on philosophical pluralism in society

Alignment with the labour market
The learning outcomes of the degree programme are in line with the demands of the labour market. One potential career path is teaching, with a grade two teaching qualification. Professionally, however, the Bachelor’s degree programme in Religious Studies should primarily be regarded as generalist training, which derives its value on the labour market from the academic development and the skills described above.
With a Bachelor's degree certificate in Religious Studies, students can

a. Follow one of the following specializations of the University of Groningen Master’s degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies:
   - Religion and Cultural Heritage
   - Religion and Pluralism, Ancient and Modern
   - Religion, Conflict and Globalization

b. gain admission to the Spiritual Care specialization of the University of Groningen Master’s degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies with the appropriate Minor

c. gain admission to the University of Groningen Research Master in Theology and Religious Studies (Religion and Culture), provided the relevant selection criteria are met

d. gain admission to other Master’s degree programmes, with observance of the current entry requirements of these degree programmes

e. make their academic knowledge relevant in a societal position that requires or prefers academic education at Bachelor’s level and where knowledge of Religious Studies is necessary or useful.

6.3 SKILLS
The generic academic skills and the domain-specific skills have been integrated into the various course units of the Bachelor’s degree programme as learning pathways. They are tested through mandatory analytical summaries (KAVVs), research assignments, assignments and presentations.

6.4 LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THE THIRD YEAR (CURRICULUM BEFORE 1 SEPTEMBER 2016)
The aim of the third year of the Bachelor’s degree programme is to further expand and deepen students’ knowledge, understanding and research skills in the field of Religious Studies and offer them the opportunity to prepare for any follow-on programmes, partly through the choice of Minor course units in the third year. The third year also teaches students to apply the knowledge and skills gained in research and to report on that research. The learning outcomes of the Bachelor’s degree programme are described in Section 6.2.

Students who have passed all the course units of the Bachelor’s degree programme will have met all the requirements of the final assessment.
6.5 Schematic overview of the propaedeutic phase of the programme

Study Year 1 Bachelor's degree in Religious Studies - full-time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sem</th>
<th>Course name</th>
<th>Course unit code</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>C/O*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>THB1-JHSP</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>Judaism: History, Sources and Praxis</td>
<td>THB1-CM1</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td>Hinduism and Buddhism: History, Sources and Praxis</td>
<td>THB12-HB</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td>Anthropology and Sociology of Religion</td>
<td>THB1-ASR</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iia</td>
<td>Christianity: History, Sources and Praxis</td>
<td>THB1-CHSP</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iia</td>
<td>Psychology of Religion</td>
<td>THB1-PSYR</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iib</td>
<td>Islam: History, Sources and Praxis</td>
<td>THB12-IHSP</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iib</td>
<td>Religion and Philosophy</td>
<td>THB1-PHILR</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*C=compulsory; O=optional

The first year begins with an introduction weekend on the island of Schiermonnikoog, where you will meet your fellow students, mentors and several lecturers. The introduction period will continue for two more weeks after that. Lectures will also start during this period. All course units in the first year are mandatory. Two course units are scheduled for each block, which you will complete during the same block by taking different tests per course unit. There is one resit opportunity for each test component in the next block.

Students who have passed all the course units of the first year will have met all the requirements of the propaedeutic phase. They can then start following second-year course units in the Bachelor’s degree programme. Students who have attained fewer than 45 ECTS credit points cannot continue with the degree programme. They will be issued a binding (negative) study advice (BSA). The BSA Committee has the authority to diverge from these rules in certain cases and at the request of the person concerned (see http://www.rug.nl/education/find-out-more/studying-at-university/the-binding-study-advice.

Students who have attained a minimum of 45 ECTS credit points during the propaedeutic phase may take examinations for second-year course units, provided that they meet any entry requirements for the relevant course units. They must, however, write a study plan in consultation with the study advisor.

6.6 Bachelor’s degree programme, continued

The following study programme for the second year is in place for students who started the Bachelor’s degree programme in Religious Studies on 1 September 2016:
Study Year 2 Bachelor's degree in Religious Studies - full-time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sem</th>
<th>Course code</th>
<th>Course unit code</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>C/O*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>Concepts and Methods 2: Researching Religion</td>
<td>THB2-CM2</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>Rituals in Theory and Practice</td>
<td>THB2-RTP</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td>The Tekst Awakens: Reading and Using Religious Texts</td>
<td>THB2-TAW</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td>The Sacred Image</td>
<td>THB2-RVA</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ila</td>
<td>Religion and Politics</td>
<td>THB2-RP</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ila</td>
<td>Religion, Media and Popular Culture</td>
<td>THB2-RMPC</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iib</td>
<td>Religion, Diversity and Identity</td>
<td>THB2-RDI</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iib</td>
<td>Ethics and Secularity</td>
<td>THB2-PRES</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*C=compulsory; O=optional

The structure of the third year of the Bachelor's phase is outlined below. The design of this third year is still subject to change.

Study Year 3 Bachelor's degree in Religious Studies - full-time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sem</th>
<th>Course code</th>
<th>Course unit code</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>C/O*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>University Minor</td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>C/O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td>Faculty courses</td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Possibly:</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Study abroad</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Education Minor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pre-Master Spiritual Care</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Internship</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ila</td>
<td>Specialisatie (Optional 1 out of 2):</td>
<td>THB3-S2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>C/O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lived Religion</td>
<td>THB3-RSI</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iib</td>
<td>Bachelorthesproject: Concepts and Methods 3</td>
<td>THB3-CM3</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*C=compulsory; O=optional

6.7 Schematic overview of the third year [Old style]

Only students who have a propaedeutic certificate or have completed the propaedeutic phase can follow third-year course units. During the first semester of the third year, students choose a University Minor, i.e. a coherent package of 30 ECTS credit points, outside the Faculty, in addition to the 15 ECTS in Faculty course units offered in the second block of the first semester, and follow the mandatory course units in the second block of the first semester (15 ECTS). Students who did not follow the course unit Academic Skills: Between Will and Fate in the first year must at least follow Academic Skills: Thesis Preparation (5 ECTS). Please contact the study advisor about any extra course units you are taking. Students choose a 30 ECTS Faculty Minor from the options offered by their own degree programme in the second semester. The Faculty Minor, and thus the Bachelor’s degree programme, is completed with a Bachelor’s thesis.
Study Year 3 Bachelor's degree in Religious Studies - full-time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Course name</th>
<th>Course unit code</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>C/O*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I.1</td>
<td>University Minor&lt;br&gt;Outside the Faculty, within the RUG&lt;br&gt;Intern (Spiritual Care)&lt;br&gt;Foreign University (Religious Studies)&lt;br&gt;Faculty Courses</td>
<td>THB3-LRAA</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>Faculty Minor (optional 1 out of 3)&lt;br&gt;Religion, Society and Identity&lt;br&gt;Religion, Ritual and Mythology&lt;br&gt;Religion, Text and Culture&lt;br&gt;Bachelorthesis incl. thesiseminar</td>
<td>THB3BSE10</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*C=compulsory; O=optional

6.8 THE UNIVERSITY MINORS
The University Minor is typically followed at another Faculty within the University of Groningen. Students can choose from a fixed range of University Minors, see http://www.rug.nl/studenten/opleidingen/Minor/. The University organizes an annual Minors’ market where students can prepare for their choice of University Minor.

Other options include:
- the Faculty Minor in Spiritual Care for students who aim to pursue the Master's specialization in Spiritual Care next (see Section 6.10).
- a Minor or Minor package at another university in the Netherlands or abroad, whether or not in preparation for a follow-on degree programme; see http://myuniversity.rug.nl/infonet/studenten/ggw/studereninhetbuitenland/.

N.B. Students who aim to follow a Minor at another university in the Netherlands or abroad or compose their own Minor package must receive prior approval from the Board of Examiners.

6.9 THE FACULTY MINOR
The Faculty Minor for the Bachelor's degree programme actively involves students in the research that is being done at the departments of the Faculty and deepens their knowledge of a certain area of Religious Studies, including the corresponding research methods or relevant language skills. Students can choose one of the following Minors: Religion, Society and Identity, Religion, Ritual and Mythology and Religion, Text and Culture.
## Study Year 3 Bachelor’s degree in Religious Studies – full-time, Faculty Minors

### Year 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sem</th>
<th>Coursename</th>
<th>Course unit code</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>C/O*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>A Religion, Society and Identity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Religion and Politics 2</td>
<td>THB3RP2E5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Religion, identity and the public sphere</td>
<td>THB3TBGARI</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Optional (1 out of 2):</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ancient Mythology in Modern Intellectual History</td>
<td>THBGBAME5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Asian Philosophical Traditions</td>
<td>F1133PB</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bachelorthesis, incl. thesis seminar</td>
<td>THB3BSE10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>B Religion, Ritual and Mythology</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ritual Practices</td>
<td>THB3GBRP10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ancient Mythology in Modern Intellectual History</td>
<td>THBGBAME5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Religion, Media and Popular Culture</td>
<td>THB2-RMPC</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bachelorthesis, incl. thesis seminar</td>
<td>THB3BSE10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>C Religion, Text and Culture</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>History of Muslim-Christian Relations</td>
<td>THB3HMC10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bachelorthesis, incl. thesis seminar</td>
<td>THB3BSE10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*C=compulsory; O=optional

The Faculty Minor in Religion, Society and Identity will delve deeper into the function of religion in modern society. Religion plays an important role when it comes to the formation of individual and collective identities. Students write their Bachelor’s thesis (10 ECTS credit points). They follow two additional 15 ECTS course units: Religion and Politics and Religion and Identity in Public Space. In addition, they choose a 5 ECTS course unit from Ancient Mythology or Asian Philosophical Traditions.

The Faculty Minor in Religion, Ritual and Mythology further deepens a number of important key notions and theoretical concepts from Religious Studies and the History of Religion. Key themes include religion, magic, sorcery, witchcraft, wicca, gender, ritual, mythology and the dynamics between popular belief and elite religion. The Minor takes an interdisciplinary and diachronic approach. This means that various research perspectives, for instance historical anthropology, history of mentality and gender studies; social anthropology and the psychology of religion; Religious Studies and Cultural Studies; are combined, sometimes even within one course unit, and that certain themes are investigated over a long period of time: from antiquity or the early modern period to modern times. Students must write their 10 ECTS Bachelor’s thesis on a subject that relates to the theme of this Faculty Minor. They also follow three mandatory course units: Ritual Practices (10 ECTS), Ancient Mythology (5 ECTS) and Religion, Media and Popular Culture (5 ECTS).

Students can specialize in a religion and the relevant source language within the Faculty Minor Religion, Text and Culture.

In 2017-2018 this is only possible for Islam and Arabic. To enter this Minor students must have attained at least 10 ECTS credit points in the language related to the religion in which they seek to specialize, prior to the start of the Minor. This also has a practical reason:
Arabic I is only offered during the first semester. Students must follow the course unit on the History of Muslim-Christian Relations (10 ECTS) and must write their Bachelor’s thesis as part of this course unit. Students who followed the language option in the first half of the third year must ensure that they reserve a sufficient number ECTS for the 10 ECTS University Minor.

6.10 The Faculty Minor in Spiritual Care

Students who wish to prepare for the Master’s specialization in Spiritual Care must follow the 30 ECTS Faculty Minor in Spiritual Care in the third year. This Minor is only offered part-time and is therefore divided across the first and second semesters. In addition, students must follow the Academic Skills course unit in the first semester: Thesis Preparation (5 ECTS). Students who have completed the 5 ECTS course unit Academic Skills: Between Will and Destiny have 5 ECTS credit points left for electives. In addition, students must choose from two options: either they must follow two third-year course units totalling 10 ECTS at another faculty or follow the 5 ECTS course unit Law and Religion: Anthropological Approaches and the 5 ECTS course unit Religion, Space and Place at their own Faculty. In addition to the course units from the Minor in Spiritual Care, students must write a 10 ECTS final assignment or Bachelor’s thesis in the second semester and take the following course units: Ancient Mythology (5 ECTS) and Ritual Practices (7.5 ECTS).

Schematically, the third year looks as follows:

Study Year 3 Bachelor’s degree in Religious Studies with the Minor in Spiritual Care

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Course name</th>
<th>Course unit code</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>C/O*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>Spiritual Care</td>
<td>THB3-GV</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>la</td>
<td>Professional Ethics</td>
<td>THB3-GVPE</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td>Trauma, Grieving, Purpose and Wellbeing</td>
<td>THB3-GVTR</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td>Optional (1 out of 2)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Law and Religion: Anthropological Approaches</td>
<td>THB3-LRAA</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Religion, Space and Place</td>
<td>THB2-RSP</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ila</td>
<td>Philosophy as the Art of Living</td>
<td>THB3-GVFL</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>Bachelor thesis incl. thesis seminar</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Faculty Minor space:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Courses of the deepening Minor Religion, Ritual and Mythology:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ancient Mythology in Modern Intellectual History</td>
<td>THBGBAME5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Ritual Practices</td>
<td>THBGBRP5</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*C= compulsory; O= optional

There will be an information meeting in April for students considering the Master’s specialization in Spiritual Care. Further information can be attained from dr. J.K. Muthert, Coordinator of Spiritual Care (MA.GeestelijkeVerzorging@rug.nl). Spiritual Care has its own Nestor Space: Agora GV. Students who are following the pre-Master’s programme in Spiritual Care and/or the Minor in Spiritual Care can be registered here.
6.11 **Opportunities after graduation**

What can you do after gaining a Bachelor’s degree certificate? Generally speaking, there are two options:

1. **A Master’s degree programme after the Bachelor’s degree programme**
   The first option once you have gained your Bachelor’s degree is to continue on to a Master’s degree programme. This optimizes your chances on the labour market and allows for further deepening of your academic education through specialization. The Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies offers a one-year regular Master’s degree programme, with a choice between four different Master’s specializations. This one-year Master’s programme offers thorough academic training and prepares students for the labour market. A mandatory placement is included in all specializations to this end. In addition, the Faculty offers a two-year Research Master, which pays attention to the development of the skills required to do independent research. It is also possible to follow a two-year Master of Arts in Religious Studies Teaching. Broadly speaking, this means following one of the Master’s specializations in the first year and a teacher training component, with course units on Theory of Education, Teaching Methodology and placements at secondary schools, in the second year.

