

CLAREMONT GRADUATE
UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF RELIGION
HANDBOOK

2009-2010

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INTRODUCTION

This handbook contains important information, some of which is not available elsewhere. It should be used along with the CGU Bulletin and other materials supplied by the CGU Student Affairs Office to determine the requirements and policies of each degree program. SOR students should discuss and verify all aspects of their respective programs with an advisor, the dean, the associate dean, the SOR secretary, the Registrar, and others, as needed. You should keep this copy of the handbook until you graduate. It is the primary document concerning all of the academic requirements that are specific to the programs of the SOR.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The SOR Office, 831 N. Dartmouth, Claremont, CA 91711, is open from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Please feel free to contact the staff at (909) 621-8085 or e-mail them at religion@cgu.edu if you have any questions regarding your program.

We will communicate regularly by e-mail; **ALL STUDENTS MUST OPEN A CGU E-MAIL ACCOUNT** and check their messages regularly. In order to receive official CGU announcements, students must have a CGU e-mail account.

Outgoing mail and duplicating services are available in Harper East basement, room E6 (621-8177) open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. FAX, photocopying and binding are available at a low cost to students. Students may also use the SOR office address to receive mail. If you use the school as a contact address, please frequently check the student mailbox in the SOR office.

Institutional financial aid is awarded for one year and is a percentage of the tuition fee. The percentage is guaranteed through the completion of course work as long as the student's academic progress is satisfactory. However, to ensure that the award is renewed, students must submit an Institutional Aid Application Form prior to the year in which they expect to be awarded aid. All students who wish to be considered for institutional aid must apply by February 1. Application forms may be obtained from and returned to the SOR Office. Students should also ask the Financial Aid Office about their eligibility for Work-Study grants and all other options concerning financial aid. International students may be ineligible for some funds, but should explore all options.

Course descriptions, arranged by semester, are available online and in the SOR Office.

Literary Style Manuals: All written work at CGU (e.g. papers, theses, critiques, and dissertations) should conform to the style guidelines in one of the following:

The Chicago Manual of Style, 15th ed. (or most current). Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003.

A supplement for biblical studies is found in "Instructions for Contributors," Journal of Biblical Literature. Copies are available in the School office.

Students should request from the Student Affairs Office a copy of the guidelines for preparing MA theses and PhD dissertations. This information is also available on the CGU website.

Student requests for interpreting SOR policies should be addressed to the Associate Dean or Dean, who in most cases can, if needed, in consultation with the student's advisor, provide a ruling. If necessary, a student may formally petition the SOR Dean for a ruling. Grievance procedures may also be initiated at any time through the CGU Dean of Students office.

The Office of Career Management, 1263 N. Dartmouth (621-8177), provides some services for CGU students and alumni. Students are encouraged to utilize this office when preparing materials for employment (e.g. curriculum vitae, dossiers, letters of recommendation, etc.). Forms for faculty letters of recommendation should be obtained from the Office of Career Management, which keeps faculty letters on file in placement folders and will mail student dossiers to employers on request.

The SOR also provides career services to students with an annual teaching practicum, an annual career practicum, and a teaching network that provides information concerning employment and internships at colleges and universities in Southern California.

Area Resources

Hours of operation for these resources vary greatly. Please call or check online to determine hours of operation. Hours may be altered during finals, vacations, summers and holidays.

School of Theology (CST) Library:	447-2510
Honnold Library:	621-8047
Huntley Bookstore:	621-8168
CGU Academic Computing Center Microcomputer Labs:	607-8412

The School of Arts and Humanities

The CGU School of Arts and Humanities (SAH) includes Art, Cultural Studies, English, History, Music, and Philosophy as its member departments. Students in the SOR are encouraged to take courses that are offered in the SAH and to seek advice from SAH faculty whenever appropriate.

Worksheets

At the end of this handbook are worksheets designed for projecting the entire degree program. Each student should complete these forms in consultation with his or her advisor.

ACADEMIC FORUMS

New Testament Seminar

Regularly scheduled seminars are led by faculty and PhD students of the CGU SOR and occasionally by visiting scholars. Papers for discussion are distributed in advance.

Institute for Antiquity and Christianity Lecture Series

Regularly scheduled lectures are presented by experts in the field of religion and the ancient world, both within and outside of CGU. Open to students and the public free of charge.

Institute for Signifying Scriptures

Brown Bag Lunch Sessions and a Distinguished Speaker Series foster comparative collaborative multi-disciplinary research into “scriptures.”

Philosophy of Religion and Theology Colloquia

Experts both within and outside of CGU on a broad range of philosophical and theological issues give monthly colloquia. Open to students and the public free of charge.

Women's Studies in Religion Lecture Series

This series brings women scholars from a variety of fields for public lectures and informal discussion sessions with students each semester. Open to students and the public free of charge.

Philosophy of Religion Conference

This is an annual weekend conference in the spring open to students free of charge. Well-known philosophers of religion are invited to present and discuss papers.

ADVISING

Graduate work begins and ends with the advising relationship. Each area of study of the SOR has an area coordinator who is responsible for making sure that each student in the area has an advisor. The area coordinators are automatically assigned as advisors to the entering students in their area. The SOR associate dean is automatically assigned as advisor to the entering General MA students. Students should meet with their advisors at least once a semester. For students in course work this meeting takes place during registration when advisor approval is needed. After a student has begun course work it is the responsibility of the student to identify faculty members who may write qualifying exams and/or supervise a thesis or dissertation. It is also the responsibility of the student to initiate discussions with these faculty members. After a student secures the agreement of a faculty member to supervise a thesis or dissertation, the student may begin to plan exams and the thesis or dissertation in consultation with this advisor. Students that have completed course work should arrange to meet or correspond with their advisors at least once a semester. The area coordinator will annually provide a written report on each student out of course work, but it is the responsibility of both the students and the advisors to arrange meetings and conduct correspondence. If at any time during the program a student is uncertain of his or her advising status or encounters advising problems, the student should consult with the dean or the associate dean to attempt to resolve those problems.

LANGUAGES

The university requires every MA student to have one research tool and every Ph.D. student to have two research tools. A research tool is usually reading proficiency in a foreign language. In the SOR, some degree programs require language proficiency in the study of the languages used in a sacred text. Since the study of texts lies at the core of these programs, language proficiency must sometimes be demonstrated in other languages to satisfy the research tool requirement. Be sure to check with your advisor, the area coordinator, and the associate dean to confirm whether competency in a particular language will satisfy the requirement. As an aid in distinguishing between those languages that will count as a research tool and those that will not, the SOR Handbook will refer to two categories of language requirements:

1) Primary Text Language Requirement – MA and Ph.D. degree programs in Comparative Scriptures, Hebrew Bible, Islamic Studies, and New Testament require language competency in one or more languages (see degree requirements below). Students may be required to take a test upon admission to determine their level of language competency. Typically, this language requirement **does not** satisfy the research tool requirement.

2) Secondary Research Language Requirement (satisfies the university research tool requirement) – Students can typically choose from among: Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Greek, Hebrew (modern), Japanese, Korean, Latin, Sanskrit, and Spanish, on condition that the school of religion can provide an examiner in those languages. The student's advisor and the student's area coordinator must approve any exceptions. Those whose mother tongue falls among the languages chosen or approved as above or those who have had at least three years of regular education in such a language will be exempted from the examination in that language. ("Three years of regular education in such a language" means more than taking three years of a particular language; it means going through three years of high school or college taking a full course of subjects required in a particular national school system conducted in that language.) The requirement is satisfied by passing a two-hour exam given by the SOR at the beginning of each semester and at the beginning of the summer. The exam simulates a research situation: the student translates a selected passage from a previously known list of books with the aid of a dictionary. Both a language instructor and a member of the SOR faculty will grade the exam. A nominal fee is charged at the time of the exam in order to pay for the first examiner. Language workshops in French and German are offered in the summer. This language requirement **does** satisfy the university's research tool requirement.

