

HISTORY OF RELIGIONS (HBA)

Department of Historical Studies

History of Religions is much more than history! The program considers the ways in which people in all times and places construct and live within worlds of meaning. Doing this involves examining specific religions such as Buddhism, Islam, and Indigenous traditions, as well as relationships between phenomena like religion and gender, or religion and popular culture. Studying religion means looking at symbols, rituals, texts, media, art, and more, not just within traditions but also in practices like sports, politics, and entertainment. The study of religion uses various academic approaches — historical, literary, anthropological, sociological, etc. — to consider how religions have shaped, and been shaped by, the story of humanity.

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR TIME AT UTM!

We want to help you maximize your university experience, so we've pulled together information and interesting suggestions to get you started, although there are many more! As you review the chart on the inside pages, note that many of the suggestions need not be restricted to the year they are mentioned. In fact, activities such as joining an academic society, engaging with faculty and seeking opportunities to gain experience should occur in each year of your study at UTM. Read through the chart and create your own plan using **My Program Plan** found at www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans

Programs of Study (POSt)

- Specialist Program ERSPE0151 History of Religions (Arts)
- Major Program ERMAJ0151 History of Religions (Arts)
- Minor Program ERMIN0151 History of Religions (Arts)

Check out...

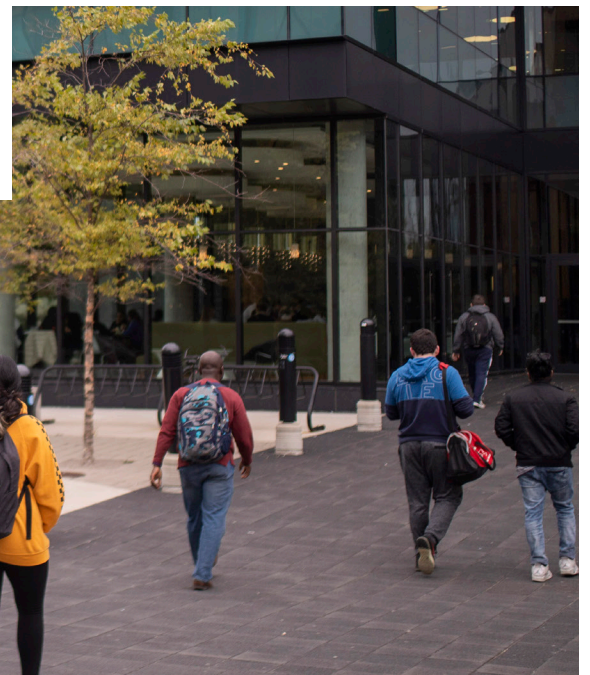
The study of religion can enhance our understanding of popular Hollywood films. What do rituals mean in comedies and horror movies? How is the Bible related to superheroes? Find out in RLG332H5 (Reel Religion) — a course that considers the connections between religions and films that appear to have no connection to religion.

What can I do with my degree?

There are many destinations for graduates of this program. Some pursue further education, while others seek employment. For assistance on various options see the next pages for links to resources and people to talk with. Below are some ideas of career areas and workplaces for graduates:

Careers for graduates: Artist; communications specialist; community worker; consultant; diplomat; educational developer; equity officer; health professional; human rights advocate; international aide worker; journalist; lawyer; politician; policy advisor; project manager; teacher; writer.

Workplaces: Arts; culture; education; government; health care; law; media; museums; non-profit; politics; social services.



HISTORY OF RELIGIONS

MAJOR Program Plan

HOW TO USE THIS PROGRAM PLAN

Read through each year. Investigate what appeals to you here and in any other Program Plans that apply to you.

Visit www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans to create your own plan using [My Program Plan](#). Update your plan yearly.