   The Bachelor’s degree programme in Religious Studies grants automatic access to three of the four one-year Master’s specializations. Additional requirements are in place for admission to the Master’s specialization in Spiritual Care. A separate admission procedure is in place for the Research Master. An overview of the follow-on opportunities and the entry requirements of the various Faculty Master’s degree programmes and Master’s specializations can be found in Chapter 7.

2. **A job after completion of the Bachelor’s degree programme**
   The second option is to find a job in the labour market, for which academic training at Bachelor’s level is required or desired and for which knowledge of Religious Studies is necessary or useful.

   To offer students an early opportunity to become acquainted with the follow-on degree programmes, including placements, and the labour market, twice a year the Faculty organizes a Master’s information meeting and a labour-market day for all Bachelor’s students. The Faculty invites former students from the Master’s degree programmes in Religious Studies, Theology, Spiritual Counselling, Theology and Religious Studies as well as from the Research Master to these events to talk about the choices that they have made, their careers and their professions.

   Further study and career-related advice and workshops can also be attained from Career Services, which is located in the University Library. See also [http://www.rug.nl/careerservices/](http://www.rug.nl/careerservices/).
7. THE MASTER’S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

7.1 THE ONE-YEAR MASTER’S SPECIALIZATIONS
The Faculty has offered a one-year Master’s degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies with a student workload of 60 ECTS since September 2012. This broad Master’s label comprises the following four interdisciplinary thematic specializations, which are closely interlinked with the research of the departments that offer the relevant specialization:
- Religion and Pluralism, Ancient and Modern
- Religion, Conflict and Globalization
- Religion and Cultural Heritage
- Spiritual Care

The first three specializations are offered in English. They include 30 ECTS in course units, a 10 ECTS placement and a 20 ECTS thesis. Formal intake moments for these specializations are 1 September and 1 February. In practice, however, starting in February is not desirable given the structure of the programmes.

Spiritual Care is a Dutch-taught specialization that is offered in both full-time and part-time variants. It builds on the pre-Master’s programme in Spiritual Care and comprises four course units of 5 ECTS each, a 20 ECTS placement and a 20 ECTS thesis. Part-time students may start either in September or February; full-time students may only start in September.

Further information on the objectives, learning outcomes and structure of this specialization can be found in Section 7.5.

7.2 THE TWO-YEAR RESEARCH MASTER
Under the broad label ‘Theology and Religious Studies (Research)’, the Faculty offers one 120 ECTS specialization: Religion and Culture. This Master’s specialization focuses on research, thus providing sound preparation for a PhD programme. The specialization offers a lot of space for personal preferences alongside the compulsory course units.

Further information on objectives, learning outcomes and the structure of these specializations can be found in the Student Handbook of the Master’s degree programmes. The programme of the Research Master will also be extensively discussed during the Master Your Talent information meetings organized by the Faculty in spring and autumn.

7.3 MASTER OF ARTS IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES TEACHING
As of September 2017, the Faculty offers the opportunity to follow a two-year Master of Arts in Religious Studies Teaching focussing on preparing students to become teachers of Religious Studies in secondary school. It combines a substantive programme in Theology and Religious Studies, i.e. one of the specializations of the one-year Master’s programme, with a teacher training programme.
7.4 Admission to the Master’s Phase
Starting any Master’s specialization requires meeting all the requirements for the Bachelor’s degree certificate first.

One-year Master’s specializations
A Bachelor’s degree certificate in Theology or Religious Studies grants immediate admission to the following Master’s specializations:
- Religion and Pluralism, Ancient and Modern
- Religion, Conflict and Globalization
- Religion and Cultural Heritage

Students who apply for any of these specializations must submit a letter of motivation including a curriculum vitae, a summary of their results from the Bachelor’s degree programme and a sample of an academic paper they have written. Further information about the admissions procedure and application deadlines can be found on the Faculty website: http://www.rug.nl/masters/faculty-of-theology-and-religious-studies

Master’s specialization in Spiritual Care
Admission to the Master’s specialization in Spiritual Care based on a Bachelor’s degree certificate in Theology or Religious Studies requires successful completion of the preparatory Minor in Spiritual Care from the Bachelor’s degree programme. Further relevant information can be found in Sections 5.12 and 6.10. Further information about the admissions procedure and application deadlines can be found on the Faculty website: http://www.rug.nl/masters/spiritual-care/

Research Master in Theology and Religious Studies (Religion and Culture)
The two-year Research Master is a selective Master’s programme with a separate admissions procedure. More information about this admissions procedure and application deadlines can be found on the Faculty website: http://www.rug.nl/masters/theology-religious-studies-research/en op http://www.rug.nl/research/gradschool-theology-and-religious-studies/master/admissions/requirements-application

Master of Arts in Religious Studies Teaching
A Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology or Religious Studies ensures no-threshold access to this Master’s degree programme. Students with a Bachelor’s degree certificate in Arts including History, Philosophy and Social Sciences are admissible after completing a 30 ECTS pre-Master in course units on religion and philosophy. More information about this admissions procedure and application deadlines can be found on the Faculty website: http://www.rug.nl/ggw/education/master/opleiding-leraar-voortgezet-onderwijs-godsdienst-levensbeschouwing

Please contact the study advisors for further information about admission to the various Master’s specializations (studieadviseur.ggw@rug.nl).
7.5 Objectives and Learning Outcomes of the Master’s Degree Programme in Theology and Religious Studies (60 ECTS)

Objectives
The Master’s degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies aims to study religion as a cultural phenomenon as well as the interaction between religion and other cultural factors, both in the present and the past. On the one hand, the form that religion takes often emanates from the cultural context in which it is grounded, on the other hand, it can also assume a critical distance towards that cultural context. Against this background, the different Master’s specializations have their own clear focus, sometimes more on the past, sometimes on the present situation. All specializations deal with the renewed visibility of religion in modern society.

The degree programme is characterized by an open and critical approach. Students are challenged to put the tension between scholarship and religion that is present in contemporary culture on the agenda and to think through its consequences for themselves and others.

The Master’s degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies aims to enable students to acquire the knowledge, understanding, skills and attitudes that they need in order to achieve the following after obtaining their Master’s degree certificate:

a. supervised academic research in the field of Theology and Religious Studies and completing this research with a PhD degree in due time.

b. making their academic knowledge relevant in a societal position that requires an academic education or where such an education is preferred and where knowledge of Theology and Religious Studies is necessary or useful.

The degree programme constitutes an academic basis for positions in the following professional segments or fields:

- Policymaking, i.e. positions in government institutions, companies, media, cultural institutions, educational institutions, social organizations, NGOs and diplomacy.
- Culture, education and communication, i.e. educational positions in museums, journalism, publishing companies, the travel industry, education.
- Spiritual care, for example in a care institution or as an independent spiritual carer.
- Academic research in the field of Theology and Religious Studies and related fields.

Learning Outcomes of the Master’s Degree Programme
After completion of the Master’s degree programme, graduates will have the following competences in terms of knowledge, skills and attitude:

Knowledge and Understanding
1. comprehensive knowledge of the main academic debates, theoretical perspectives and appropriate methodologies in one subfield (specialization) of Theology and Religious Studies (all taught course units);
2. to display thorough knowledge of scientific debates, theoretical perspectives and methodologies with regard to at least one theme in a subfield (track) of Theology and Religious Studies (electives; thesis);
Applying knowledge and understanding
3. to design and conduct independent research on one subfield (track) of Theology and Religious Studies (module of Research Methods; thesis);
4. to collect, analyse and critically assess relevant literature on a subject in one subfield (track) of Theology and Religious Studies (thesis);
5. to demonstrate acquaintance with research methods applied in one subfield (track) and the ability to apply them in research (module on Research Methods; thesis);
6. to apply knowledge and understanding into specific products which are relevant in professional contexts (some taught courses);

Making judgements
7. to consider historical, methodological, social and ethical interests within one subfield (track) of Theology and Religious Studies when it comes to the academic assessment and analysis of complex issues (all taught modules; thesis);
8. to determine and defend their own position within scientific debates in one subfield (track) of Theology and Religious Studies (all taught modules; thesis);
9. to make well-considered choices with regard to their prospective career (preparation trajectory internship; internship);

Communication
10. to communicate on the state of affairs regarding a subject in one subfield (track) of Theology and Religious Studies, orally and in writing, in a scholarly and well-argued way (all taught modules);
11. to report on self-conducted research in a way that satisfies the recognized standards in the field (thesis);
12. to communicate their conclusions, and the knowledge and rationale underpinning these, to specialist and non-specialist audiences clearly and unambiguously (all course units);
13. to communicate in a cultural sensitive way, reflecting awareness of different cultural backgrounds and contexts (all course units except the thesis);

Learning skills
14. to display academic and professional skills, in particular with regard to working, both individually and in teams; to the evaluation and improvement of their work, partly based on feedback of others; and to planning and realizing agreed schedules (all course units);
15. to integrate acquired knowledge and skills with regard to relevant jobs or work area (internship).

7.6 INTERRELATION BETWEEN TEACHING AND RESEARCH
The different Master’s specializations are closely related to the research that is being conducted by the various departments in the Faculty. The programme Religion and Pluralism, Ancient and Modern benefits directly from the research carried out within the Jewish, Christian and Islamic Origins department. Both teaching and research focus on the formative stages of Judaism, Christianity and Islam, and more specifically on their dynamic interrelationship in the context of ancient Near Eastern, Graeco-Roman and Late Antique
The programme also benefits from the research carried out at the Qumran Institute.

The MA track Religion, Conflict and Globalization benefits directly from the department of Comparative Study of Religion. In this department, religion is addressed in all its forms and appearances. Combining historical, cultural and socio-scientific perspectives on religion as a human phenomenon, the research and teaching in this department provide a unique contribution to a solid analysis of the dynamics of globalization and religion in its societal context.

The track Religion and the Public Domain benefits directly from the department of Christianity and the History of Ideas. Both teaching and research focus on concepts, ideas, practices and mentalities that are fundamental to an analysis of the public role of religion in our Western society. The department has particular strengths in the history of ancient and modern philosophy, and in the cultural history of Christianity from the medieval period right through to our age. This track also benefits from affiliation with two highly respected research centres – Centre for Religion and Heritage and the Centre for Religion, Conflict and the Public Domain.

The Master’s specialization in Spiritual Care is linked to the teaching and research of the Department of Psychology of Religion and Spiritual Care.

7.7 PLACEMENTS
A placement with a student workload of 10 ECTS credit points is a part of the English-taught Master’s specializations of the one-year Master’s degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies. This practical experience gives students an impression of their options on the labour market and the opportunity to find the type of job or organization that suits them. Placements also allow companies to become familiar with students of the degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies and thus with the specific combination of knowledge and skills that they have acquired. In addition, a placement helps students build a network within the field and paves the way for a job that suits their training. For this reason, it is Faculty policy for students to find their own placements. Note that this takes a lot of time. It is therefore important to attend the placement information meeting right at the beginning of the academic year. Experience has shown that over 40% of interns are offered a job after their placement.

Placements are also important for the Faculty. They are an opportunity to test the degree programmes using the practices that students encounter and may have to deal with after graduation. Placements can also help the Faculty show the relevance of the degree programmes. For these reasons, the Faculty aims to properly organize and evaluate placements. Placements are supervised by a practical supervisor at the placement host on the one hand and a lecturer from the degree programme on the other. Responsibility for the formal organization, i.e. information, registration and evaluation, lies with the Mobility Office of the Faculty of Arts. [http://www.rug.nl/let/organization/diensten-en-voorzieningen/mobility-office/](http://www.rug.nl/let/organization/diensten-en-voorzieningen/mobility-office/)
The Spiritual Care specialization includes a placement with a student workload of 20 ECTS credit points. Agreements are in place with various placement hosts and the formal organization is the responsibility of the Department of Psychology of Religion and Spiritual Care.

7.8 Thesis Seminar
Thesis Seminars are organized for students who intend to start writing their Master’s thesis. While each Master’s specialization may have its own working method, the general procedure is as follows: The thesis seminar participants convene every two to three weeks starting in the middle of the second semester.

During the seminar meetings, students will discuss and practise specific aspects of the writing, planning and researching process involved in producing a thesis at Master’s level. Through peer-review, each student will benefit from regular feedback. Part of the requirements is that students must hand in a plan for their thesis and a first draft on pre-arranged dates. Participation in the Thesis Seminar is compulsory for all students who intend to write a Master’s thesis.

7.9 Thesis Regulations

Length of the thesis
The Master’s degree programme is concluded with a thesis. This thesis must focus on your specialization and you must gain a mark of at least 6.0 (not rounded off) for it. There are 20 ECTS credit points available for thesis work. Students cannot offset any thesis work in excess of 20 ECTS credit points against other course units of the 60 ECTS Master’s specialization. The thesis must be between 18,000 and 20,000 words in length (12-point font, line spacing: 1.5, left margin: 4.5 cm and right margin: 2.5 cm), excluding any annexes, i.e. sections that are typically not part of the thesis file.

Forum Scriptorium (for Spiritual Care) and Thesis Seminar
Forum Scriptorium (for Spiritual Care) and Thesis Seminar are the digital environments that contain all the relevant information for students who are starting on their thesis, including the thesis regulations and the thesis contract. Other relevant documents, such as tips for the writing process, plagiarism guidelines, etc. are also included there. Forum Scriptorium is a digital environment for the Master’s students in Spiritual Care. The digital environment Thesis Seminar is aimed at students from the English-taught Master’s specialization.

Supervision and final responsibility
The writing of a Master’s thesis takes place under the final responsibility of one of the lecturers involved in teaching the Major, who will also be the primary supervisor. He or she will, possibly in consultation with you, appoint a second assessor who is a specialist in the subject of the thesis or a specific related area. The second assessor must have an appointment as a lecturer at a university, unless the Board of Examiners agrees to make an exception at the request of the student. The second assessor must approve the research
question and problem definition, sign the thesis contract and co-assess the final version of the thesis. The primary supervisor also supervises the thesis process.

*Thesis structure and agreements regarding supervision*

The thesis structure and agreements regarding supervision are laid down in a thesis contract or Master’s thesis contract before thesis work starts. The procedure is as follows:

1. **Orientation phase**
   Before the actual start of thesis work, students must have one or more preliminary meetings with their primary supervisor about the feasibility of their plans. Students must add concise minutes of their preliminary meeting(s) to the thesis structure document. The primary supervisor decides whether and to what extent the literature studied specifically for this preliminary phase is included in the 20 ECTS credit points for the thesis.