MA DEGREE PROGRAMS

- 1) MA in Religion. Students may choose one of the following tracks for an MA in Religion:
 - a) General – Students work in 3 areas of the study of religion.
 - b) Specialized – Students choose to specialize in one the following programs: Comparative Scriptures; Hebrew Bible; History of Christianity and Religions of North America; Islamic Studies; Jewish Studies; New Testament; Philosophy of Religion and Theology; Theology, Ethics, and Culture; and Women’s Studies in Religion.

- 2) MA in Islamic Studies. The requirements for the MA in Islamic Studies are the same as those for an MA in Religion with a specialization in Islamic Studies. Thus, students working in Islamic Studies may choose to name their degree according to their specialty (MA in Islamic Studies) or take the more general name, MA in Religion.

- 3) MA in Women’s Studies in Religion. The requirements for an MA in Women’s Studies in Religion are discussed in detail below.

Unit Requirements

All MA degree programs require a minimum of 48 semester units of credit. Up to 10 units may be transferred from an accredited graduate institution, in courses relevant to the student's program, for which a grade of “B” or better was earned. Students may submit a “TRANSFER OF CREDIT” form (obtainable from the SOR Office) after they have completed 12 CGU units.

Students in the General MA program must complete a minimum of 12 units in three different areas. Students in the Specialized MA program are required to register for a minimum of 28 units of credit in their area of specialization and a minimum of eight units of credit in an area or areas outside of their specialization. Students in both programs may register for up to 10 units of REL 399, Thesis Research. Language instruction taken to meet the Secondary Research Language Requirement does not count toward the required 48 units. However, students may count up to 12 units of courses in a primary text language toward the required minimum of 28 units of credit in their area of specialization.

MA students admitted into the SOR doctoral program will receive credit for 24 units toward their 72-unit doctoral degree. In very rare cases, students may be allowed, at the discretion of the area faculty, to count more than 24 units of their MA toward their 72-unit doctoral degree. However, no MA thesis units may be counted toward the Ph.D.

Required Course

All MA students must take REL 362, Theories of Religion. This course will introduce the major approaches to the study of religion in the Modern and Contemporary West. Methodological issues in the study of religion will be introduced through readings of interpreters and observers of religious beliefs and rituals. These issues will be studied in light of the rise of the humanities and the social sciences in the post-Enlightenment West. The course is also designed to help prepare students to teach an introductory course in religious studies.

Primary Text Language Requirement

Specialized MA degree programs in Comparative Scriptures, Hebrew Bible, Islamic Studies, Jewish Studies, and New Testament, require the completion of courses in a primary text language (see specializations below). Other specialized degree programs may, at the discretion of the area faculty, require a primary text language depending upon the nature of a student's research plan.

Secondary Research Language Requirement

All MA students must have a reading proficiency in another language. Consult with your advisor and the associate dean to determine which languages will satisfy this requirement.

Thesis

An MA Thesis is to be prepared in consultation with the student's advisor or advisory committee (advisor and second reader) and is normally 60-85 pages in length. Students may take a minimum of two units and a maximum of 10 units for thesis credit. All theses require a second reader. Guidelines for preparing the thesis are available from the SOR Office. All theses must conform in format and style to the CGU guidelines. A copy of the signed title page is to be submitted to the SOR Office upon completion. Two copies of the thesis are submitted to the registrar for deposit in Honnold Library.

Time Limit

The institutional time limit for completing the MA degree is five calendar years from initial registration, regardless of the student's course load per semester. A student may petition for an extension of time. Extensions in the MA program are normally for one year.

Program Outline/Final Approval/Fees

During the semester in which the student expects to have met all requirements for the degree, the "Master's Program Outline and Final Approval of Master's Degree" form must be completed. These are available in the SOR Office. Students should check the Academic Calendar for degree deadlines (including those for payment of fees and filing the "Intent to Receive a Degree" form with the CGU Student Affairs Office).

Descriptions, Courses, and Language Requirements for MA Programs

General. The general MA degree program in religion is designed to give students a strong foundation in the scholarly study of religion through courses and research in three major areas of the study of religion. Students may choose 3 areas from the following: History of Christianity and Religions of North America; Islamic Studies; Jewish Studies; Mormon Studies; Philosophy of Religion and Theology; Theology, Ethics and Culture; and Women's Studies in Religion. There is no primary text language requirement. The degree will provide preparation for Ph.D. studies in religion and related disciplines, and for a wide range of work and service in religious communities. This MA degree program provides the greatest breadth of preparation for researching and teaching in the field of religion and religious studies.

Hebrew Bible. The specialized MA degree program in Hebrew Bible is designed to give students a strong foundation in Ancient Near Eastern Studies; Exegesis, Theology, and Hermeneutics of the Hebrew Bible; and Early Judaism. All students must pass an intermediate course in Biblical Hebrew to meet the primary text language requirement. The degree will provide preparation for Ph.D. studies in Hebrew Bible, for Ph.D. studies in comparative textual studies and other areas of the study of religion and related disciplines, and for a wide range of work and service in religious communities.

Comparative Scriptures. The specialized MA degree program in Comparative Scriptures is designed to give students a strong foundation in the scholarly study of scriptures and their histories, including the Hebrew Bible and the Ancient Near East, the New Testament and early Christianity, and the Qur'an and early Islam. This foundation is given through courses and research in the following areas: biblical Hebrew, Greek, Arabic, and other ancient languages; the history of the Ancient Near East, the exegesis, theology, and hermeneutics of the Hebrew Bible, and Early Judaism; the diversification of Early Christianity, ascetic and world-renunciation pieties and ideologies, women's traditions and forms of pieties, Gnostic Christianities, Greek epic and Gospel traditions; early Islam, the traditions of commentaries on the Qur'an, and contemporary interpretations of the Qur'an; the history, politics, and comparative phenomenology of scriptures in society and culture and histories of cultural (especially subaltern) representations of biblical rhetoric and piety. All students must pass an intermediate course in biblical Hebrew, biblical Greek, or Arabic to meet the primary text language requirement. The degree will provide preparation for a Ph.D. in Hebrew Bible, New Testament, and Qur'anic Studies, for Ph.D. studies in comparative textual studies and other areas of the study of religion and related disciplines, and for a wide range of work and service in religious communities.

History of Christianity and Religions of North America. The specialized MA degree program in History of Christianity and Religions of North America is designed to give students a strong foundation in the scholarly study of either or both the history of Christianity or/and religion in North America. This foundation is given through courses and research in the following areas: Early Christianity, Medieval/Reformation Christianity, Reformation/Early Modern Christianity, Modern Christianity, American History, American Religion, and theories and methods of historical research. Some students may need to pass a course in a primary text language depending upon their area of research. The degree will provide preparation for a Ph.D. in history of Christianity or religions of North America, for Ph.D. studies in other areas of the study of religion and related disciplines, and for a wide range of work and service in religious communities.

Islamic Studies. The specialized MA degree program in Islamic Studies is designed to give students a strong foundation in Islamic Studies through the study of Arabic and courses on the Qur'an and hadith studies, Islamic law, theology, gender, history (classical, medieval, and modern), philosophy and mysticism, and modern developments in the Muslim world. All students must pass a course in intermediate Arabic to meet the primary text language requirement. The degree will provide preparation for a Ph.D. in Islamic studies, for Ph.D. studies in other areas of the study of religion and related disciplines, and for a wide range of work and service in religious communities.