2. **Thesis structure***
   The thesis plan must be approved by the primary supervisor and the second assessor, and must include the following:
   1. Description of the subject and problem statement of the thesis
   2. General indication of the expected outcome of the thesis
   3. Provisional organization of chapters
   4. Phasing of the work
   5. Annexes:
      - a list of literature consulted in the preliminary phase and during the writing of the first draft
      - a rough list of literature to be used in writing the thesis

3. **Supervision agreements***
   In addition, agreements are made regarding supervision, which contain:
   1. Preferred date of completion of the thesis
   2. Preferred dates of completion of the various components/chapters
   3. Agreements on the frequency of supervision interviews.

   The agreements on supervision are made by the primary supervisor and the student by mutual consent and are confirmed by filling out a supervision agreement form, which both parties sign. Any changes will also require mutual consent. This thesis contract or Master's thesis contract must be submitted to the Board of Examiners for approval.

   In cases of repeated non-compliance by either lecturer or student, the agreements can be declared null and void after consultation with the second assessor and the Programme Coordinator.

   At least three to no more than seven meetings must take place between the primary supervisor and the student during supervision.

   The original thesis structure document and the supervision agreement form are kept in the student's file at the Student Administration Office. Copies are made for the student, primary supervisor, second assessor and Programme Coordinator.
Radical changes to the thesis structure or the supervision agreements must be reapproved by all parties.

* The forms for laying down the thesis structure and the supervision agreements can be found in the Forum Scriptorium digital environment under Thesis Agreements and in the Thesis Seminar digital environment under Course Information.

### 7.10 Research in Teaching and Academic Skills

The interaction between teaching and research is addressed in every year of the Bachelor's degree programme and in almost all course units in the curriculum. In part, this is teaching in which students gain knowledge of current and relevant field-specific research, including theory building, in part teaching devoted to discussing or reflecting on research, in part the acquisition of research skills and in part teaching in which students learn to conduct their own research.

The generic academic skills and the domain-specific skills have been integrated in the Bachelor's degree programme as learning pathways. They are tested through mandatory analytical summaries (KAVVs), research assignments, exegetic assignments and presentations.

### 7.11 Conflict Mediation

If problems arise during supervision between the parties involved, students can appoint a mediator who is acceptable to both parties, in consultation with the Programme Coordinator.

For conflicts regarding marking, students can follow the usual appeals procedure as outlined in Article 7.61 of the Higher Education and Academic Research Act (WHW).

### 7.12 Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria of the Master's Thesis

**Learning Outcomes**

After completion of a Master's thesis with a student workload of 20 ECTS credit points, students are able to autonomously write an academic paper based on independent source, empirical and/or literature study and starting from a problem definition they compile themselves.

**Assessment Criteria**

The assessment of the thesis takes place on the basis of an assessment form, which includes the following eight criteria:

- Problem analysis and research question
- Operationalization of the research question
- Method
- Use of primary and/or secondary sources
- Analysis and argumentation
- Conclusion
- Academic language and readability
- Overall coherence of the thesis
The mark for the thesis is determined after handing in the final version and is the average of the assessments of both assessors.

The assessment form for the Master’s thesis can be found in ‘Thesis Assessment Forms’ on the Faculty’s student intranet under Educational Affairs. This form is also included in the digital environments of Forum Scriptorium (Spiritual Care) and the Master’s Thesis Seminar.

7.13 Opportunities after completion of the degree programme

Graduates will have acquired sufficient knowledge and skills to pursue the professions or occupy the positions for which the Master’s degree programme concerned has trained them. Relevant professions include teacher with a grade one teaching qualification, spiritual carer, religious consultant or academic researcher. In addition, they may be suitable for other academic professions in the field of, for instance, policymaking, culture, education and communication that combine sustainable knowledge development, acquisition or processing, a willingness to enter new or uncharted territory, and the assumption of responsibility. This may include positions in government institutions, companies, media, cultural institutions, social organizations, NGOs and diplomacy.

Information on the more specific options and opportunities after completion of the various Master’s specializations can be found in Sections 7.13, 8.5, 9.5, 10.5 and 11.6.

8. Religion and Pluralism, Ancient and Modern

8.1 Entry requirements

A Bachelor’s degree in Theology or Religious Studies will grant admission to the Master’s track in Religion and Pluralism, Ancient and Modern. You may also be admitted on the basis of a university Bachelor’s degree in the Humanities, Arts, Philosophy or Social Sciences (Sociology, Cultural Anthropology, Psychology). In this case you will probably have to complete an 800 to 1000-page reading list in advance.

Your application for these tracks must include a letter of motivation, your CV, an overview of results gained in the Bachelor’s degree programme and an example of an academic paper. More information about the admissions procedure (including application deadlines) can be found on the Faculty website: http://www.rug.nl/education/international-students/application-procedure/.

Students with different qualifications will have to follow a pre-Master’s programme. The study advisors (studieadviseur.ggw@rug.nl) will be able to tell you more about this.

8.2 Profile of the track

Tension between group solidarity and productive relations with ‘others’ has been part of human history for as long as evidence exists. In Europe it has played out most enduringly in relations among the monotheistic religions: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Today, in the face of mass migration from Muslim regions, questions of political identity and belonging
remain bound up with religious affiliation. This one-year degree programme focuses on relations between Jews, Christians and Muslims in the antique world and how these relations have formed our modern society. We will explore concepts as religious pluralism, politics, and their many interfaces globally in particular.

8.3 Objectives and Learning Outcomes of the Track
In addition to the general objectives of the Master's degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies (see Section 7.5), upon completion of this Master's track you will have achieved the following specific learning outcomes:

The ability to
- examine the literary sources of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam in a historically informed way, to bring critical perspectives to modern interpretations;
- draw the attention of those inside and outside these religious traditions to the contextual understanding of their formative periods;
- identify continuing issues in Jewish, Christian, and Islamic self-definition, toleration of difference, and exclusionary or conversionist tendencies;
- map a range of ancient possibilities for coexistence or conviviality and their opposites under changing conditions;

8.4 Schematic Overview of the Track
The Master’s track in Religion and Pluralism, Ancient and Modern is structured as follows.

Master's Track Religion and Pluralism, Ancient and Modern

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Course Unit Code</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>C/O*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>Jews, Christians, and Others: Pluralism and Politics in the Greco-Roman World</td>
<td>THMjcoe10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>Texts of Terror</td>
<td>THMTTE5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td>Historical Research Methods</td>
<td>THMHRME5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td>Muslims and non-Muslims: The Emergence of the Islamic State in Late Antiquity or 1 Elective of RCG (block 1b)</td>
<td>THMMNME5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C/O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td>Reception and Re-Use of Authoritative Texts or 1 Elective of RCG (block 1b)</td>
<td>THMRRATE5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C/O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I/II</td>
<td>Placement</td>
<td>THMSTAGE10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I/II</td>
<td>Master thesis, incl. thesis seminar</td>
<td>THMTHRSS20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*C=compulsory;  O =optional

Electives If students want to focus more on issues in the field of religion, pluralism and power in the modern world, they may choose one or two modules from the MA track Religion, Conflict and Globalization. If they also want to write their thesis on contemporary issues, they are recommended to follow the course unit Social Scientific Research Methods from that MA track instead of Historical Research Methods.
8.5 Career Opportunities
The historical perspective taken in this track will enable you to gain an understanding of contemporary issues such as acculturation; the use of Jewish, Christian and Islamic traditions and their sacred texts in politics and society; and religious violence. The current debate often refers to perceived historical realities. An understanding of the historical context is essential when assessing such debates and thus contributes to a better understanding of sustainable society. Trained academics in this field are almost non-existent, and there is a great need to address the issues above through teaching.

Consulting & Policy. You are able to provide well-founded advice on interreligious issues and multicultural society. You can use this expertise in an advisory position at cultural organizations, in companies or in the public sector. Your knowledge makes you suited to policy-making positions in this field.

Media & Journalism. The current debate often refers to perceived historical realities. Your expertise in the formative periods of Judaism, Christianity and Islam enables you to ask critical questions concerning modern-day claims about these religious traditions. You can use your knowledge and skills as an editor at a publishing company, broadcasting company, newspaper or news and current affairs magazine. You could also work as a freelancer.

Education. Once you have completed this Master’s track you will have enough knowledge of the subject to become a secondary school teacher in the subject of Religious Studies and Philosophy or Social Studies. You could also opt for a position in higher vocational education, for example teaching Theology at a university of applied sciences. As you also need didactic skills as a teacher, it is advisable to do a Master’s in Education after you have completed your regular Master’s track.

Academia. If, during your studies, you come to the conclusion that you would like to stay in academia, you can choose to apply for a place in the Research Master after your regular Master’s programme. If you are admitted, you can complete this two-year programme in one year. The Research Master is a good stepping stone towards a PhD position or a research post at a national or international knowledge institute. See also the website http://www.rug.nl/masters/religion-and-culture-research/.

8.6 Coordinator
Coordinator of the Master’s track Religion and Pluralism, Ancient and Modern is prof.dr. S.N. Mason (s.mason@rug.nl).
9. RELIGION, CONFLICT AND GLOBALIZATION

See also: http://www.rug.nl/masters/religion-conflict-and-globalization/

9.1 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
A Bachelor's degree in Theology or Religious Studies will grant admission to the Master’s track in Religion, Conflict and Globalization. You may also be admitted on the basis of a university Bachelor’s degree in the Humanities, Arts, Philosophy or Social Sciences (Sociology, Cultural Anthropology, Psychology). In this case you will have to complete an 800 to 1000-page reading list in advance.

Your application for these tracks must include a letter of motivation, your CV, an overview of results gained in the Bachelor's degree programme and an example of an academic paper. More information about the admissions procedure (including application deadlines) can be found on the Faculty website: http://www.rug.nl/education/international-students/application-procedure/.

Students with different qualifications will have to follow a pre-Master’s programme. The study advisors (studieadviseur.ggw@rug.nl) will be able to tell you more about this.

9.2 PROFILE OF THE TRACK
How are religion, conflict and peace related? How does globalization affect local religious traditions? How do religious and secular actors interact in local and global debates on migration and gender?

Looking around the world today, it is clear that religion plays a role in many of the major conflicts going on at various levels. Furthermore religion plays an important role in people's lives worldwide, and has become one of the major ways people connect with each other across the globe. However, the persistence and prominence of the role of religion in contemporary societies is still not sufficiently understood in academic research and in the work of policy-makers, NGO’s and journalists.

This master's track addresses the pivotal place of religion in the dynamics of globalization and conflict that shape present-day societies. The track is interdisciplinary, examining political, social, psychological and cultural dimensions. You will learn to:

- investigate the consequences of globalization for religious practices and individual, ethnic and national identities
- understand the relationship between religion, conflict and peace-building
- analyze national and international conflicts, and learn how they are interwoven with religious interests and opinions

You can specialize in either conflict and peacebuilding, migration or gender
9.3 Objectives and Learning Outcomes of the Track

In addition to the general objectives of the Master’s degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies (see Section 7.5), upon completion of this Master’s track you will have achieved the following specific learning outcomes and be able:

1. to investigate the consequences of globalization for migration, peace and conflict and gender dynamics;
2. to examine how secular frames and identities are implicated in conflicts involving religion;
3. to understand the relationship between religion, conflict and peace-building as well as acquire some skills in conflict analysis, transformation and peacebuilding;
4. to analyze national and international conflicts, and learn how they are interwoven with religious interests and opinions.

9.4 Schematic Overview of the Track

The Master’s track in Religion, Conflict and Globalization is structured as follows.

**Master’s Programme Religion, Conflict and Globalization**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Course unit code</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>O</th>
<th>C/O*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>Religion, Conflict and Globalization: A Critical Introduction</td>
<td>THM-RCG10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>Choice (1 out of 3)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>Religion, Violence and Conflict Transformation (Conflict and Peacebuilding)</td>
<td>THM-RVCT5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Religion, Gender and Sexuality (Gender)</td>
<td>THM-RGS5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Migration, Culture and Religious Identity (Migration)</td>
<td>THM-MCRI5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td>Social Scientific Research Methods</td>
<td>THM-SSRM5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td>Choice (2 out of 5)</td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>O</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ii</td>
<td>Global Dynamics and Local Cosmologies: Studying Religious Change</td>
<td>THM-GDLC5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Forced Migration</td>
<td>THM-FM5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gender, Religion and Sexual Nationalism</td>
<td>THM-GRSN5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>O</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Politics of Secularism</td>
<td>THM-POSE5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Religion and the Politics of Human Rights</td>
<td>THM-RPHR5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ii</td>
<td>Placement</td>
<td>THMSTAGE10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ii</td>
<td>Master thesis, incl. thesis seminar</td>
<td>THMTHRSS20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*C = compulsory; O = optional*

9.5 Career Opportunities

In this Master’s programme you research the role of religion in current processes of globalization and localization. You learn to analyse national and international conflicts and to show how they are interwoven with religious interests and opinions. You will also gain an understanding of the different ways in which both migrants and ‘stay-at-homes’ call on religion to establish a role for themselves in a fast-changing world.
You can make use of the knowledge and skills you acquire on this programme in different sectors.

**Consulting & Policy.** In a globalising world, national and international conflicts are far-reaching. There is a need for experts who can explain and help solving these conflicts. With your degree, you can advise or write policy documents on different subjects, such as, developmental assistance or multicultural society. You could work for the government, in business or at an NGO. More specifically, this could mean working for the think-tank of a political party, for the Netherlands Institute for Social Research or for the Netherlands Institute of International Relations Clingendael.

**Media & Journalism.** Religion is in the news every day, often in a negative way: from terrorism to integration issues. With your expertise in the field of religion and conflict, you can intensify the debate in society and, where necessary, add some nuance to the picture. You can put your knowledge into practice as an editor at a publishing company, a broadcasting company, a newspaper or a current affairs magazine.

**Education.** You will have enough knowledge of the subject to teach Religious Studies and Philosophy or Social Studies in secondary education. You could also opt for a position in higher vocational education. As you also need didactic skills as a teacher, it is advisable to do a Master’s in Education after you have completed your regular Master’s programme.