Jewish Studies. The specialized MA degree program in Jewish Studies is designed to give students a strong foundation in Jewish Studies through the study of Modern Hebrew and courses in History of Judaism, Hebrew Bible, Ancient Judaism, Jewish-Christian relations, Israeli-Arab relations, Holocaust Studies, American Jewish experience, Jewish Community Life, Hebrew literature and film, Modern Jewish thought, and Jewish mysticism. All students must pass a course in intermediate Modern Hebrew to meet the primary text language requirement. The degree will provide preparation for a Ph.D. in Jewish studies, for Ph.D. studies in other areas of the study of religion and related disciplines, and for a wide range of work and service in religious communities.

New Testament. The specialized MA degree program in New Testament is designed to give students a strong foundation in the diversification of Early Christianity; ascetic and world-renunciation pieties and ideologies; women's traditions and forms of pieties; Gnostic Christianities; Greek epic and Gospel traditions; history, politics, and comparative phenomenology of Scriptures in society and culture; histories of cultural (especially subaltern) representations of biblical rhetoric and piety. All students must pass an intermediate course in Biblical Greek to meet the primary text language requirement. The degree will provide preparation for Ph.D. studies in New Testament, for Ph.D. studies in comparative textual studies and other areas of the study of religion and related disciplines, and for a wide range of work and service in religious communities.

Philosophy of Religion and Theology. The specialized MA degree program in Philosophy of Religion and Theology is designed to give students a strong foundation in Philosophy of Religion and Theology through a rich variety of courses in major issues, movements, and thinkers in philosophy of religion and theology. There is no primary text language requirement. The degree will provide preparation for a Ph.D. in philosophy of religion and theology, for Ph.D. studies in other areas of the study of religion and related disciplines, and for a wide range of work and service in religious communities.

Theology, Ethics, and Culture. The specialized MA degree program in Theology, Ethics, and Culture is designed to give students a strong foundation in the study of ethics and its relation to theological and/or cultural contexts. This foundation is provided through a rich variety of courses in philosophical, theological, and social ethics. There is no primary text language requirement. The degree will provide preparation for a Ph.D. in theology, ethics, and culture, for Ph.D. studies in other areas of the study of religion and related disciplines, and for a wide range of work and service in religious communities.

THE MA IN WOMEN'S STUDIES IN RELIGION

The MA in Women's Studies in Religion is designed to introduce students to the field of feminist scholarship in religion. The program allows students great flexibility in designing their course of study while the core courses introduce students to the important methodologies in these fields (see below). Students may also elect to do internships in agencies dealing with women or women's issues through the MA in Applied Women's Studies as part of their MA studies.

Course work

The program requires 38 to 46 units of course work and 2 to 10 thesis units, for a total of 48 units. These must include 12 units of courses in Women's Studies in Religion, 12 units in Religion or related disciplines, and 12 units in methods courses. For policies concerning the Language Examinations, the Transfer of Credit, and the Time Limit, see the requirements for the general religion MA degree above.

Course Requirements

1. Methods Courses

REL 304 Introduction to Women's Studies in Religion

This course explores the rapidly expanding field of Women's Studies in Religion from a multi-cultural and multi-religious perspective. A comparative approach is used to examine women's reconceptualizations of the divine in the major religious traditions, issues of hermeneutics, analyses of women's approach to sexuality, spirituality, ethics and the environment. The global context of feminism will be highlighted by sessions devoted to women's religious practices in Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

REL 362 Theories of Religion

This course will provide an introduction to methodological issues in the study of religion through a reading of classic theories of religion (e.g., Marx, Weber, Durkheim, and Freud), as well as notable examples of contemporary theory and interpretation, against the backdrop of the history of Christian thought and the rise of the human sciences in the post-Enlightenment West.

Feminist Theory

Any course dealing with feminist methodological approaches to a discipline will fulfill the feminist theory requirement. These include Feminist Theory, Feminist Epistemology, Feminism and Post-Colonialism, Feminism and Queer Theory, Feminist Political Theory, etc.

2. Women's Studies in Religion Courses

WSR students must take three courses in Women's Studies in Religion (courses that deal with religion from a feminist perspective), for example, "Feminism and Process Thought," "Gender, Violence and Religion," "Matristics: Medieval Woman's Theology."

3. Related Courses

WSR students must take three courses in religion, women's studies, or related disciplines. Women's Studies in Religion students may elect to take upper division Women's Studies courses at the undergraduate colleges (these must be at the 200 level), courses listed by the School of Religion, or any other courses available at the Graduate University.

Women's Studies in Religion students will meet as a group each semester with a faculty person to discuss registration and to plan their coursework for the coming semester.

Language Requirement

Women's Studies in Religion is an international field with valuable scholarship being done in Europe, Asia and Latin America. To enable a student to participate in this larger world of scholarship reading proficiency in another language is required. A student may demonstrate this proficiency by satisfying the secondary research language requirement discussed above. The examination text given to the student for translation will be taken from a text in the field of Women's Studies in Religion.

Advisory Group Meeting

The Women's Studies in Religion students meet once a month for a meal and discussion in the home of one of the faculty members. The discussion is led by a student facilitator and the agenda is set by questions raised in the classroom: usually issues relating to the integration of course work and written work with the student's statement of educational goals. Once or twice a semester the Women's Studies in Religion Advisory Group meets together with the Women in Religion Salon to hear faculty and/or student presentations of recent research.

Thesis and Oral Defense

The Master's thesis provides an opportunity for students to gain the skills for writing a publishable piece of work. The requirements for the Master's thesis in WSR are the following:

- 1) A research project in the student's area of specialization
- 2) Prepared in conjunction with the student's advisor or advisory committee
- 3) 60-85 pages in length
- 4) Three readers
- 5) An oral defense (1 hr.)
- 6) A copy of the signed title page is submitted to the School of Religion Office upon completion
- 7) Completed within the institutional time limit of five years for the MA program

Early in the spring semester of each year there will be a master's thesis workshop for the Women's Studies in Religion students to provide guidance on formulating a topic and strategies for forming a committee. The thesis committee will consist of three persons: the Chair, who will have primary responsibility for directing the research; and two readers. The Chair will need to be a member of the Women's Studies in Religion Faculty. After obtaining the agreement of faculty members to serve on the Supervisory (Thesis) Committee, the student will file the Supervisory Committee Request form. The Supervisory Committee Request Form needs to be signed by each of the committee members and submitted to the School of Religion Office.

The Proposal: After the Supervisory Committee has been formed, the student, in consultation with the advisor (who serves as chair of the committee), will prepare the thesis proposal. The advisor brings this to the committee for its approval. Proposals should be written clearly and accurately. When the committee has approved the proposal and the members have signed the Thesis Proposal Approval form, the student submits it with one copy of the proposal to the School of Religion Office.

The proposal should be 5 pages in length and include the title of the thesis, the research problem addressed by the thesis, the significance of the problem, the (tentative) thesis, a discussion of work previously done on the problem, and the scope and limitations of the thesis. The student will append a chapter outline and a bibliography.

The Completed Work: CGU guidelines for preparing theses are available in the Religion Office. All theses must conform in format and style to the CGU guide. When the thesis has been completed, the student submits copies of the work to the advisor for distribution to each member of the committee at least seven weeks before the expected date of the oral examination. In addition to the completed work, the original copy of the title page is to be submitted to the advisor. The advisor, then, will arrange to have this signed by members of the committee when the committee is ready to approve the work.

Oral Examination: When the Thesis Supervisory Committee concludes that the thesis is ready for the oral examination, the student provides copies, including any revisions, to the members of the committee. The student is responsible for securing a mutually acceptable date and time for the oral exam and for notifying the School of Religion Office. This must take place at least three weeks before the date of the exam. Exams are to be scheduled for one hour. After the oral examination has been passed, and corrections/revisions have been made, the student will present the original of the work and one duplicate to the Registrar, and a copy of the signed title page to the School of Religion Office. The binding fees are paid at the Registrar's office at this time. All scheduling deadlines are calculated in accordance with the institutional deadlines for completing thesis requirements in a given semester. Please consult the CGU Bulletin for further information regarding deadlines.