**Academia.** If, during your studies, you reach the conclusion that you would like to stay in academia, you can choose to apply for a place in the Research Master after your regular Master’s programme. If you are admitted, you can complete this two-year programme in one year. The Research Master is a good stepping stone towards a PhD position or a research post at a national or international knowledge institute.

9.6 **COORDINATOR**  
Coordinator of the Master’s programme Religion, Conflict and Globalization is dr. J. Tarusarira (j.tarusarira@rug.nl).

**10. RELIGION AND CULTURAL HERITAGE**

10.1 **ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**  
A Bachelor’s degree in Theology or Religious Studies will grant admission to the Master’s track in Religion and Cultural Heritage. You may also be admitted on the basis of a university Bachelor’s degree in the Humanities, Arts, Philosophy or Social Sciences (Sociology, Cultural Anthropology, Psychology). In this case you will probably have to complete an 800 to 1000-page reading list in advance.  
Your application for these tracks must include a letter of motivation, your CV, an overview of results gained in the Bachelor’s degree programme and an example of an academic paper. More information about the admissions procedure (including application deadlines) can be found on the Faculty website: [http://www.rug.nl/education/international-students/application-procedure/](http://www.rug.nl/education/international-students/application-procedure/).
Students with different qualifications will have to follow a pre-Master’s programme. The study advisors (studieadviseur.ggw@rug.nl) will be able to tell you more about this.

10.2 Profile of the track
Memory produces identity. That is why heritage is crucial for our sense of continuity in rapidly changing societies. Governments, national and international organizations need to make sense of the past as they make policies for and invest in heritage. The aim of this master’s degree is to give you the theoretical and practical education necessary to take an active role in this exciting and growing field.

Why study heritage at a faculty of Theology and Religious Studies? Because most of the heritage around us stems, one way or another, from religious practices and ideas. If you want to understand heritage in all its facets, you want to study with experts who know the full story behind material and intangible heritages both locally and abroad.

The track Religion and Cultural Heritage in the Master’s Programme in Theology and Religious Studies combines broad cultural competence with a high-level academic research training and the practical skills relevant for today’s job market. Through concrete projects and internships, you can gain hands-on experience in the field.

10.3 Objectives and learning outcomes of the track
In addition to the general objectives of the Master’s degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies (see Section 7.5), upon completion of the Master’s track in Religion and Cultural Heritage you will have achieved the following specific learning outcomes:

- Broad cultural competence in the field of religious heritage(s), visible in the students being able to contextualize, interpret etc. tangible and intangible heritages;
- Broad scholarly understanding of and ability to apply theories around heritage, heritagization, memory, appropriation, musealization, identity and the connection between these;
- Analytical skills in order to understand the dynamics between heritage, history, and society.
- Understanding the history of and important political and ethical issues and questions surrounding heritage;
- Knowing about and being able to apply the political, economic and managerial considerations needed to ‘deliver heritage’;
- Having demonstrable skills in planning and realizing projects that market heritage.

10.4 Schematic overview of the track
The Master’s track in Religion and Cultural Heritage is structured as follows.
MASTERTRACK RELIGION AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

Year 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>sem</th>
<th>Coursename</th>
<th>Course unit code</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>C/O*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>Introduction to Religious Heritage</td>
<td>THMIRHE5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>The Politics of Heritage: Identity and Memory</td>
<td>THMTPHE5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Heritage of Death</td>
<td>THM-HOD</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td>Research methods and skills in Heritage and Historical Studies</td>
<td>THMSTAGE10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td>Choice (2 out of 3) Going Retro: Ancient and Medieval Modernities</td>
<td>THM-GR</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Heritage of Death</td>
<td>THM-HOD</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Reception and Re-Use of Authority Texts (RPAM)</td>
<td>THMRRATE5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>Placement</td>
<td>THMSTAGE10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>Master thesis, incl. thesis seminar</td>
<td>THMTHRSS20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*C= compulsory; O =optional

10.5 CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

You can advise or write policy documents on heritage subjects, such as the preservation of old churches or the distribution of funding for cultural activities. You could work for cultural organisations, the government, in the tourist business or at an NGO. You may also work in the media or as a teacher of religion in secondary education after completing your Educational Master's programme.

If you want to become a teacher of religion in secondary education you can additionally follow the Educational Master's programme. Would you like to stay in academia, you can choose to apply for a placement in the Research Master.

You can make use of the knowledge and skill that you acquire on this track in different sectors:

**Cultural Education.** You can work within organizations that consult upon the content and organization within the field of arts and cultural education. Or you could work at an educational department within institutions such as a cultural centers or museums.

**Consulting & Policy.** Your knowledge about religious heritage will enable you to advise upon or write policy documents on the conservation of religious heritage. You could find a job with central government but also at organizations and foundations in the cultural sector. This could be, for example, the Museum Catharijneconvent in Utrecht or the Stichting(Foundation) Oude Groninger Kerken.

**Media & Journalism.** A number of publishers have shown renewed interest in religion and society. With your knowledge and skills, you can make an expert contribution to publications in this field. You could also use your expertise as an editor at a broadcasting company, newspaper or current affairs magazine.

**Education.** Once you have completed this Master’s track, you will have sufficient knowledge of the subject to be able to teach Religious Studies or Social Studies in secondary education. Alternatively, you could opt for a position in higher vocational education. As you also need didactic skills as a teacher or lecturer, it is advisable to do a Master’s in Education after you have completed your regular Master’s programme.
**Academia.** If, during your studies, you come to the conclusion that you would like to stay in academia, you can choose to apply for a place in the Research Master after your regular Master’s programme. If you are admitted, you can complete this two-year programme in one year. The Research Master is a good stepping stone towards a PhD position or a research post at a national or international knowledge institute.

**10.6 Coordinator**
Coordinator of the Master’s track Religion and Cultural Heritage is T.H. Weir PhD (t.h.weir@rug.nl).

**11. Mastertrack: Spiritual Care**

**See also:** [http://www.rug.nl/masters/spiritual-care/](http://www.rug.nl/masters/spiritual-care/)

**11.1 Entry requirements**
For admission to the Master’s specialization in Spiritual Care, a Bachelor’s degree certificate in Theology or Religious Studies is required. Students must also have obtained the 30 ECTS credit points from the Minor in Spiritual Care or the specific preparatory course units from the pre-Master’s programme.

**Minor in Spiritual Care**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>sem</th>
<th>Course name</th>
<th>Course unit name</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>C/O*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Spiritual Care</td>
<td>THB3-GV</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Professional Ethics</td>
<td>THB3-GVPE</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Trauma, Grieving, Purpose and Wellbeing</td>
<td>THB3-GVTR</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>Philosophy as the Art of Living</td>
<td>THB3-GVFL</td>
<td>7.5</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*C=compulsory; O=optional

A special, 60 ECTS pre-Master's programme for the Master's specialization in Spiritual Care has been developed for students with a higher vocational degree in Theology, a Bachelor's degree in Theology from a university of applied sciences or a research university, or a higher vocational, Bachelor's or Master's degree from degree programmes other than Theology. Further information about this pre-Master's programme can be obtained from the study advisors (studieadviseur.ggw@rug.nl).

**11.2 Specialization Profile**
This specialization is based on recent changes in the field of life philosophy. People are searching for meaning and direction in life in very different ways, using all sorts of sources for inspiration. Spiritual carers are expected to bring a lot of knowledge and creativity to address the current issues regarding meaning and direction in life. In addition, developments in the care sector demand a new positioning, organization and theoretical framework of Spiritual Care. This profession-oriented Master’s specialization focuses on making academic knowledge and skills useful for the practice of Spiritual Care in the present cultural context.
to providing knowledge of the large world religions and philosophical traditions, its spearheads are Psychology of Religion and Ethics. Both academic and personal reflection are encouraged. The academic theories and skills acquired are immediately applied in practical research during the placement. The Master’s degree programme has been accredited by the Quality Register for Spiritual Care (SKGV). The degree programme is not bound to any specific religion or philosophy of life, although it does pay ample attention to your personal religious or philosophical identity as a spiritual carer. Graduates are referred to the church training programmes and to the University of Humanistic Studies for supplementary ministerial training; for further professional education there are various post-Master’s programmes, training programmes and courses available in the field.

11.3 LEARNING OUTCOMES

OBJECTIVES

The Master’s specialization in Spiritual Care aims to provide academic education in an open, critical, non-confessional setting, leading to the profession of spiritual carer. The degree programme aims to enable students to acquire the knowledge and skills they need in the field of Spiritual Care to achieve the following after gaining their Master’s degree certificate:

- making their academic knowledge relevant in a societal position which requires an academic education or where such an education is preferred and where knowledge of spiritual care is necessary or useful; particularly the profession of spiritual carer.
- conducting supervised academic research in the field of Spiritual Care and completing this research with a PhD degree.
- The main focus is on spiritual care in care institutions, but attention is also devoted to spiritual care in the legal world and the military, as well as to the recent development of independent spiritual care.

TRANSLATION OF THE OBJECTIVES INTO LEARNING OUTCOMES

Completion of the Master’s specialization in Spiritual Care leads to the following specific learning outcomes alongside the general ones:

1. knowledge of methods, theories and debates in the field of Spiritual Care
2. understanding of the complexity of the organizations in which spiritual carers work
3. understanding of the way in which religion and outlook on life influence people’s minds and the ability to make this explicit, clarify this psychologically, philosophically and theologically and positioning this in the current state of religion and culture
4. critical understanding of the way in which people look for guidance regarding life philosophy and ethics and how to respond to this need in a responsible way
5. knowledge and understanding of the religious-psychological, philosophical and ethical aspects of illness, death, health and suffering in Western multicultural societies
6. the ability to cooperate with colleagues and representatives of other disciplines, based on knowledge of the work domain of different related occupational fields
7. the communicative and methodological skills needed to work as a spiritual carer
8. the ability to internally link personal expertise, professionalism and life orientation in a thought-through and credible manner.
11.4 Schematic overview of the full-time specialization
The full-time degree programme in Spiritual Care is organized as follows:

Master’s degree programme in Spiritual Care– full-time (Ma GV)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>sem</th>
<th>Course name</th>
<th>Course unit code</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>C/O*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td></td>
<td>Psychopathology and Religion</td>
<td>THMSPRE5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td></td>
<td>Spiritual Care 1</td>
<td>THMGV1E5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ethics in Care</td>
<td>THMEE05</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td></td>
<td>Spiritual Care 2</td>
<td>THMGV2E5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I, II</td>
<td></td>
<td>Internship</td>
<td>THMGVSTE20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*C=compulsory; O=optional

11.5 Schematic overview of the part-time specialization
The part-time degree programme in Spiritual Care is organized as follows: (Note that it takes students one and a half to two years to complete the programme.)

Master’s degree programme in Spiritual Care– part-time(Ma GV-dlt)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>sem</th>
<th>Course name</th>
<th>Course unit code</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>C/O*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td></td>
<td>Psychopathology and Religion</td>
<td>THMSPRE5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td></td>
<td>Geestelijke verzorging 1</td>
<td>THMGV1E5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I, II</td>
<td></td>
<td>Masterscriptie, incl. scriptieseminar</td>
<td>THMGVSE20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*C=compulsory; O=optional

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>sem</th>
<th>Course name</th>
<th>Course unit code</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>C/O*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td></td>
<td>Ethics in Care</td>
<td>THMEE05</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td></td>
<td>Spiritual Care 2</td>
<td>THMGV2E5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib, II</td>
<td></td>
<td>Internship</td>
<td>THMGVSTE20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*C=compulsory; O=optional

11.6 Opportunities after completing the degree programme
The Master’s specialization in Spiritual Care has been accredited by the Quality Register for Spiritual Care(SKGV). This means that people who start working as spiritual carers after gaining their degree can be included in the Quality Register, provided that they are members of a professional association.

This Master’s specialization also offers the opportunity to specialize in the policymaking side of spiritual care or academic research in this field.

Care and Wellbeing During your studies, you will have deepened your knowledge of various religious traditions and life orientations. You will have learned how to guide groups and individuals in their search for meaning and stability in life. Spiritual Carers can find jobs in care institutions, for example general or psychiatric hospitals, nursing homes or institutions for people with a mental disability. They are also employed in the military or in
prisons. A growing number of spiritual carers are independent these days, meaning that they are not employed by an institution but are self-employed.

**Consultancy and Policymaking** During their studies, students learn to reflect on the profession of spiritual carer and the place of Spiritual Care in regular healthcare. They will gain knowledge and understanding of ethical questions based on case studies and care practice. Employment can be found as a policy officer in government or a care institution or in advisory positions, for example on a medical-ethical committee.

**Academia** Traditional forms of religiousness are giving way to newer ways of giving life meaning. What is the role of the spiritual carer in this process? What is the role of the profession in today’s healthcare? In order to limit and define the work field, it is important to unite professional practice and academia. This Master’s specialization prepares students to contribute to this.

### 11.7 Coordinator
The coordinator of the Master's specialization in Spiritual Care is dr J.K. Muthert ([j.k.muthert@rug.nl](mailto:j.k.muthert@rug.nl)). For questions about the Master's specialization, please use the following e-mail address: MA.GeestelijkeVerzorging@rug.nl

### 12. MASTER THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES (RESEARCH)/RELIGION AND CULTURE (120 ECTS)

See also: [http://www.rug.nl/masters/theology-religious-studies-research/](http://www.rug.nl/masters/theology-religious-studies-research/)

#### 12.1 Admission Requirements
Admission to the programme is highly competitive and selective, as only a limited number of places is available. Admission requirements in terms of skills, knowledge and motivation are strict and generally in line with those of leading international research programmes in the fields of Theology and Religious Studies.

Students will be admitted to the programme only after careful evaluation by the Board of Admissions. Final responsibility for the selection and the admission procedure rests with the Faculty Board.

To be eligible for the programme, prospective students should meet the following general requirements:

1. A Bachelor’s degree or a (one-year) Master’s degree, or equivalent, in a subject that fits well in the Research Master’s programme. These qualifications must have been obtained within a reasonable period of time and with results that justify the expectation that the student can successfully complete the Research Master programme in two years. We expect an average grade point of 7.5 (out of 10) or higher for BA-2 and BA-3, but also the Bachelor thesis, the motivation and study plan are taken into account.
2. Sufficient knowledge of English: a *minimum* TOEFL score of 600 (paper), 250 (computer) or 100 (internet) or a *minimum* score of 7.0 in IELTS (International English
Language Testing System; overall; 6.5. on parts) is required (the test is not required of native speakers of English and of Dutch students with a VWO certificate).

More information about the admission procedure can be found on the website of the Graduate School (http://www.rug.nl/research/gradschool-theology-and-religious-studies/master/admissions/).

12.2 PROFILE OF THE PROGRAMME
How can we interpret the influence of religion on local and global developments? What are the relationships between religion and other cultural domains such as science, philosophy and politics?
In this Research Master’s Programme you will study how religion is embedded in present-day and in historical cultural contexts. You will explore the impact of local and global socio-economic and political developments on religion, and how religion contributes to such developments. A staff member whose research interests in religion matches yours best, will act as your supervisor throughout the programme.
The Research Master Theology and Religious Studies (Research)/Religion and Culture offers a thorough training in the field of Theology and Religious Studies. The two-year research master programme is offered to highly qualified and motivated students, who have a wide-ranging interest in religion. It prepares students to carry out postgraduate academic research. The programme is rooted in the research of the Centre for Religious Studies (CRS), which encompasses three research groups: 1. Jewish, Christian and Islamic Origins; 2. The Comparative Study of Religion; 3. Christianity and the History of Ideas. The staff in these research groups represent a wide variety of (sub) disciplines in the field of Theology and Religious Studies who can provide students with in-depth knowledge in their area of specialization. In addition, the research master programme equips students with a broad range of research skills, and a profound understanding of the interdisciplinary relations in the study of religion.
The central theme of this Research Master’s Programme is the embeddedness of religion in present-day and in historical cultural contexts. You will explore the impact of local and global socio-economic and political developments on religion, and how religion contributes to such developments. A staff member whose research interests in religion matches yours best, will act as your supervisor throughout the programme.
You will acquire an overview of central debates in the study of religion and develop key research skills by following three compulsory core modules. We offer three specialization routes within which you can develop your individual research profile and skills. Your individual route within the programme consists of a combination of optional modules, research traineeships, writing a thesis and a writing research proposal. The modules and traineeships are designed to equip you with in-depth knowledge of specialized subjects, together with field-specific methodological skills. The final specialization occurs in the Research Master’s thesis. This thesis forms the basis of a PhD thesis proposal, which can be used for an application for research funding.

12.3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME
Students who have completed the Research Master’s programme have the ability to participate in the academic scholarly discussion in Theology and Religious Studies and to
contribute creatively and independently to these fields of inquiry by designing, conducting, and evaluating research. The pragmatic purpose of the Research Master is to provide students with the necessary knowledge, skills and insights to enable graduates to enter a PhD programme or to hold positions that require strong academic research skills and experience.

Students who have completed the Research Master's track *Theology and Religious Studies (Research)* have acquired the following competences in the fields of Theology and Religious Studies:

**Knowledge**
1. a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the main debates and approaches relevant for the fields of Theology and Religious Studies and their history, with a focus on interdisciplinary methodologies and theoretical perspectives;
2. in-depth knowledge of at least one theoretical and methodological approach;

**Skills**
3. the skills to find, examine and critique specialized literature on a subject in at least one subfield of Theology and Religious Studies and become acquainted with the methods applied in this field;
4. the ability to structure and conduct independent research in at least one subfield of Theology and Religious Studies, to apply the appropriate research methods, and to report on this in accordance with the standards commonly used in this discipline;
5. the ability to follow and analyze complex scientific debates and subsequently determine and defend one's own position;
6. the ability to consider historical, methodological, social and ethical interests within their own discipline when it comes to the academic assessment and analysis of complex issues;
7. the ability to critically reflect on the historical, social and cultural meaning of religious traditions and attitudes in relation to religion;
8. good oral and written presentation skills, which enable them to write research papers for specialist audiences that they present at academic conferences and publish in academic journals. They should also be able to communicate their conclusions to non-specialist audiences via media such as online blogs, popular articles and opinion pieces for newspapers and public lectures and presentations, and policy briefing papers.

**Attitude**
9. an academic attitude that demonstrates independence, creativity, critical-reflectiveness, and academic integrity;

**Employability**
10. The ability to embark on a PhD programme or to function in a national or international research environment requiring special research competences and experience.
12.4 Programme Content

a. Overview

The Research Master’s programme takes two years (4 semesters) with a total study load of 120 ECTS. In order to achieve its aims, the main structure of the track consists of 30 ECTS Compulsory Course units and 30 ECTS Research Traineeships, which are exclusively reserved for the students of the track, as well as 35 ECTS Optional Course units and a Research Master’s Thesis.

The programme has the following structure:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Master’s programme Theology and Religious Studies (Research)</th>
<th>1st semester</th>
<th>2nd semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>- Compulsory Course unit 1 (10 ECTS)</td>
<td>- Compulsory Course unit 2 (10 ECTS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Field Specific Research Skills (5 ECTS)</td>
<td>- Generic Academic Skills (5 ECTS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Specialization: Optional Course units (15 ECTS)</td>
<td>- Research Traineeship (15 ECTS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>- Specialization: Optional Course units (15 ECTS)</td>
<td>- Thesis (25 ECTS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Research Traineeship (15 ECTS)</td>
<td>- Writing a Research Proposal (5 ECTS)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students may spend part or all of the third semester (max. 30 ECTS) abroad. Both optional course units and the research traineeships can be used for a stay abroad. If a student wishes to stay abroad for a full semester, the third semester is the best option so that the stay abroad will not cause unnecessary delays. Any programme taken abroad requires permission from the Board of Examiners.

Supervision

The programme is taught by professors with proven experience in supervising young researchers and belonging to the Centre for Religious Studies. At enrollment, students are assigned a mentor or supervisor in close consultation with whom they draw up a detailed personal study plan. The mentor is a senior staff member who is an expert in the student’s intended field of specialization. He or she acts as coach and supervisor throughout the track. The plan should specify the Optional Course units and Research Traineeships the student is planning to take in keeping with his or her interests and preferred field of specialization. The plan has to be approved by the Director of the Graduate School, who is also the Director of Studies of the Research Master.

Please note: all endpapers and other assignments that are assessed in courses and research traineeships that are part of your personal study plan, must be uploaded by yourself in your personal portfolio in the Nestor course.

b. Description of Study Parts

1. Compulsory Course Units (30 ECTS)

The aim of the compulsory course units is (a) to provide students with a general theoretical and methodological framework, as applied to the fields of theology and religious studies, (b) to bring students to a level of knowledge that will enable them to reflect on theories,
methods and techniques that are employed by the (sub-)disciplines and so (c) to achieve a deepened understanding of the terminology, perspectives and problems in their fields. All course units are intended to foster interdisciplinary training. Staff members from all three departments are involved, and they address the profile of the research conducted at the Centre for Religious Studies. As such, they school the students more broadly than in their specific interest alone, and they provide a breadth and depth of thinking that a Research Master’s graduate should, in our view, possess. In these Compulsory Course units, students learn to address topics at a meta level, thereby learning to define their own position as junior researchers. There are four Compulsory Course units:

**Year 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>sem</th>
<th>Coursername</th>
<th>Course unit code</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>C/O*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Theories of Religion and Culture</td>
<td>THRMTRCE10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Field specific research skills</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Choice (1 out of 3):</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Historical Research Methods (RP)</td>
<td>THMHRME5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Social Scientific Research Methods (RCG)</td>
<td>THM-SSRM5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Research Methods in Heritage and Historical Studies (RCH)</td>
<td>THMRMSE5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Specialization: Optional Modules</td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>C/O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>Philosophy of Science in the Study of Religion and Culture</td>
<td>THRMPHSS10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>Generic Academic Skills</td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>Research Traineeships</td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>C/O</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*C=compulsory; O=optional

**Year 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>sem</th>
<th>Coursername</th>
<th>Course unit code</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>C/O*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Specialization: Optional Modules</td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Research Traineeships</td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>Research Proposal</td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>Thesis</td>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*CO=compulsory; O=optional

2. **Specialization: Optional Course Units (35 ECTS)**

The Optional Course units (35 ECTS) are intended to equip students with in-depth knowledge in specialized subjects, together with subject-specific skills and methodologies. The courses may be taken from the regular Master tracks offered by the Faculty as specified in the table below, or by another (Dutch or foreign) Research Master’s tracks. Optional Course units should contribute demonstrably to the aim of the student’s personal programme. The Faculty’s Optional Course units are organized as three specializations within the Research Master’s track. Specialization A *(Religion and Pluralism, Ancient and Modern)* is offered by the Department of Jewish, Christian and Islamic Origins; specialization B *(Religion, Conflict and Globalization)* by the Department of Comparative Study of Religion; and specialization C *(Religion and Cultural Heritage)* by the Department of Christianity and the History of Ideas. There is an additional requirement for Research Master’s students. On the basis of the final paper, written as part of the optional course units, students have to write a mini research proposal. Instructions for the mini proposal will be provided in the course ‘Writing a Research Proposal’ of which the mini proposals for optional modules are also part. The mini proposals must be submitted to and is assessed by both the lecturer of...
the optional module in relation to which it is written, and the lecturer of the ‘Writing a Research Proposal’ course.

### Year 1.2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>sem</th>
<th>Coursecode</th>
<th>Course unit code</th>
<th>EC</th>
<th>C/O*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>Jews, Christians and Others: Pluralism and Politics in the Greco-Roman World</td>
<td>THMJCOE10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ia</td>
<td>Texts of Terror</td>
<td>THMTTE5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C/O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td>Muslims and non-Muslims: The Emergence of the Islamic State in Late Antiquity</td>
<td>THMMNME5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ib</td>
<td>Reception and Re-Use of Authoritative Texts</td>
<td>THMRRATE5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>C/O</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Religion, Conflict and Globalization**

| Ia  | Religion, Conflict and Globalization: A Critical Introduction | THM-RCGI10 | 10 | C |
| Ia  | **Choice (1 out of 3)**
|     | Religion, Violence and Conflict Transformation | THM-RVCT5 | 5 | 0 |
|     | Migration, culture and religious identity | THM-MCRIS5 | 5 |
|     | Religion, gender and sexuality | THM-RGS5 |
| Ib  | **Choice (2 out of 5)**
|     | Global Dynamics and Local Cosmologies: Studying Religious Change | THM-GDLC5 | 5 |
|     | Forced Migration | THM-FM5 | 5 |
|     | Gender, Religion and Sexual Nationalism | THM-GRSN5 | 5 |
|     | Politics of Secularism | THM-POSE5 | 5 |
|     | Religion & the Politics of Human Rights | THM-RPHR5 | 5 |

**Religion and Cultural Heritage**

| Ia  | Introduction to Religious Heritage | THMIRHE5 | 5 | C |
| Ia  | The Politics of Heritage: Identity and Memory | THMTPHE5 | 5 | C |
| Ia  | **Choice (1 out of 2)**
|     | Material Religion: Things, Places, Performances, and Belief | THMMRE5 | 5 | 0 |
|     | Theological Heritages in a (Post) Modern Context | THMTHPMCE5 |
| Ib  | **Choice (2 out of 3)**
|     | Going Retro: Ancient and Medieval Modernities | THM-GR | 5 |
|     | Heritage of Death | THM-HOD | 5 |
|     | Reception and Re-Use of Authority Texts (RPAM) | THMRRATE5 | 5 |

*C=compulsory; O=optional

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**Research Traineeships (30 ECTS)**

Like the compulsory course units, the traineeships are exclusively reserved for students of the Research Master. Tailor-made, they are meant to offer not only the opportunity to become thoroughly acquainted with specialist literature, research methods, and current discussions in their field of specialization, but also to train discipline-specific methods and techniques. The research traineeships also enable them to make a well-informed and firm choice of the subject of their Research Master’s theses. Traineeships are set up in close consultation with, and are supervised by the students’ mentor. On approval of the Graduate School, a traineeship may (in part) be taken abroad, preferably at renowned foreign universities, colleges or schools. The research traineeships are meant to underpin the choice of the subject of the thesis. A research traineeship has a volume of 5 ECTS or 10 ECTS.
Before the start of the traineeship, students must draw up a plan of action in consultation with their mentor. The full plan should be handed in digitally to the Educational Administration (onderwijs.ggw@rug.nl) before the start of a traineeship. It should be approved by the director of the Graduate School. With regard to the submission of the Research Traineeship plans, there are four deadlines: 11 January, 21 March, 4 July, and 17 October. A plan should state clearly at least the following:
- the aim of the activities (importance, relevance for the training of the student at that particular stage of the programme)
- what research and training activities are going to be undertaken, in cooperation with whom, and for how many ECTS credit points
- how and where the research and training will be carried out (supervisor(s), location(s) etc.)
- an estimate of the costs involved, if any.

The research activities should be tailored to the academic interests and preferred specialization of the student. They may include:
- writing a publishable book review article, annotated bibliography, article or essay,
- doing a literature or archive search,
- making a field trip,
- holding and transcribing interviews,
- participating in and giving a paper or poster presentation at a national or international conference, seminar or workshop,
- participating in a summer school (with written assignment: essay or paper), in the ongoing research activities of their supervisor or in a research project of a scholar abroad who is affiliated to the CRS (with written assignment: essay or paper).
- The traineeship as a whole must be graded on the basis of the student’s written work and certificates obtained, if any. Students conclude it by writing a report in which they make a self-evaluation of the training results against the background of their plan of action. The self-evaluation report is graded by the mentor, and represents 20% of the final grade.

**Thesis (25 ECTS) and Research Proposal (5 ECTS)**
The *thesis* (25 ECTS) must provide substantial evidence of the students’ research skills by demonstrating their ability to identify and define academic problems, by reflecting their skills in using specialist literature and by situating their subjects within the existing academic discussions of theology and religious studies. Moreover, students must demonstrate their ability to develop effective methods to solve research problems, to put these methods into practice, and to report clearly and adequately on the results of their research. Students must choose the subject of their thesis by the end of the third semester at the latest.