During the semester in which the student expects to have met all requirements for the degree, the “Master’s Program Outline and Final Approval of Master’s Degree” forms must be completed and submitted by the published deadlines. The student must also submit an “Intent to Receive Degree” form.

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PhD DEGREE

Unit Requirements

The PhD requires 72 units of course work, of which up to 24 semester units may be transferred from previous graduate course work in religion or related discipline. Most students, therefore, are admitted to a 48-unit PhD (with 24 units to transfer) and some are admitted to a 72-unit PhD (with no units to transfer).

Students **may** choose to have a major and a minor area. They will take 48 units in the major area and 16 units in a minor area. They may choose the minor area from within as well as outside the School of Religion. In addition, students can minor in World Religions by an appropriate selection of courses in a variety of religions. This major/minor arrangement does not apply to those in the dual degree program of MA in Philosophy and Ph.D. in Philosophy of Religion.

Secondary Research Language Requirement

Students are required to have a reading knowledge of two secondary research languages (see page 5 above). Area faculty, in consultation with each student in their area, will decide which two languages best prepares the student for research in their field of study. Those who do not have proficiency in these languages may find their participation in some graduate seminars seriously restricted.

Students are expected to have studied at least one of these languages prior to beginning the last 48 units of the PhD program. Students are required to pass one secondary research language examination before registering for any of the last 24 semester units of their PhD program. In order to encourage students who have trouble passing the exams, as well as to encourage regular use of German and French in the context of regular graduate seminars, the following policy of deadlines and sanctions has been instituted.

1. Incoming PhD students (48-units) or 72-unit PhD students beginning the last 48-units of their program are required to attempt the exam before registration. Those who fail ***must attempt the exam again each time the exam is offered*** (August, January, May) until they pass.
2. Students who fail the exam(s) again at the beginning of their second semester in their last 48-units shall be required to do work in the language in ***two*** of their courses during that second semester.
3. If the student has not passed a language exam before registering for the last 24 units of course work, then sanctions take effect, in that ***the student shall be permitted to register for only two courses***. During this semester, the student shall use French or German in both courses and receive private tutoring in the language. The instructors in the courses and the tutor are to submit in writing at the end of the semester a report on the student's work and progress during the semester.
4. If the student fails again before the next registration period, then she or he will register only for Doctoral Study until the exam is passed.

It is hoped that this policy will not only be a positive way of helping students to develop language tools in the context of research and course work, but also will encourage regular use of research languages in doctoral seminars.

*The second language examination must be passed before Qualifying Examinations can be scheduled.

Primary Text Language Requirement

Students will also be expected to be proficient in other languages—ancient and/or modern—necessary for the sources in their research areas, or as required by the faculty in their areas of concentration. See the individual program area sections below for specific language requirements. All language requirements must be met before taking Qualifying Examinations.

Transfer of Credit

Students may secure a Transfer Credit form in the SOR Office after they have completed 12 CGU units. No more than 24 semester-units or their equivalent may be transferred toward a PhD degree (12 units maximum for dual degree students). A minimum of 48-units of doctoral credit must be earned at CGU. The units to be transferred must be from an accredited graduate institution, with at least a grade of “B,” and be relevant to the degree program. Students wishing to transfer courses listed with a grade of “S” (satisfactory) or “Cr” (credit) or their equivalent must submit additional materials that document an equivalent grade of “B” or better. Students wishing to transfer independent or directed studies are required to submit official documentation describing the content of the course.

Time Limits and Residence Requirement

See the CGU Bulletin for rules concerning time limits and residence requirements.

Qualifying Examinations

Students are allowed to schedule qualifying exams after completing all of the following requirements:

- 72 units of graduate course work, at least 48 units of which must be CGU course work
- Language Requirements
- A University Transdisciplinary Course (See the CGU Bulletin)
- Area requirements such as primary text languages or major papers

Each program area defines their qualifying exams. Students are urged to plan the exams early in their course work, and to plan their courses accordingly.

The chair of the qualifying examination committee (and subsequently, the dissertation committee) is usually the student’s advisor. The other members of the committee are determined in consultation with the advisor and in accordance with the requirements of the student’s program area. This committee must include three members of the graduate faculty of the Claremont Colleges, but may also include any other available scholars crucial to the student’s area of study. The SOR Dean recommends the committee members for approval by the CGU Provost.

In consultation with the qualifying exam committee, the student must negotiate dates and times of the exams and complete a schedule form at least 4 weeks prior to the first exam. (This form is available in the SOR Office.) Committee signatures are required on this form.

The written exams are taken within 14 calendar days; they are then sent to members of the student’s committee, who also attend the oral exam. The oral exam is to be scheduled at least 10 calendar days after the last written exam. Qualifying exams are given during each semester. Except in extraordinary cases no qualifying exams will be given during the summer break.

Each qualifying exam will be either pass or fail. If a student fails one exam, the examiner may allow the student to re-take the exam or require additional work to meet a passing standard.

Upon successful completion of the qualifying exams, students are eligible to receive the MA degree. This does not apply to dual degree students or to students that already have a graduate degree in religion.

Advancement to Candidacy

In order to advance to candidacy there are several things that must happen. Students must form, in consultation with an advisor, a dissertation committee consisting of three members of the CGU graduate faculty. (Members of the dissertation committee may differ from those of the qualifying examination committee.) In some cases, this may be done at the same time that a student forms a qualifying examination committee. Whether before or after forming the dissertation committee, students must pass their qualifying exams to advance to candidacy. The SOR Dean recommends the dissertation committee members for approval by the CGU Provost. Students must have completed a dissertation proposal that has been approved by the dissertation committee and must submit a 350-word summary of the proposal to the SOR Office after faculty approval. Students must also notify the SOR secretary who will obtain faculty signatures on the "Advancement to Candidacy" form, which must then be submitted to and signed by the CGU Provost. Advancement to candidacy must take place at least six months prior to the date scheduled for the Dissertation Defense (Final Oral Exam).

Dissertation and Final Oral Examination (Dissertation Defense)

Dissertation Reader: All Religion PhD students are required to use the services of a dissertation reader, who will proofread the chapter and check for proper form, style, and clarity. Footnotes and bibliography will be checked against Turabian's style guide. There will be a \$50.00 fee for one chapter, payable by the student to the reader. Currently, Betty Clements (Reference Librarian at CST) and Genevieve Beenen are the dissertation readers. The procedures for the reader are as follows:

1. The SOR will send the reader a list of students who are advanced to candidacy each semester.
2. The student will submit a chapter of the dissertation to the reader as soon as one is complete, but in any event by early in the semester *before* the expected completion of the degree (i.e., in the fall for a May degree and in the spring semester for a September or January degree). Students are urged to submit a chapter early in the process.
3. The reader will send her report on the student's chapter to both the committee chair and the SOR. The report should be filed by the end of that semester, so that the student and the chair of the committee have seen the reader's report before completion of the preliminary draft. The reader shall contact the chair personally if she deems it necessary. In addition to general comments, she will recommend that the student either proceed without any further readings, or that the student be required to submit the entire dissertation to her (or another reader approved by the School). In such cases, the fee is \$200.00 for two full readings of the dissertation.
4. The chair of the committee must receive the reader's report before the student may submit the preliminary draft of the dissertation to the committee.