All students are required to write a *research proposal* (5 ECTS) for a PhD project on the basis of, and thus after completing, their thesis. Writing a research proposal at an earlier stage is becoming increasingly relevant in view of the trend towards reducing the length of a PhD appointment to three years. Completing the proposal earlier in the programme may mean a better fit between the Research Master’s thesis and the future PhD research. The research proposal may also be written before the start of the Research Master’s thesis, in
consultation with the mentor. In all cases, the research proposal should enable the student to meet the application requirements of a PhD position. If work on the thesis and the research proposal will take more than 30 ECTS, the extra work cannot be compensated by reducing any of the other components of the track which is worth a total of 120 ECTS.

From the start of the track onwards, we expect students to take part in the monthly meetings of the Graduate School, in which both PhD and Research Master’s students present and discuss their research. Students are also encouraged to participate in seminars, symposia, conferences and summer schools relevant to their specialization. Students in the Research Master’s track have the opportunity to participate in the Master’s Honours programme at the University of Groningen. This is an extra programme worth 15 ECTS credit points in addition to the Research Master’s track of 120 ECTS. It is a one-year interdisciplinary programme that is designed to introduce students to various aspects of leadership. This theme is explored from various angles. Students who complete the Master’s Honours programme receive a separate Honours certificate and a letter of recommendation from the Rector Magnificus.

12.5 Research Master’s Thesis

Size
The scope of the thesis should be 23,000-25,000 words (font size 12; line spacing 1.5; left margin at 4.5 cm, right margin at 2.5 cm; new paragraphs by indenting), not including the bibliography, appendices and other materials that usually do not form part of the main body of the thesis.

Supervision and final responsibility
In consultation with the mentor, the student must find a supervisor for the Master’s thesis. The supervisor must find an assessor in consultation with the student. The supervisor must be a senior staff member. The assessor must be a specialist in the subject of the thesis or in a related area, and must also be staff member. Exceptions may be made, subject to the approval of the Board of Examiners. In case of problems with the supervision, students are advised to consult the study coordinator. In the event of disputes relating to marks, students can appeal under Article 7.61 of the Higher Education & Research Act (WHW).

Thesis proposal and supervision arrangements
The supervision arrangements and the thesis proposal are agreed before the student starts work on the thesis. The procedure is as follows:

1. Orientation phase
Before work on the thesis begins, students consult their supervisor the feasibility of their thesis plans. The supervisor decides how many credits should be spent on preparatory reading. Students then draw up a thesis proposal, which will enable them to plan and to manage the process of writing the thesis. The proposal also allows adequate monitoring of this process by the mentor.
2. **Thesis proposal***
The thesis proposal must be approved by the supervisor and assessor, and must include the following:
1. A description of the subject and the problem definition
2. A general indication of the expected findings
3. Provisional chapter headings
4. Work schedule (including a time-table)
5. Supervision (mentor, assessor and frequency/schedule of meetings with them)
As appendices:
   - list of works to be consulted for the preliminary study
   - general list of works to be consulted for the thesis.

3. **Supervision arrangements***
In line with the thesis proposal, a number of items regarding the supervision should be specified in the supervision arrangements:
1. a proposed submission date for the thesis
2. provisional completion dates for chapters of the thesis
3. frequency of supervision meetings (with or without the assessor) with a maximum of seven

These arrangements will be made in mutual consultation between the supervisor, co-reader and the student and laid down in the supervision arrangements form*, which must be signed by the parties involved. Any changes to the document will also be subject to mutual consultation. After that this supervision arrangements form has to be submitted for approval to the Board of Examiners.

The original thesis proposal and the supervision arrangements form will be kept in the student's file at the Student Administration Office. The student, supervisor, co-reader and study coordinator will all have a copy of the file. Major changes in the thesis proposal or supervision schedule must be agreed by all parties mentioned above.

* The forms for the thesis proposal and supervision arrangements are available from the Graduate School Office or from the digital course space Thesis Seminar under ‘Thesis arrangements’ (Scriptieafspraken).

**Finishing and submission of the final version of the thesis**
The thesis must be finished within the academic year in which it was started. Students who cannot finish the thesis within the same academic year must choose a new topic and a new supervisor. Students can apply to the Board of Examiners for an extension of the term if the thesis cannot be finished within the set term due to special circumstances.

The draft version must be submitted at the beginning of June, the final version on 1 July and any revised versions on 1 August.
Students submit the final version, i.e. including a summary, to their first supervisor digitally. A printed copy of the final version of the thesis must be handed in to each of the examiners during the final interview.

**Thesis Seminar**
For students who plan to start writing their Research Master’s thesis, Thesis Seminars are organized. The students meets in the seminars every two to three weeks together. During the seminar meetings, students will discuss and practice specific aspects of the writing, planning and researching process involved in producing a thesis on a Research Master’s level. Through peer-review, each student will benefit from regular feedback. Part of the requirements is that students hand in a plan for their thesis and a first draft on pre-arranged dates. Participation in the Thesis Seminar is compulsory for all students who intend to write their Research Master’s thesis.

**Assessment criteria for the Research Master’s thesis**
The Research Master's thesis is assessed by means of an assessment form that covers the following nine criteria:

- Problem analysis and research question
- Operationalisation of the research question
- Method
- Use of primary and/or secondary sources
- Analysis and argumentation
- Engagement in Scientific Debates
- Conclusion
- Academic language and readability
- Overall coherence of the thesis

The mark for the thesis is determined after handing in the definitive version and is the average of the marks of the (two) examiners.

The assessment form with the criteria for the Research Master's thesis can also be found in the digital environment of the Thesis Seminar.

**Submitting the final version of the thesis**
The student submits the final version (incl. summary) digitally to primary supervisor. A printed copy of the final version of the thesis must be handed in to each of the examiners during the final interview.

**12.6 Research Proposal**
The research proposal (5 ECTS) should be no longer than max. 2500 words (. appendices excluded). The aim of writing the proposal is to enable the student to design and elaborate a
plan for independently carrying out a (supervised) research project, whether in the PhD programme of the Graduate School or elsewhere. A good proposal will significantly further a student's chances of admission to a PhD programme, the requirements for which are usually quite severe. The proposal should be drawn up under supervision of the supervisor. It should be submitted to the Board of Examiners together with the thesis. The research proposal will be assessed on its own by the supervisor of the thesis and the lecturer of the Writing a Research Proposal course.

A research proposal should address the following issues:

1. Title of Research Proposal
2. Name applicant
3. Summary (max. 250 words)
4. Summary in 5 key words
5. Description of proposed research (max. 2500 words, excluding bibliography and time table)
6. Institutional embedding and supervision
7. Research budget
8. Summary for non-Specialists, newsletters and website (max. 50 words)
9. Curriculum Vitae PhD candidate
   a) education
   b) honours, prizes, scholarships, grants
   c) relevant academic experiences
   d) other relevant positions
   e) publications
   f) motivation for doing the proposed PhD project

For a more elaborate presentation of the steps in writing a research proposal, see the Nestorcourse Graduate School ThRS. There is also a more extended description of the different parts of the research proposal.

12.7 STAFF
Academic Staff of the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies and its research centre, the Centre for Religious Studies (CRS), is involved in the programme as teachers, mentors, supervisors and as scholars. Each member of staff participates in one of the three research groups of the CRS:

Jewish, Christian and Islamic Origins
prof. G.H. van Kooten, prof.dr. M. Popović, dr.dr. F.L. Roig Lanzillotta,
prof. J.T.A.G.M. van Ruiten.

Comparative Study of Religion
12.8 COORDINATOR
The Research Master Theology and Religious Studies (Research) is offered by the Faculty’s Graduate School Theology and Religious Studies. The Graduate School offers also three and four year PhD training and research programmes. Director of the Graduate School is prof.dr. M.W. Buitelaar (m.w.buitelaar@rug.nl).

13. MASTER’S DEGREE PROGRAMME IN THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES/MASTER OF ARTS IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES TEACHING (120 ECTS)

See also: http://www.rug.nl/ggw/education/master/opleiding-leraar-voortgezet-onderwijs-godsdienst-levensbeschouwing

Students who wish to teach after gaining a degree in Theology and Religious Studies can take the Master of Arts in Religious Studies Teaching to deepen their knowledge of religion and transfer this knowledge to secondary school pupils. This Master’s degree programme combines a substantive programme in the fields of Theology and Religious Studies with a teacher-training programme.

13.1 TWO-YEAR MASTER’S DEGREE PROGRAMME
The degree programme takes two years. The first year consists of substantive course units from the one-year Master’s degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies. Students can choose one of the following tracks:
- Religion, Conflict and Globalization
- Religion and Cultural Heritage
- Religion and Pluralism, Ancient & Modern
- Spiritual Care
In addition, students follow an introductory course unit in didactics and pursue an orientation placement in secondary education. This allows them to become acquainted with teaching practice and to decide whether working in secondary education is right for them. The second year of the degree programme consists of follow-up course units in Teaching Methodology, Theory of Education and educational research. The deepening placements will put students in front of the classroom with their own religious studies lessons.

13.2 THE 1 + 1 SYSTEM
Have you already completed a Master’s degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies at the University of Groningen or at another university after a Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies? It is then possible to complete the Master of Arts in Religious Studies Teaching in 1 year after your Master’s degree programme. As in the two-year degree programme, students will follow course units in Teaching Methodology
Students who started their Master’s degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies with different qualifications than a Bachelor’s degree programme in Theology or Religious Studies must follow a 30 ECTS pre-Master’s programme first.

14. ORGANIZATION OF THE FACULTY

14.1 Faculty Board
The Faculty is governed by the Faculty Board. The Faculty Board bears the final responsibility for everything that takes place within the Faculty. In concrete terms, this means that the Faculty Board is responsible for the management and administration of the Faculty, and for supervising the quality of the teaching and research. It also draws up the budgets and allocates staff.

The Faculty Board has three members who are appointed by the Board of the University, each with a specific area of responsibility (research, education and resources). In addition, a student member is appointed to the Faculty Board in an advisory capacity. The student is appointed for one year by the Faculty Board on the recommendation of the student members of the Faculty Council.

The Board meets once a week. These meetings are not public. For a list of members, see Section 12.5 or the Faculty website.

14.2 Faculty Council
The Faculty Board discusses policy with the Faculty Council. The Faculty Council issues advice in matters concerning teaching and research as well as the Faculty budget. The Board must have the approval of the Council in the following two situations:
- when amending Faculty regulations
- when amending the Teaching and Examination Regulations.

The views of the Council carry significant weight with the Faculty Board because they are an indication of whether there is a support base for potential decisions.

The Faculty Council consists of 10 members, 5 elected by and from the staff (with a two-year term) and 5 elected by and from the student body (with a one-year term). The student members of the Faculty Council represent the interests of students at the Faculty and are a point of contact when complaints arise among the student population.
The chair of the Faculty Council is one of the staff members, the vice chair is always a student member. The elections for the Faculty Council are organized in accordance with the Electoral Regulations of the University. All students and staff have passive and active voting rights. The members of the Faculty Board are not permitted to be members of the Faculty Council. The term for the members begins on 1 September of the year in which the elections for the section in question have taken place. The Faculty website lists the members of the Faculty Council. For information about the contact person, contact W.C. van de Pol, tel. (050) 36 35591, e-mail: W.C.van.de.Pol@rug.nl.

Meetings of the Faculty Council are public, so you can attend if you wish. The student members of the Faculty Council, Faculty Board and programme committees also hold a General Student Platform a couple of times per year. All students are welcome to attend.

14.3 Programme Director and Research Director
The Programme Director is responsible for the scheduling and implementation of the teaching in the degree programmes. The research director is responsible for drawing up the research programme. However, the final responsibility rests with the Faculty Board. The programme director is advised by the programme committees. The research director is advised by the Centre for Religious Studies (CRS). Because the Faculty is small, the positions of programme director and Faculty Board Member for Education are combined. This also applies to the positions of research director and Faculty Board Member for Research.

14.4 Sub-departments
The programme director is responsible for the practical implementation of teaching programmes. The principal task of the programme director is to ensure effective coordination between course units and optimum implementation of the teaching programme. Departments are responsible for what is actually taught in a course unit. The Faculty has three departments.
- Jewish, Christian and Islamic Origins
- Comparative Study of Religion
- Christianity and the History of Ideas

14.5 Graduate School of Theology and Religious Studies
The Graduate School of Theology and Religious Studies brings together Research Master’s students, PhD students and researchers in their field of interest. The Graduate School coordinates the Research Master’s degree in Theology and Religious Studies (Religion and Culture) and the PhD programme in Theology and Religious Studies, thereby coordinating the transition from one to the other. The director of the Graduate School is dr. M.W. Buitelaar, who is responsible on the Faculty Board’s behalf for the teaching and supervision of Research Master’s students and PhD students.

14.6 Programme Committees
Programme Committees are important advisory bodies for the teaching. By law, each degree programme is required to have its own Programme Committee. The Programme Committees for the Bachelor’s and Master’s degree programmes in Theology and Religious Studies are clustered. There is also a Programme Committee for the degree programmes
run by the Graduate School (Research Master's degree and PhD), and the Master's programmes.

The task of the Programme Committees is to advise the Faculty Board and programme director, on request or on their own initiative, about the Teaching & Examination Regulations, the teaching programme, quality assurance and course unit evaluations. The subject, semester and curriculum evaluations are conducted by means of a standard questionnaire. The results of the evaluations are public, with the exception of personal comments, and are discussed by the Programme Committees. If problems are signalled, the Programme Committee will inform the programme director, who will then undertake the necessary action to resolve them.

Half of the members of each Programme Committee are students and half are staff. The student members are appointed every two years on the recommendation of the student members of the relevant Programme Committee. For this purpose, the committee organizes open recruitment via the vacancy site on Nestor. All student members of the Programme Committees can attend annual training courses, for example in meeting techniques. Further information about the composition of the Programme Committees can be found on Nestor.

14.7 Board of Examiners
In accordance with Article 7.12 of the WHW, the Faculty Board has appointed a Board of Examiners for the purpose of organizing and coordinating examinations for the Faculty's degree programmes. The Board of Examiners is the body that determines, in an objective and expert manner, whether a student meets the requirements specified in the Teaching & Examination Regulations with regard to the knowledge, understanding and skills that are required to obtain a degree. The members of the Board of Examiners are appointed from the members of staff responsible for providing the teaching in the relevant degree programme(s). The study advisor is appointed to the Board of Examiners in an advisory capacity.