The student may contact the Office of the Registrar or the Religion Office to obtain guidelines for preparing and submitting the dissertation. *All dissertations must conform in format and style to the CGU guidelines.*

The Dissertation Committee: The SOR conforms to the CGU policies on dissertation committees. The final oral committee will consist of at least three members. The chair of the committee must be a member of the “Graduate University Faculty” in Religion as identified in the Claremont Graduate University Bulletin (in rare cases, a student may petition the Graduate Faculty in Religion to approve the selection of a faculty member in Claremont who is not a member of the Graduate Faculty in Religion). With the approval of the chair and the Dean, the other two members of the committee may come from among the remaining Graduate University Faculty in Religion or other members of the CST faculty, the CGU faculty, or the Claremont Colleges’ faculties. A four-person committee may include an outside examiner, a faculty member from another institution, or a qualified practitioner. On a four-person committee, the outside examiner has a vote in the committee's proceedings only with the consent of the Dean of the SOR. The Claremont Graduate University encourages the inclusion on the committee of an expert in the student's field from outside the Claremont Colleges. (In many cases the Qualifying Exam Committee, the Dissertation Committee, and the Final Oral Exam Committee will contain the same individuals.) The Dean of the SOR recommends the names of committee members to the Provost for approval.

Drafts of the Dissertation and Scheduling the Oral Examination: A calendar for completion of dissertations is available in the SOR each semester. This calendar indicates the deadlines for submission of drafts as well as scheduling the defense and completing the final copy. Students must also consult the CGU academic calendar for the semester in which they plan to finish the requirements for the Ph.D.

The student must submit a preliminary draft of the entire dissertation to each member of the student's Dissertation Committee by the beginning of the semester in which the student hopes to graduate, in order to allow for revisions before as well as after the final oral exam. A draft for the final oral must be submitted to the entire committee *at least six weeks* before the planned date of the oral examination/ defense in order to allow faculty time to determine whether the defense may be scheduled (see below, “Scheduling Oral Examination”). Additional revisions may be required after the defense (see below).

Students contact the SOR Office to schedule the dissertation defense. It is the student's responsibility to find a suitable date and time for the defense to which all the committee members agree. Members of the committee must have an entire final draft of the dissertation in hand *at least six weeks* prior to the defense. The signed “Approval for Final Defense” form and a copy of the dissertation abstract are to be submitted to the SOR Office at least four weeks prior to the final oral itself. At that time the student should also provide the name, home address, and social security number of the outside examiner (if one is being used), so that the outside examiner may receive his or her honorarium, which does not exceed \$100.

Prior to the scheduling of the defense and the signing of the defense form, it is the responsibility of the chair of a student’s dissertation committee to contact each member of the committee in

order to ascertain whether the dissertation is free of any major problem (in the sense of requiring further substantive revisions in its basic argument, elaboration, structure, style, and/or methodology). If any member still discerns a major problem, the chair must convene a meeting to discuss it. Any member who must be absent shall submit a written statement regarding his or her assessment. If the committee agrees that there is a major problem, the chair will notify the student of the problem and the required revisions. No defense will be scheduled.

The defense will be scheduled only when committee members agree that the dissertation is free of any major problems and indicate that agreement as well as their commitment to attend the oral defense by signing the "Approval for Final Defense" form. ***A signed schedule form, however, should not be interpreted as a "guaranteed pass."*** The student must still pass the oral defense, and may be required to revise the dissertation after the defense, which may result in a delay in completion of degree requirements and a delay in receiving the degree. It is the responsibility of the student and the chair to work together to see the process through with no surprises.

The final oral exam is not to be interpreted as a guidance examination on the dissertation. Rather, it is an assessment of the candidate's ability to defend the thesis against questioning from other points of view and/or critical appraisal of the candidate's scholarly abilities. It is therefore much broader than the dissertation itself, and passing means that one has satisfactorily convinced the faculty that one can defend one's scholarly work among peers. After the candidate has passed the final oral examination, the committee signs the form of recommendation for the PhD degree.

It should be clear that a student may fail the oral examination or be required to complete revisions before final approval, which may delay the student's completion of the degree to a subsequent semester. In the case of failure to pass the final oral examination, the candidate may be permitted, on recommendation of the examining faculty, to take a second exam not less than three months nor more than one calendar year after the first exam. If the results of the second exam are unsatisfactory, no further exam will be permitted except upon recommendation of the SOR Faculty and with the approval of the Dean.

If the committee has required dissertation revisions, the Chair of the committee and any other person designated by the oral examining committee shall verify the revisions before the committee members sign the signature page. The student submits a copy of the title page signed by the Chair of the Dissertation Committee and the abstract for inclusion in the student's file when the revised dissertation is ready for submission. (It is the student's responsibility to obtain all necessary signatures.)

For information regarding dissertation submission, publication, fees, etc. contact the CGU Student Affairs Office at (909) 621-8263.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR EACH AREA (PHD)

HEBREW BIBLE (HB) AREA

Prerequisites

Students in the HB area may concentrate in one of three fields: Ancient Near Eastern Studies; Exegesis, Theology, and Hermeneutics of the Hebrew Bible; and Early Judaism. For the HB program itself, special prerequisites have to be satisfied either by transcript, by examination, or by completing additional courses. These prerequisites are:

Intermediate Hebrew

Greek

Six courses (24 semester units) of study in the Hebrew Bible (including critical historical study under different approaches, exegetical work, history of Israel, and theology of the Hebrew Bible)

Course work

HB area courses are divided into two sets: all students must take the first set, whereas the second is structured according to the student's field of concentration. The field of concentration is not to be understood as excluding the other areas, but rather represents a special emphasis made within the context of the whole. The minimum requirement may need to be increased for an adequate preparation for the Qualifying Examinations and the dissertation.

Courses required of all students (4 courses/16 units)

1 seminar in Aramaic*

1 seminar in an Ancient Near Eastern language other than Aramaic

1 seminar in Archaeology

* Students who have had Aramaic and would like to place out of the Aramaic core requirement may request an Aramaic proficiency examination.

Fields of Concentration (at least 8 courses/32 units)*

4 seminars in the field of concentration

2 seminars each in the other two HB fields

* Students concentrating in Early Judaism are required to take the Method in Text Criticism seminar; those concentrating in Exegesis, Theology, and Hermeneutics of the Hebrew Bible are recommended to do so as a course in their minor.

Three major papers are required of all HB Ph.D. students. A 40-page limit for the major papers has been established; those in excess of 40 pages (exclusive of bibliography) will not be accepted. One paper is to be written within each of the Hebrew Bible area's fields of concentration. In essence, a major paper is to be a methodological test case; however, in consultation with the pertinent professor, flexibility and latitude are permitted. Consultation with faculty is expected in any case. Arrangement may be made with individual professors to submit expanded course papers for simultaneous acceptance as major papers. Commencement of work on any major paper is recommended only after completion of the first year of course

work. The major paper form, to be signed by the professor, is to be picked up from and returned to the SOR Office (example in the appendix). Receipt of a form for each paper indicates fulfillment of the requirement.

Hebrew Language Proficiency Examination

At the beginning of each semester a Hebrew Language Proficiency Exam will be given. Because this exam is used as a diagnostic tool, students must attempt the examination upon entry to the program and are required to attempt the examination each semester (Fall and Spring) until it is passed. The written portion of this exam will be drawn from BHS and consists of:

- Translation of five selections (of approximately 12-15 verses each) from representative genres (prose text, legal text, poetic/hymnic text, prophetic text, wisdom text) throughout the Hebrew text. In order to pass the examination, students are required to provide an adequate translation of at least 6 verses per section. Examinations falling short of this quantitative standard will not be passed.

The oral portion will require the student to be able to read aloud from the text with fluency (modern Israeli, i.e. Sephardic, pronunciation is preferred).

Qualifying Examinations

Before qualifying exams can be scheduled, the major papers and the Hebrew Language Proficiency Exam must be completed. Students should take qualifying examinations no later than one year (12 months) after completion of course work, and only during the fall and spring semesters. There are four 4-hour written exams. Students will take two exams in their field of concentration and one exam in each of the other two areas. The examinations will test the student's understanding of the fields and ability to work with original texts.