The duties of the Board of Examiners are as follows:
- to assure the quality of examinations and final examinations
- to hold the examinations
- to organize and coordinate the examinations
- to ensure that examinations proceed satisfactorily
- to approve optional course unit choices (Art. 7.3.c) within existing degree programmes.

The ‘organization and coordination of examinations’ mainly involves the following:
- appointing the examiners who will take the examinations
- drawing up regulations concerning ‘the proper procedure during examinations and the measures to be taken accordingly’
- issuing ‘guidelines and instructions’ to examiners concerning ‘the assessment of the student taking the examination and the determination of the examination result’.
The Board of Examiners:
- checks examination-subject forms to ensure that examination requirements have been met
- is authorized to form judgements regarding students who are suspected of cheating
- is authorized to extend the validity of examinations
- has the right, in special cases, to hold examinations in a manner other than that specified by the board of the institution
- assesses whether there is a case of clear force majeure when students request dispensation (the following, for example, constitute clear force majeure: illness – for which a doctor’s certificate is required – or the serious illness or death of a close relative). The Board of Examiners assesses such circumstances and allows exceptions to the rules
- can determine whether exemption can be granted for certain course units on the basis of examinations or final examinations already taken in higher education, or for knowledge and skills acquired outside the context of higher education
- deals with requests for approval of combinations of minor subjects

The Board of Examiners usually meets during the first week of each month, except in the month of August, when the meeting is held in the third week. Letters received before the first day of the month are dealt with during the next meeting. Contact: examencommissie.ggw@rug.nl.

The Board of Examiners deals only with electronic mail sent to the above address. Enclosures/attachments such as copies of diplomas, exam slips, lists of marks etc., should preferably be scanned and submitted electronically with the request. Alternatively, hard copies of enclosures can be handed in to the administration office. Attachments should also be submitted before the first day of the month in which the correspondent wishes the request to be dealt with. The person submitting the request will be informed of the Board of Examiners’ decision within four weeks.

14.8 CENTRE FOR RELIGIOUS STUDIES
The Centre for Religious Studies (CRS) is the central research institute of the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies. The Board of the CRS also functions as the Faculty Academic Research Committee and the Admissions Board for the Graduate School. The CRS advises the Faculty Board, on its own initiative or on request, on the following:
- the development, coordination and prioritization of research to be carried out at the Faculty
- the progress of the research.

The Board of the CRS advises the Faculty Board on all matters relating to Faculty research, such as the appointment of PhD students and postdocs, and international contacts at Faculty level. In addition, every year the CRS lists and evaluates the research activities of the three departments, particularly their research output (books, articles, dissertations, etc.).
The Board of the CRS comprises the research director, the chairs of departments, the director of the Graduate School of Theology and Religious Studies, and a PhD student (advisory member).

Director: prof.dr. C.K.M. von Stuckrad
Secretariat: W.C. van de Pol
Tel.: 050-36 35591
E-mail: CRS@rug.nl

14.9 Other Faculty Committees

Introduction Committee
The Introduction Committee organizes the introductory period at the beginning of the propaedeutic phase.

BSA Committee
The Committee monitors the progress of students, particularly during the first two years. At the end of the first and second years, after consulting the first-year lecturers, the Committee issues a BSA to first-year and second-year students.

Library Committee
The Library Committee is responsible for maintaining the academic standard of the library. It formulates guidelines for the acquisition of books and periodicals, is involved in spatial issues arising in the library, and investigates whether the collection needs to be reviewed.

Admissions Boards for Master's degree programmes
Separate Admissions Boards have been appointed for the individual Master's degree programmes. The boards determine whether students fulfil the entry requirements.

IT Committee
The IT Committee draws up rules for the use of computers by students in the central computer room. The committee also makes suggestions regarding the purchase of computers and software.

Committee for Women’s Studies
The Committee for Women’s Studies promotes teaching and research in the field of Gender Studies/Women’s Studies. It advises the programme committees and the Board on these matters. The committee also organizes an annual study day on religion and gender.

14.10 Faculty Society: Gerardus van der Leeuw
The Gerardus van der Leeuw faculty society was established in April 2003. It organizes activities for the first-year introduction programme, Faculty parties, drinks parties, a sailing weekend, a football camp, and more. These activities are designed to bring students together and add a social dimension to studying. The faculty society also organizes study-related activities such as symposia, excursions, lectures and debates.

The Faculty society has a number of committees to organize all these activities. There is an editorial committee for the Faculty paper ‘Dei facto’, a social events committee, an
introduction committee, an almanac committee, a symposium committee and a film committee. There are plenty of opportunities for students who want to take on an active role in faculty life. New ideas and initiatives are always welcome!
Contact: gerardusvanderleeuw@gmail.com

14.11 Debating Societies
The faculty has three debating societies: S.T.A.O. Alektoor, Bonifatius and M.A.T.A. Debating societies (disputen) promote philosophical discussions on a particular theme, or in the spirit of a renowned and respected person. Each debating society has its own characteristics. One of the main aims is to promote contact between new and more senior students. Any student of the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies can join a debating society. The societies also have many graduate members (alumni). Debates are held in the evenings, approximately once every three weeks. The meeting usually involves a debate on a chosen theme.
For further information, see: http://www.gerardusvanderleeuw.nl/disputen/

14.12 Alumninetwork
Alumni receive and invitation to the virtual alumninetwork on LinkedIn, to keep in touch with eachother and the faculty. Alumni also receive invitations to various Faculty activities and, of course, for events organized by the community.

14.13 Faculty Prizes
Prof. H.G. Hubbeling Prize
The Prof. H.G. Hubbeling Prize was introduced by the Faculty in 1994 to promote academic research and knowledge transfer by graduates in theology and religious studies. The Hubbeling Fund, which is managed by the family of the late Prof. H.G. Hubbeling, donates the sum of € 500 for the prize. H.G. Hubbeling was Professor of the Philosophy of Religion and Philosophical Ethics at the Faculty from 1967 to 1986.

The prize is awarded once every three years to a graduate of the Faculty who has written a thesis that has been given a grade higher than 8. The winners are selected by a 3-member jury of staff and emeriti, appointed by the Faculty Board.

The Hubbeling Prize has been awarded to the following people:
1994 – drs. G.J.C. Labuschagne
1997 – drs. J. Dijkema
2000 – dr. J.K. Muthert
2003 – drs. M. Crajé
2006 – dr. M.E. Knibbe
2009 – B.E.A.L. van der Lans MA
2012 – I. Busschers MA
2016 – C. Oosterkamp MA

Mallinckrodt Prize
The Mallinckrodt Prize was introduced in 1925 by the family of the late Professor W. Mallinckrodt, who was a Church-appointed professor at the University of Groningen. The
The Mallinckrodt Prize has been awarded to the following people:
1935 – dr. K.H. Miskotte te Haarlem
1945 – dr. W.C. van Unnik te Schiedam
1955 – dr. D.J. Hoens te Utrecht
1965 – dr. G.H.M. Posthumus Meyes te Ndoungue (Cameroon)
1975 – dr. H.W. de Knijff te Utrecht
1985 – dr. L.J. van den Brom te Soest
1995 – dr. E. Talstra te Amsterdam
2005 – dr. G.F. Jensma te Sauwerd
2016 – dr. F. Stock

15. WHO, WHAT, WHERE

15.1 ADDRESS DETAILS: FACULTY OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES
Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies
Oude Boteringestraat 38
9712 GK Groningen, The Netherlands
☎ (050) 36 38017
Fax: (050) 36 36200
faculteit.ggw@rug.nl
www.rug.nl/ggw

15.2 FACULTY BUILDING OPENING HOURS
During teaching weeks:
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 8.30 a.m. – 6.00 p.m.
Thursday 8.30 a.m. – 9.00 p.m.
During non-teaching weeks:
Monday to Friday 8.30 a.m. – 6.00 p.m.

15.3 STUDY ADVISORS AND STUDENT ADMINISTRATION
The study advisors give information and advice about study planning and guidance, registration regulations and more personal matters.
If you have questions for the study advisors, visit this site first:
www.rug.nl/education/hoezithet

drs. T.M.L. de Boer
Room 028
☎ (050) 36 35581
e-mail: T.M.L.de.Boer@rug.nl
Office hours by appointment.
K. van den Ende MA
Room 028
☎ (050) 36 39382
e-mail: k.van.den.ende@rug.nl
Office hours by appointment.

Student Administration Office
Room 004
☎ (050) 36 35568 / 38421
e-mail: onderwijs.ggw@rug.nl
Opening hours: Tuesday to Friday, 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

15.4 Nestor and the Teaching and Examination Timetable
For questions about Nestor or the teaching and examination timetable, please contact
drs. H.T. van Putten
Room 036
☎ (050) 36 34589
e-mail: H.T.van.Putten@rug.nl

15.5 Faculty Board
drs. P.E. Broeksma, Faculty Board Treasurer
Room 008
☎ (050) 36 35588
e-mail: p.e.broeksma@rug.nl

prof.dr. M. Popovic, Dean and Faculty Board Member for Research (also Research Director)
Room -153
☎ (050) 36 37544
e-mail: m.popovic@rug.nl

dr. S.J. Vellenga, Vice Dean and Faculty Board Member for Education (also programme
director)
Room 128
☎ (050) 36 32293
e-mail: s.j.vellenga@rug.nl

In addition, a student member is appointed to the Faculty Board in an advisory capacity.

15.6 Library
Collection, catalogue, borrowing
The Library of the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies moved to the University of
Groningen Library (Broerstraat 4) in July 2014. The Faculty collection comprises about
40,000 volumes, most of which can be found in the Reading Room on the fourth floor of the
University Library (UB). The rest of the collection is housed in the UB’s closed stacks.
The open collection includes reference works (encyclopaedias, bibliographies, commentaries, concordances, dictionaries – including theological dictionaries), monographs and collections of articles, as well as about 300 subscriptions to journals and series. Printed journals can be found in the journals collection on the first floor of the UB. The collection can be accessed from the University’s online catalogue. A valid library card (student or staff card) is required to borrow books.

The electronic collection
In addition to the collection of printed material, the University Library also has an extensive electronic collection, comprising electronic journals, databases containing bibliographical information, text files and e-books, which can be consulted online. The electronic collection is available via the proxy server, which means that University of Groningen staff and students can log in from any location around the world with their student or personnel number.

Wijchers Collection
The Library also houses the Wijchers Collection, a loaned collection of about 10,000 volumes comprising religious songbooks from many countries, dating from the 17th to the 20th century. This collection is stored in the UB closed stacks and cannot be borrowed.

Iconography collection
The Theology and Religious Studies collection also includes a large collection of religious iconography, especially that of the pre-literate cultures and Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam and the ancient cultures. The collection consists of about 24,000 slides with a card index of photographs, and is stored in slide cabinets and card-index boxes. This collection is stored in the University Museum and can be viewed by appointment. For more information, please contact the University Museum:

An extensive collection of photographs and accompanying documentation on church architecture and church art is kept in the Faculty building. This collection has also been digitized and is available at http://www.kerkeninbeeld.nl/.

Workstations
Workstations are provided in the UB for consulting items that cannot be borrowed (e.g. reference works and valuable items) and/or for quiet study.

The former Faculty Library also has 23 workstations where students can study quietly.

Students can also use the other University of Groningen library locations, including the Library of Behavioural and Social Sciences, the Zernike Library, the Central Medical Library and the Groningen location of the PThU Library.

Information
More information about the Library can be found at http://www.rug.nl/bibliotheek/
and
http://www.rug.nl/bibliotheek/services/ub/services-department/study-rooms/collectietheologie/.

15.7 IT
Computers play an important and self-evident part in the degree programmes in Theology and Religious Studies. You are therefore expected to have mastered basic IT skills before starting your degree programme.

*Computer account and e-mail address*
When you begin your degree programme, you will be given a computer account and e-mail address so that you can use a number of the University’s computer programs. Your account will give you access to several university computer programs and to the University of Groningen student network.

You will receive the university computer account from the Central Student Administration (CSA) with the confirmation of your registration or re-registration at the University of Groningen. The account consists of a user name (s + student number) and a password that you will need to change a couple of times each year. The account and e-mail address will remain valid for the duration of your degree programme.

The university e-mail address issued by the University of Groningen is the address that the Faculty uses to send out information to students. Nestor and ProgRESS-WWW also use this address. It is therefore important that you check your e-mail regularly. Till 1 July 2013, the University had its own webmail client for e-mail. From 2nd July, a new webmail client was introduced: Google Mail. Your inbox can be accessed via the internet address: http://googleapps.rug.nl. In this case too, you use your university computer account to log in. It is also possible to have your e-mail forwarded to another e-mail account. See for more information http://rug.nl/mu/google-apps. It is possible to save messages from your old e-mailaccount. See https://gogoogle.rug.nl/.

*Computer facilities and wireless network*
In Room S34 at the Faculty there are several computers available for use during opening hours (8.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. and also to 9.00 p.m. on Thursdays during teaching weeks). The University Library also has computer facilities for students. For problems relating to computer use, you can contact the IT Service Desk on the first floor of the Harmoniegebouw (Oude Kijk in ’t Jatstraat 26, Faculty of Arts). If you have forgotten your password, you will need proof of identity in addition to your student card.

Students, staff and guests of the University of Groningen have wireless internet access via their personal laptops. Wireless access is possible in public areas in the University buildings, and throughout the Faculty. The following are required: a laptop with a wireless network card, software and a staff/student number. For more information and the software, go to http://www.rug.nl/science-and-society/library/services/bibcmb/toolbox/wireless-internets.
Computer courses and software

Please contact the University of Groningen’s Donald Smits Center for Information Technology (CIT) (Landleven 1, Zernike Complex, 050-36 33232) if you want to follow a computer course or if you need help solving a problem relating to IT equipment, programs and other IT facilities. You can also log in to the University network from home. For more information, go to http://www.rug.nl/science-and-society/library/services/bibcmb/toolbox/wireless-internet In addition, you can buy software and other IT products legally and at very attractive rates via SURFSPOT.NL (http://surfspot.nl/).

15.8 Academic Staff

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Professor of Reformed Religion: Sources, Development and Context (endowed chair: Reformed Alliance in the Protestant Church in the Netherlands)

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Professor of Liberal Theology: Development and Influence From the 19th Century to the Present (endowed chair: VVP, Association of Dutch Liberal Protestants)

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Associate Professor in Indian Religions and the Anthropology of Religion

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Lecturer in Greek

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Director of the Graduate School of Theology and Religious Studies

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Lecturer in the History of Christianity
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Professor of Religion and Heritage

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Lecturer in the Sociology of Religion

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Assistant professor Religion and Human Rights
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(including the History of Dogma and Theology)  
Professor of Religious Philosophy

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Lecturer in Spiritual Care / Psychology of Religion

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Professor of Religion and Law (endowed chair: Groningen University Fund)

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Professor of Secularization Studies  
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Director of Research  
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Centre for the Study of Religion and Culture in Asia

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15.10 Support Staff and Management

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drs. P.E. Broeksma  e-mail: P.E.Broeksma@rug.nl  📞 (050) 36 39313  Room 008
Member of the Faculty Board  Treasurer (Finance, Management, Personnel, Health, Safety & Environment)

drs. C.B Caron-Feiken  e-mail: c.b.caron@rug.nl  📞 (050) 36 35597  Room 036
Communications Officer

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In-House Services / Caretaker

K. van den Ende MA  e-mail: k.van.den.ende@rug.nl  📞 (050) 36 39382  Room 028
Education Coordinator and Study Advisor

M.H. de Hei-van der Touw  e-mail: M.H.de.Hei-van.der.Touw@rug.nl  📞 (050) 36 35568  Room 004
Student Office Administration

Y.A. Poel  e-mail: y.a.poel@rug.nl  📞 (050) 36 34315  Room 006
Junior secretary

W.C. van de Pol  e-mail: W.C.van.de.Pol@rug.nl  📞 (050) 36 35591  Room 006
Management Assistant; Centre for Religious Studies secretariat; Faculty Coordinator for Health, Safety & Environment

drs. H.T. van Putten  e-mail: H.T.van.Putten@rug.nl  📞 (050) 53 34589  Room 036
Nestor project leader, Education Coordinator, E-learning project leader

E. Ruben  e-mail: E.Ruben@rug.nl  📞 (050) 36 39769 or (06) 8152 1264  Room 004
Financial and Projectcontroller
16. CODE OF CONDUCT

The guidelines below have been adopted in order to facilitate the smooth running of the teaching programme, both for students and lecturers. Good communication is only possible if the rules are observed by all concerned, so everyone – lecturers as well as students – is expected to comply with the code of conduct.

Using the official e-mail address and correct postal address
All e-mail is sent via the official student e-mail addresses issued by the University (name@student.rug.nl). Please use only this e-mail address or link it to your personal e-mail address. This is important, since communication is mainly via e-mail. The administration office of your degree programme needs the correct addresses and postcodes of all its students for the purpose of information provision. For this purpose, the administration office uses the information in Studielink. When students change their address, they must update the details in Studielink and inform the administration office.

Registering for courses and examinations
Everyone must register in good time via ProgRESS-WWW for lectures and examinations. If you do not do this, you might not be allowed to participate. You will also miss out on the Nestor link and important information about your courses. If you decide not to take an examination for which you have registered, you should cancel your registration via ProgRESS-WWW.

Be on time
Make sure that you are on time for lectures and all other teaching activities. Nothing is more annoying for students and lecturers than people who enter the lecture room after a lecture has begun.
Switch off mobile telephones
Mobile telephones should be switched off during all teaching sessions! This also applies in the library and at IT workstations, where telephone conversations and other forms of intrusive behaviour are prohibited.

Deadlines
There are good reasons for setting deadlines. If a deadline is specified (e.g. for handing a paper or assignment), you should keep to it. Lecturers have the right to grade work that is handed in late as ‘Unsatisfactory’, or to refuse to mark it.

Communication etiquette
When sending e-mails or letters, please state clearly who they are intended for, what they are about and who the sender is. Write clearly and use good Dutch or English. All texts that you submit should meet the requirement of correct and good Dutch or English.

Questions
First, check whether the information you need is in the study guide or on the Faculty website: www.myuniversity rug.nl/insandouts). Please also consider where or to whom you can best put your question – for example to the lecturer, administration office or study adviser. Ask your questions in good time; do not wait until the day before the exam to ask questions about the material.

Plagiarism
Plagiarism is forbidden. Using fragments of text without stating the source is a cardinal sin for academics. This applies to text copied from academic literature as well as from the internet. The Board of Examiners regards plagiarism as a form of fraud.

Cooperating in evaluations
Within the framework of quality assurance, all of our teaching is evaluated in various ways (digital, written, oral). We expect you to cooperate with requests to participate in evaluations. It is extremely important for the degree programme, and thus also for students, that we maintain our high standard of teaching.

Deregistering from your degree programme
Students who terminate their degree programme prematurely or temporarily must notify their study advisor and the administration office.

Registration for graduation ceremonies
There are application procedures to be followed for propaedeutic, Bachelor’s and Master’s examinations. See the Faculty website: Education > requesting a degree certificate (http://www.rug.nl/ggw/onderwijszaken/afstuderen). The graduation procedure takes approximately 6 weeks.
17. INFORMATION ABOUT THE STUDENT CHARTER

The Student Charter
The Student Charter provides an overview of the rights and obligations of both students and the University. It is based on national legislation, particularly the Higher Education and Research Act (WHW), supplemented by regulations that are specific to the University of Groningen. These latter regulations are set out in the appendices to the Student Charter.

The Act stipulates that the Student Charter comprises two sections: a university-wide section and a programme-specific section. The university-wide section describes the rights and obligations that apply to the university as a whole, such as registration and protection of rights. You can find this section on the internet (www.rug.nl/studenten/ > regulations, complaints and participation > Students Charter).

The university-wide section of the Student Charter does not literally quote the articles from acts and regulations but describes them as clearly as possible. The various topics are accompanied by links to the relevant articles of the act or regulation in question.

The programme-specific sections describe the rights and obligations that apply to specific degree programmes. These sections include the Teaching and Examination Regulations (OER), Rules and Regulations for examinations and final assessment and other regulations and provisions set by the various degree programmes and faculties. You can consult your programme-specific section at the faculty Education Offices and in the Study Guides.

Applicability
The Student Charter applies to academic year 2016-2017. The university-wide section of the Student Charter is approved annually by the Board of the University and endorsed by the University Council. In the event that the Charter challenges or contradicts any legal regulations, these legal regulations will take priority.

Publication
At the start of the academic year all students will be sent an e-mail by the Board of the University informing them where they can find the Student Charter on the internet and where they can consult a hard copy of the Student Charter.

Using the Student Charter
All students are expected to be familiar with the contents of the Student Charter. Not complying with the rules in the Charter may affect your rights, for example the right to financial support from the Graduation Fund.

Some of these regulations may not be as hard and fast as they sound. Rules and regulations are by definition general in character, and this Student Charter is no exception. This means that the applicability of these regulations in concrete situations and individual instances is not always a predictable and straightforward matter. Students who have registered for the first time this year may find that the regulations that apply to them are different to those for students who have reregistered. Make sure you are provided with the right information by
your faculty and/or the Student Service Centre (SSC) and read the Student Charter and the associated regulations carefully!

**Items in the Student Charter**
The university-wide section of the Student Charter contains information on the rights and obligations of students regarding the following items:
- admission,
- registration and deregistration,
- teaching, including the binding study advice,
- examinations and final assessments,
- financial assistance,
- consultative participation,
- rules of behaviour,
- legal rights.

18. **TEACHING AND EXAMINATION REGULATIONS 2016-2017**

18.1 **Teaching and Examination Regulations Master’s degree programme Theology and Religious Studies (60 ECTS)**

18.2 **Teaching and Examination Regulations Research Master Theology and Religious Studies (120 ECTS)**
19. RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS

Rules and Regulations, within the meaning of Article 7.12b paragraphs 1 and 3 of the Higher Education and Research Act (WHW, Wet op het Hoger Onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek), for the Master’s degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies (60 ECTS credit points) and the Research Master’s degree programme in Theology and Religious Studies (Religion and Culture) (120 ECTS credit points).

The Board of Examiners for the aforementioned degree programmes and university minors, having regard to Article 7.12b paragraphs 1 and 3 of the Higher Education and Research Act (WHW, Wet op het Hoger Onderwijs en Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek),
20. ADDRESSES CENTRAL BODIES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GRONINGEN

General addresses

Board of the University (CvB)
Postal address: P.O. Box 72, 9700 AB Groningen, the Netherlands
Telephone: (050) 36 35285

University Council (U- raad)
Postal address: P.O. Box 72, 9700 AB Groningen, the Netherlands
Telephone: (050) 36 38535
E-mail: uraad@rug.nl
Internet: www.rug.nl/uraad

Legal Affairs Office (ABJZ)
Postal address: P.O. Box 72, 9700 AB Groningen, the Netherlands
Telephone: (050) 36 35440
myuniversity.rug.nl/infonet/medewerkers/organisatie/bvdu/abjz/

Donald Smits Center for Information Technology (CIT)
Visiting address: Zernikeborg, Nettelbosje 1
Postal address: P.O. Box 11044, 9700 CA Groningen, the Netherlands
Telephone: (050) 36 39200
E-mail: secretariaat-cit@rug.nl
Internet: www.rug.nl/cit

CIT Helpdesk:
Telephone: (050) 36 33232
E-mail: servicedesk.cit@rug.nl

Health, Safety and Environment Service (AMD)
Visiting address and postal address: Visserstraat 49, 9712 CT Groningen, the Netherlands
Telephone: (050) 36 35551
E-mail: amd@rug.nl
Internet: www.rug.nl/amd

Office of the Confidential Advisor
Marijke Dam, Confidential Advisor
Visiting address and postal address: Visserstraat 47, 9712 CT Groningen, the Netherlands
Telephone: (050) 36 35435
E-mail: j.m.dam@rug.nl of secretariaatBVP@rug.nl
www.rug.nl/confidentialadvisor

Complaints Committee for harassment, sexual harassment and aggressive, violent or discriminatory behaviour
Postal address: Antwoordnummer 172, 9700 AB Groningen
ADDRESSES FOR STUDENTS

University Student Desk (USD)
Visiting address: Broerstraat 5
Postal address: P.O. Box 72, 9700 AB Groningen, the Netherlands
Telephone: (050) 36 38004
E-mail: usd@rug.nl
Internet/Email: www.rug.nl/insandouts or www.rug.nl/usd or myuniversity > frequently asked questions

International Service Desk (ISD)
Visiting address: Broerstraat 5
Postal address: P.O. Box 72, 9700 AB Groningen, the Netherlands
Telephone: (050) 36 38181
E-mail: isd@rug.nl
Internet: www.rug.nl/isd

Student Service Centre (SSC)
Visiting address: Uurwerkersgang 10
Postal address: P.O. Box 72, 9700 AB Groningen, the Netherlands
Telephone: (050) 36 38066
E-mail: ssc-info@rug.nl
Internet: www.rug.nl/ssc

NEXT Careers Advice
Visiting address: Uurwerkersgang 10
Postal address: Postbus 72, 9700 AB Groningen
Email: next@rug.nl
Internet: www.rug.nl/next

Central Portal for the Legal Protection of Student Rights
Postal address: P.O. Box 72, 9700 AB Groningen, the Netherlands
Email/Internet: www.rug.nl/clrs or myuniversity > frequently asked questions

University Funds Committee (UFC)
Postal address: P.O. Box 72, 9700 AB Groningen, the Netherlands
E-mail: ufc@rug.nl
## 21. CALENDAR ACADEMIC YEAR 2017–2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Timetable</th>
<th>week</th>
<th>begin/enddate</th>
<th>Enrolling courses</th>
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<td>BSA 27 July</td>
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- o enrolling lectures and examinations
- x enrolling Resit
- * poss. change enrollment via student.administration office
22. COURSE OVERVIEW BACHELOR THEOLOGY

See for course descriptions Theology: / General information about

Old Curriculum:
BA TH-fulltime:
  http://www.rug.nl/ocasys/rug/vak/showpos?opleiding=3668
BA TH-fulltime (incl. Greek):
  http://www.rug.nl/ocasys/rug/vak/showpos?opleiding=3669
BA TH-fulltime (incl. Greek, incl. PThU-track):
  http://www.rug.nl/ocasys/rug/vak/showpos?opleiding=5185
BA TH-fulltime (incl. PThU-track):
  http://www.rug.nl/ocasys/rug/vak/showpos?opleiding=5186

New Curriculum:
BA TH-fulltime:
BA TH-fulltime (incl. Greek):
  http://www.rug.nl/ocasys/rug/vak/showpos?opleiding=5919
BA TH-fulltime (incl. Greek, incl. PThU-track):
  http://www.rug.nl/ocasys/rug/vak/showpos?opleiding=5922
BA TH-fulltime (incl. PThU-track):
  http://www.rug.nl/ocasys/rug/vak/showpos?opleiding=5923

23. COURSE OVERVIEW BACHELOR RELIGIOUS STUDIES

See for course descriptions Religious Studies:

Old Curriculum:
BA RS-fulltime:
  http://www.rug.nl/ocasys/rug/vak/showpos?opleiding=3670

New Curriculum:
BA RS-fulltime:
  http://www.rug.nl/ocasys/rug/vak/showpos?opleiding=5918
24. COURSE OVERVIEW UNIVERSITY-LEVEL MINOR

See for course descriptions Minors ThRS:

Pre-master Spiritual Care/ RS:
Pre-master Spiritual Care/ Th:
Religion, Ritual and Mythology:
Religion, Society and Identity:
Religion, Text and Culture:
  http://www.rug.nl/ocasys/rug/vak/showpos?opleiding=4989
Text, Tradition and Interpretation
  http://www.rug.nl/ocasys/rug/vak/showpos?opleiding=4980

25. COURSE OVERVIEW UNIVERSITY MASTERTRACKS ThRS

See for course descriptions Mastertracks of ThRS:

MA Spiritual Care-fulltime:
MA Spiritual Care-parttime:
MA Religion and Cultural Heritage:
  http://www.rug.nl/ocasys/rug/vak/showpos?opleiding=6005
MA Religion and Pluralism, Ancient and Modern:
  http://www.rug.nl/ocasys/rug/vak/showpos?opleiding=6006
MA Religion, Conflict and Globalisation:
  http://www.rug.nl/ocasys/rug/main/browseByFaculty
MA Theology and Religious Studies (Research):
  http://www.rug.nl/ocasys/rug/vak/showpos?opleiding=2334