Students are strongly urged to discuss expectations for the qualifying exams with individual professors early in their program. Although in many cases there will be an obvious correlation between the subject matter dealt with in a course and that included in a qualifying exam, the exams are not viewed as being based on the course work only.

The student is required to submit in writing a dissertation proposal of no more than three pages at the time of the oral qualifying exam. This proposal must refer to the state of previous research on the proposed subject, the reason for a new project, the method(s) used, the materials included in the study, and those excluded from it.

The student is responsible for scheduling the written and oral examinations according to the regular procedures of the SOR.

Dissertation and Final Oral Exam (Defense)

The topic of the dissertation is to be determined in consultation with the advisor. The dissertation may conceivably be an extension of a major paper.

In order to make it possible for a candidate to graduate either in May or in January, the following scheduling pattern in the semester preceding any of the following dates is necessary:

- a. The defense of the dissertation will be held no later than one month before the official date for submission of its final copy to the Registrar's office.
- b. Since the application for the date of defense must be submitted (at least) three weeks before the defense, the three regular committee members must have reached a consensus before this time that the dissertation is ready for the defense (i.e., no later than seven weeks before the institutional deadline for the submission of the final copy to the Registrar's office).
- c. The consensus of the regular committee members before these dates requires that they must have had in hand a draft of the dissertation, complete and in tentatively final shape, no later than one month before they must declare their consensus (i.e., no later than eleven weeks before the institutional deadline for the submission of the final copy to the Registrar's office).

Failure to meet these deadlines means that graduation at the end of the projected semester will not be possible.

Especially, submission of the draft of the dissertation at the latest necessary date and not earlier implies the possibility that a consensus on its defensibility by the regular committee members is not reached one month later and that the scheduling process towards graduation breaks down and must be rolled over into the next semester. In such a case, the candidate should be able to upgrade her/his dissertation within schedule.

However, in the case of a rollover from one semester to the next it is necessary that all members of the committee have again in hand the upgraded draft of the complete dissertation, and within schedule.

The scheduling for the defenses of dissertations whose candidates do not depend on graduation in a specific semester are subject to the guidelines found above in this section.

Any exception to these policies depends on both a demonstrable emergency beyond the candidate's control and the availability of all members of her/his committee. As usual, it is subject to written petition before any date pertaining to scheduling and to written approval by all regular members of her/his committee.

The Oral Defense

The student is responsible for scheduling the oral defense of their dissertation in accordance with the regular procedures of the School of Religion.

HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY AND RELIGIONS OF NORTH AMERICA (HCRNA) AREA

Program Structure

The program prepares historians to teach the history of Christianity and religion in North America in theological schools and departments of religious studies. Students will be broadly trained in two of three areas:

- Christian origins
- Medieval/Reformation Christianity
- Religion in North America

In all the areas, Christianity will be situated in its relationship to other religious traditions.

Prerequisites

Students accepted into the 48-unit Ph.D. program should have completed the equivalent of 24 units of master's level course work in religious studies. For students majoring in Religions of North America, M.A. course work in American history or literature is also acceptable.

Program Advisors and Planning

Entering students are assigned a faculty adviser whose interests coincide with theirs. Students will work with their advisers to plan a course of study and to configure their doctoral qualifying examinations. Courses should be chosen to help in preparing for the examinations and in selecting a dissertation topic.

Language Requirements

The language requirement consists of two languages, or one language and a research tool such as statistics or ethnography. The languages will ordinarily be chosen from French, German, Spanish, and Latin but others may be substituted in consultation with the student's adviser.

In addition, students in Christian origins and Medieval/Reformation are required to demonstrate competence in the language(s) of the primary materials relevant to their period of specialization and dissertation research.

Course Requirements

Students will designate one of the areas from the three offered (Christian origins, Medieval/Reformation, and Religion in North America) as the major field and another area from the same group as the minor. The 48 hours of course credit will be divided approximately as follows.

1. Three or four courses in the major field.
2. Two or three courses in the minor field.

3. One or two courses in an outside field such as cultural studies, anthropology, literature, politics, or sociology. These courses should be chosen to enrich the student's approach to the dissertation topic.

4. One or two courses in a religion other than Christianity (Buddhism or Islam, for example).

The remaining courses may be distributed in accord with the student's interests.

Requirement for Majors in North American Religion

Students majoring in North American Religion will take the two-course History of Religion in America sequence.

Qualifying Examinations

Qualifying examinations are ordinarily taken during the student's third year. They consist of three four-hour written examinations taken within a two-week period and subsequently reviewed in an oral examination before the student's examination committee. The nature of each examination is shaped in consultation with the faculty member who sets the examination. Students select these examiners in consultation with the primary adviser.

Students will be examined in four fields:

1. The major field for which the student compiles a reading list and studies in depth under the direction of an adviser.
2. The minor field, prepared for in the same way but with less intensity.
3. A thematic examination on a topic that will provide a broad context and historical depth for the student's dissertation topic. In some instances the topic may require more than one examiner to set the questions.
4. In connection with the qualifying examination, students will submit a long paper comparing Christianity and another religion. A paper written for a course is acceptable.

Dissertation Proposal

At the time of the qualifying examination, students will also submit a dissertation proposal that will be reviewed at the oral examination following the written portion. The dissertation proposal is considered an integral part of the qualifying examination.

The proposal of approximately 20 pages will consist of:

- A statement of the problem
- The current state of research on the problem
- A strategy or method for approaching the problem
- Sources to be used

A bibliography of secondary and primary sources

The proposal is developed in consultation with an advisor and two other members of the dissertation committee, chosen from Claremont Graduate University, Claremont School of Theology, and the Claremont Colleges.

The Oral Defense

After completion of the dissertation, the student defends it before the committee in accordance with School of Religion procedures.

NEW TESTAMENT (NT) AREA

The New Testament PhD program cultivates critical interpretive skills for the investigation of the social, cultural, political, ideological, literary, and rhetorical phenomena of the New Testament and Early Christianity. The orientation is complex and layered, in that attention is given to the cultural and political history of the study of these phenomena as well as the ancient contexts in which they originated. Thus, the program is a part of the larger conversation concerning the history of our understanding of sacred texts and their receptions. Consequently, the program combines traditional philological studies with comparative studies and cultural criticism. The primary areas of study are: the diversification of Early Christianity; ascetic and world-renunciation pieties and ideologies; women's traditions and forms of pieties; Gnostic Christianities; Greek epic and Gospel traditions; history, politics, and comparative phenomenology of Scriptures in society and culture; histories of cultural (especially subaltern) representations of biblical rhetoric and piety.

Primary Text Languages (Ancient Languages)

The program presupposes a reading knowledge of Greek and competence in the Greek New Testament.

Advanced Greek. All NT students must pass the Advanced Greek course before proceeding to qualifying exams.

Latin. All NT students must pass a course in Latin before proceeding to qualifying exams.

Coptic and Aramaic/Syriac. Requirement of these courses will depend upon specific research interests. The SOR will try to offer these courses in alternating two-year cycles.

Courses taken previously at other institutions might be considered. A form, to be signed by the advisor, is to be picked up from and returned to the SOR Office. Receipt of a signed form for each language indicates fulfillment of the requirement.

History of Religions Colloquia

The HR colloquia will be an inter-disciplinary series consisting of students and faculty in all of the historical fields as well as those in cultural and philosophical studies with an interest in the methodological issues of the study of the history of religions. The colloquia will typically be

convened once each month for the four months of the fall semester. At least one faculty member will be responsible for organizing and advertising the colloquia. The format may be panel discussions, presented papers, interviews, etc. All NT PhD students in their first two years of residency are required to attend and participate in the colloquia.

New Testament Seminar

The NT Seminar will be offered at least once a year for all PhD students in NT and for the HCRNA students in the field of Early Christianity. Seminar topics will include issues and texts that range from the 4th century BCE to the beginning of the 7th century CE. Students must register for credit in the NT Seminar during their second year of residence, and they are expected to audit the seminar as long as they are in commuting distance. Students must present their major paper at the seminar before taking qualifying examinations.

Major Paper

One paper of the form, quality, and length (25-40 pp.) of a dissertation chapter to be presented at the NT Seminar during the second year of residency. This paper should conform to the standards and rules of Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, the current edition, modified by the current SBL style sheet. Students will present each paper in the New Testament Seminar. A Major Paper form should be filled out and submitted to the SOR Office upon completion of this requirement. This requirement must be completed before a student proceeds to qualifying exams.

Qualifying Examinations

The qualifying exams in NT consist of four 4-hour exams, three exams in major subject areas and a fourth on the dissertation topic. The four areas are as follows:

- 1) Biblical criticism and the history of interpretation
- 2) Socio-cultural history of the Ancient Jewish, Greek, and Roman cultures
- 3) Historical trajectories of Early Christianities (to beginning of the 7th century)
- 4) Dissertation topic

The dissertation proposal should also be submitted at the same time that the exams are taken. The student is responsible for scheduling the written and oral examinations according to the regular procedures of the SOR.

PHILOSOPHY OF RELIGION AND THEOLOGY (PRT) AREA

Program Structure

The PRT area is intentionally flexible in its structure. Students have considerable freedom to shape their own courses of study in consultation with their advisors. A rich variety of courses are available each semester covering major issues, movements, and thinkers in philosophy of religion and theology. The offerings by the PRT faculty are further enhanced by relevant courses made available in other areas of the SOR as well as in other CGU departments,

especially philosophy, and other Claremont Colleges. Thus, the PRT area provides a very distinctive context, broad and pluralistic, for the study of philosophy of religion and theology.

A dual-degree program leading to the M.A. in philosophy and Ph.D. in religion is also available to interested students; policies and requirements for this program are available in the SOR Office.

Qualifying Examinations

The student takes qualifying exams in five areas, four of which are written exams and the fifth the dissertation proposal. There is an oral exam on all five areas.

It is the responsibility of the student to establish a committee in consultation with his or her advisor and arrange a meeting of the committee, sufficiently in advance, to plan the specifics of the exams, i.e., the exam areas, examiners, dissertation project, and the dates and times for the written exams and the oral in accordance with the following guidelines and the standard procedures in the SOR.

There are two types of qualifying exams A and B. Type A (“Old Quals”) applies to students who enrolled in the program during Fall 2002 semester or earlier. Type B (“New Quals”) applies to students who enrolled during the Spring 2003 semester or later as well as to those enrolled in Fall 2002 or earlier but opt to take Type B instead of Type A.

In both Exams A and B, it is the responsibility of the qualifying examination/ dissertation committee to determine, in consultation with the student, which two classical thinkers are appropriate, whether faculty resources are available to cover the thinkers requested, which area(s) is (are) to be chosen among the period exams, what background exams(s) is (are) relevant, and the appropriateness of the proposed dissertation.

Qualifying Examinations A (“Old Quals”):

- 1) The Classical Tradition: The classical tradition is divided into two periods, the first fifteen centuries and the sixteenth century in the history of Christian thought. A student emphasizing Western religious thought is responsible for a figure from each period, e.g., Origen, Augustine, Anselm, or Aquinas from the first period, Luther or Calvin from the second. A student who finds a non-Christian thinker relevant to his or her dissertation may substitute a non-Christian (e.g., Jewish, Muslim, or other Asian thinker or body of thought) for one of the two periods.
- 2) Students will take **one** of the following period exams:
 - (a) Modern Philosophical and Religious Thought: Descartes to Hume
 - (b) 19th Century Philosophical, Religious, and Theological Thought: from Kant to World War I

Reading lists for both exams are available from the SOR.

3) and 4) Dissertation Background

These two exams cover the areas considered to be relevant backgrounds for the dissertation.

5) Dissertation Proposal:

Students submit a proposal (a minimum of 20 pages) presenting in a concise form the topic, rationale, main issues, sources, and methodology of the proposed dissertation along with an outline of its projected chapters. The proposal must be submitted two weeks prior to the oral examination.

Qualifying Examinations B (“New Quals”)

- (1) The Classical Tradition: Same as the “Old Quals.”
- (2) and (3) Students are to chose **two** of the three following exams:
 - (a) Modern Philosophical and Religious Thought: Descartes, Leibniz, Spinoza, Locke, Berkeley, Hume, Kant
 - (b) 19th Century Philosophical, Religious, and Theological Thought: Hegel, Schleiermacher, Schelling, Kierkegaard, Feuerbach, Newman, Nietzsche, James
 - (c) 20th Century Philosophical, Religious, and Theological Thought: Whitehead, Wittgenstein, Heidegger, Barth, Reinhold Niebuhr, Tillich, Rahner

Reading list for these exams are available from the SOR Office.

- (4) Dissertation Background: This exam covers an area considered to be relevant background for the dissertation.
- (5) Dissertation Proposal: Same as in “Old Quals”

THEOLOGY, ETHICS AND CULTURE (TEC) AREA

Program Structure

The PhD program in TEC is designed to prepare students for research and academic positions in the interdisciplinary field of ethics. The program will provide a solid foundation in ethics while offering students the flexibility of developing an expertise in a second academic discipline. The core courses of the TEC program will encompass three traditional forms of ethics (philosophical, theological, and social). The second academic area may be in another discipline in the School of Religion or in another area in Claremont Graduate University, such as cultural studies, public policy, history, etc. For the last 48 units of the degree the student choose one of two curriculum options:

- 1) Ethics with a minor – 36 units of core courses in ethics and 12 units in another academic discipline.
- 2) Ethics with a second area – 24 units of core courses in ethics and 24 units in another academic discipline.

Each student will work with the TEC area coordinator and with an academic advisor to determine which courses meet these requirements and how best to structure the course of study. Choice of advisor will depend greatly on the student's curriculum option and particular interest.

Prerequisites

Students may be admitted into the 48-unit PhD program with some combination of MA courses in ethics and another academic discipline. An advisor in consideration of work completed at the Master's level may recommend exceptions to the above requirements, in consultation with the TEC area coordinator.

Language Requirements

In keeping with the language policy for the SOR, TEC students are expected to pass language examinations in two of the following three languages: French, German, or Spanish. It is important that the student provide a rationale for the choice of language, demonstrating that the two languages chosen are most pertinent to her/his research interests.

Qualifying Examinations

The student takes four qualifying examinations and submits a dissertation proposal. There is an oral exam on all four written exams and the proposal.

It is the responsibility of the student to establish a qualifying exam committee and a dissertation exam committee in consultation with his or her advisor and arrange a meeting of the committees, sufficiently in advance, to plan the specifics of the exams, i.e., the exam areas, examiners, dissertation project, and the dates and times for the written exams and the oral in accordance with the following guidelines and the standard procedures in the School of Religion.

The four written exams are as follows:

Two exams are required in the areas of philosophical, theological, or social ethics. These exams may be organized by an historical period, theme/issue, or figure. The primary purpose of these exams is to demonstrate knowledge of foundational issues and figures in ethics.

The purpose of the third area is to demonstrate the student's knowledge of his/her minor area or secondary area of study. A professor in that minor/secondary discipline should write this exam.

The fourth exam pertains to the student's dissertation topic. Students should consult with their advisors to determine a historical figure or issue that is central to their dissertation research. For students choosing curriculum option 2 above this exam should be related at least in part to their second area of study.

The fifth exam is the dissertation proposal, which should be submitted no later than the date of the last written exam. The proposal should be 20-25 pages in length. It should explain the problem to be addressed in the dissertation, provide an overview of current

literature on this problem, explain the student's approach to it, and offer a summary of the dissertations' argument and structure. A substantial bibliography should accompany the proposal.

The dissertation proposal should be submitted no later than the date of the last written exam. The proposal should be 20-25 pages in length. It should explain the problem to be addressed in the dissertation, provide an overview of current literature on this problem, explain the student's approach to it, and offer a summary of the dissertations' argument and structure. A substantial bibliography should accompany the proposal.

WOMEN'S STUDIES IN RELIGION (WSR) AREA

PhD Program Structure

The PhD program is designed to prepare students for positions in Women's Studies programs in which their cross-disciplinary work is in religion and positions in religion programs. We expect graduates of the program to be broadly prepared in religious studies and able to interpret women's issues across different religious traditions. Through their work in a concentration, they will have the depth to contribute significantly to one of the sub-fields of religious studies.

Prerequisites

Students may be admitted into the 48-unit PhD program with either 24 units of religion courses or 24 units of women's studies courses taken at the master's level, or some combination of the two equaling 24 units. Students entering with 24 units in women's studies will need to take a greater proportion of religion courses in their last 48 units, and conversely students entering with 24 units of religion will need to take a greater proportion of women's studies courses.

Concentrations

In their last 48 units, WSR students are required to take 16 units in an area of concentration. The area of concentration should prepare a student for particular positions in the field of Religion. Students are encouraged to consult Openings on the AAR website to familiarize themselves with the way the sub-fields within religion are represented in the job market. Currently the School of Religion offers enough graduate level courses to support concentrations in such areas as Biblical Studies, Hebrew Bible, New Testament, History of Christianity, History of Christian Thought, Philosophy of Religion, Theology, Ethics, Religion and Society, Theology and Culture, Jewish Studies, Islamic Studies, and Comparative Religions within the Abrahamic Religion. The student's advisor will guide a student in choosing courses to establish a broad expertise in the sub-field and lay a foundation for qualifying exams.

Note: Students will be limited in their choice of a concentration to those for which the School of Religion offers sufficient graduate level courses.

Advising

Workshops:

The WSR Program offers four workshops each year: "On being a Graduate Student," "Preparing for Qualifying Examinations," "Writing a Dissertation," "On the Profession." These are designed to orient students both to the formal processes involved and the practicalities and prevailing wisdom about how to negotiate these stages.

Core Faculty:

On entering the program, an advisor will be assigned from the core faculty. A list of core faculty members is available from the SOR Office. For students entering the 72-unit PhD the first year of course work should provide breadth in the field of Religion. Upon beginning the last 48 units, a student should declare a concentration within the field of Religion and ask a faculty member in that area of concentration to be their advisor. This advisor will guide a student in selecting course to build competence in the concentration and work with the student in designing qualifying exams for that concentration.

Advisory Group:

To encourage a sense of community and to foster broader conversations WSR students meet three times a semester for an evening in a faculty home to discuss their progress in coursework. These meetings include the WSR salon in which a feminist scholar or activist is invited to speak and engage the students in informal discussions.

WSR hosts lectures by feminist scholars and publishes a calendar of WSR events each semester. All students are encouraged to participate in these and take advantage of the opportunity to meet the leading scholars in the field.

Language Requirements

Students in WSR must pass two language exams demonstrating proficiency in French, German or Spanish scholarship in the fields of women's studies and/or religion. Students doing a concentration in historical studies, textual studies, or cultural studies may be required to demonstrate a reading ability in other languages that support their doctoral research. The importance of additional languages will be determined in consultation with the advisor. Students prepare for these language exams in a variety of ways, including summer school courses, auditing college courses and private tutors.

Qualifying Examinations

During the last 24 units of coursework, students should begin planning their qualifying exams. Students are required to take five written qualifying exams: three in the field of their concentration and two on feminist methodologies such as feminist theory, feminist historiography, feminist ethnography, feminist pedagogy, post-colonial and subaltern theory. With the consent of the advisor, a student may also elect to substitute the dissertation proposal for the third exam in the field of concentration. The faculty members who agree to write these exams become the Qualifying Exam Committee.

Dissertation Committee

The dissertation advisor will work with the student in developing a dissertation proposal and in identifying a suitable dissertation committee. By the last year of coursework, a student should be able to identify the topic or question that will evolve into a dissertation topic. The dissertation committee should be composed of the three Claremont faculty members, however an additional outside (fourth) reader may be invited to add another area of expertise not available within the Claremont Colleges. Faculty may be invited to serve on the committee either before or after the proposal is drafted, as deemed appropriate by the dissertation advisor.

SAMPLE

CLAREMONT GRADUATE UNIVERSITY
SOR

MASTER OF ARTS IN WSR DEGREE

SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE REQUEST FORM

I agree to serve on the thesis committee for _____

Chair: _____ Date: _____

Member: _____ Date: _____

Member: _____ Date: _____

Member: _____ Date: _____

SAMPLE

CLAREMONT GRADUATE UNIVERSITY
SOR

MASTER OF ARTS IN WSR DEGREE

THESIS PROPOSAL APPROVAL FORM

I approve the thesis proposal for _____

Please sign to indicate that you agree to serve on thesis committee.

Chair: _____ Date: _____

Member: _____ Date: _____

Member: _____ Date: _____

Member: _____ Date: _____

SAMPLE
MAJOR PAPER FORM

Hebrew Bible and New Testament Areas – PhD Program

This form is to be signed by the professor and returned to the SOR Office when both parts have been completed.

STUDENT'S
NAME _____ DATE _____

I. I plan to write a major paper in the following area/course:

Faculty signature

Date

II. I accept this major paper as part of the program requirement.

Faculty signature

Date

SAMPLE

**CLAREMONT GRADUATE UNIVERSITY
SOR**

Qualifying Exam Schedule form

Name: _____ Date _____

Qualifying Examination Committee:

Chair _____

Member _____

Member _____

Member _____

Dissertation Committee:

Chair _____

Member _____

Member _____

Member _____

Date & Time of
written exams

Exam Title

Writer's
Signature

Date & Time of Oral Examination: _____

I indicate, by signature, that I will attend the oral examination at the above noted date/time:

Chair _____

Member _____

Member _____

Member _____

Note: After obtaining all faculty signatures, return this form to the Religion Dept. four weeks prior to the time you wish to schedule your qualifying examinations. The written exams are to be completed within a period of 14 calendar days. The oral exam is to be given no sooner than 10 calendar days after the last written exam.

SAMPLE

CGU SOR

APPROVAL FOR FINAL DEFENSE

_____ has indicated to the SOR Office

 student name
 an intention to schedule the final defense for his/her dissertation.

Please sign below to indicate that you have read the final draft of the dissertation, and that you agree that the oral defense may be scheduled, and that you will attend the defense. We will not schedule the student's defense without signatures for all committee members.

The student and committee members recognize that additional revisions to the final draft may be required after the defense and before the final copy is approved.

I hereby agree to attend the dissertation defense of _____

Chair: _____

Date _____

Member: _____

Date _____

Member: _____

Date _____

Member: _____

Date _____

This form must be returned to the CGU SOR Office.

PRT Advisor or Transfer Form

In order to change your advisor or supervisor at any time, you need to fill the following form and return to the PRT Co-Coordinator

1. Name of Present Advisor/Supervisor

2. Readiness to release you. Signature required.

Signature/Date

3. Name of proposed new advisor/Supervisor

4. Readiness of Advisor to supervise you.

Signature/Date

This request is not activated or confirmed until the final signature of the Co-coordinator.

Signature

Date