	1 ST YEAR	2 ND YEAR
PLAN YOUR ACADEMICS*	<p>Enrol in RLG101H5.</p> <p>Choose a program of study (Subject POST) once you complete 4.0 credits. Use Degree Explorer and the Academic Calendar to plan your degree.</p> <p>Develop academic skills and strategies by enrolling in a utmONE First-Year Foundations Course. Build community and gain academic support through LAUNCH. Join a RGASC Peer Facilitated Study Group.</p>	<p>Attain 1.5 RLG 200-level credits.View the Academic Calendar for details.</p> <p>Consider applying for Research Opportunity Program (ROP) courses RLG299Y, RLG399Y and RLG499Y. Visit the EEU website for ROP Course Prerequisites. Attend the RGASC's PART to enhance your research skills.</p>
BUILD SKILLS	<p>Use the Co-Curricular Record (CCR). Search for opportunities beyond the classroom, and keep track of your accomplishments.</p> <p>Attend the Get Hired Fair through the Career Centre (CC) to learn about on- and off-campus opportunities.</p> <p>Attend the Experiential Education Fair.</p>	<p>Use the Career & Co-Curricular Learning Network (CLNx) to find postings for on- and off-campus work and volunteer opportunities.</p> <p>Work on-campus through the Work-Study program. View position descriptions on the CLNx.</p>
BUILD A NETWORK	<p>Networking simply means talking to people and developing relationships with them. Start by joining the Historical Studies Society (HSS). Go to the HSS Meet & Greet to meet professors and fellow students.</p> <p>Visit the UTM Library Reference Desk.</p>	<p>Do you have a professor you would like to connect with? Ask them a question during office hours. Discuss an assignment. Go over lecture material. Don't be shy! Learn Tips On How to Approach a Professor available through the Experiential Education Unit (EEU).</p>
BUILD A GLOBAL MINDSET	<p>Engage with the many programs offered by the International Education Centre (IEC), whether you are an international or domestic student. Consider joining the Canada Eh? day trips or English Language Conversation Circles to deepen your global mindset.</p> <p>First-year international students can also take advantage of THRIVE-IN, a one-day conference dedicated to helping you start your UTM journey successfully.</p>	<p>Participate in International Education Week and engage in programs like Global and Intercultural Fluency Training Series (GIFTS) to build on your leadership and communication skills in global citizenship.</p> <p>Learn about and prepare for a future UTM Abroad Experience through the IEC to strengthen and enhance your intercultural skill set, and learn about other cultures while sharing your own!</p>
PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE	<p>Start by exploring the UTM Career Centre Model—a chance to reflect and choose what's right for you with guided support. Access MyCareerCentre 24/7 for flexible, interactive career learning at your own pace.</p> <p>Connect with support in-person: Drop-in to an Academic & Career Planning Session to chat with Advisors and Career Counsellors. Visit the Career Corner in the Student Services Hub to chat with a Peer Career Assistant about resources that fit your goals.</p>	<p>Explore your options with the CC's Job Shadow Program, In the Field, or a one-on-one with a Career Counsellor.</p> <p>Thinking about grad school? Attend the Graduate & Professional School Fair, research application requirements, admission tests, and explore funding options.</p> <p>Getting ready for work? Join workshops, drop-ins, and networking events to build experience and confidently share your skills – Register on CLNx.</p>

3 RD YEAR	4 TH OR FINAL YEAR
<p>Enrol in RLG312H5. Attain 3.0 RLG 300-level credits.</p> <p>Throughout your undergraduate degree:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Use Degree Explorer to ensure you complete your degree and program requirements.See the Office of the Registrar and the Historical Studies Academic Advisor.	<p>Attain 1.0 RLG 400-level credit and 1.0 additional RLG credit at any level. Why not undertake an ethnographic field project by enrolling in RLG452H5 Anthropology of Islam?</p> <p>Log on to ACORN and confirm graduation request.</p>
<p>Community Engaged Learning combines academics with meaningful service in the community.</p> <p>Apply for HIS498Y5 Internship in History to hone your research skills in work settings such as museums, archives, and historical societies.</p>	<p>Skills are transferrable to any job regardless of where you develop them. Looking to develop your leadership skills? Consider applying to become a Community Engagement Assistant with the CSE.</p>
<p>Establish a professional presence on social media (e.g., LinkedIn).</p> <p>Get published in Prandium: The Journal of Historical Studies at UTM.</p>	<p>Join a professional association. Check out the Canadian Society for the Study of Religion or the American Academy of Religion.</p> <p>Go to a conference such as the Graduate Conference on South Asian Religions (GCSAR) at UTM.</p>
<p>Expanding your intercultural awareness and developing intercultural skills will help you in your academics, personal growth and are highly sought out by employers.</p> <p>Earn credits overseas! Apply to study for a summer term, or year at one of 170+ universities. Speak to the IEC for details about Course Based Exchange, funding and travel safety. Attend Global Learning Week to learn about the various opportunities available to you!</p>	<p>Engage in programs like ISTEP and THRIVE-OUT to support your transition out of the University!</p>
<p>Need job search support? Book a coaching appointment with an Employment Strategist for personalized guidance.</p> <p>Ready to take the next step for grad school, visit the Pursue Learning section on MyCareerCentre and drop-in to chat with a Career Counsellor about grad school prep tips.</p> <p>Want to grow your network? Attend the Career Centre Networking Series and Let's Talk About events — Register on CLNx.</p>	<p>Join the Now That I'm Graduating, What's Next? session to start building your job search plan. Attend the Sweats to Suits Job Search Conference and discover diverse career pathways.</p> <p>Work with the Employment Strategist team to review your resume and prep for interviews.</p> <p>Still figuring things out? Meet with a Career Counsellor to create a career plan and attend a Career Wellness session to support your well-being along the way.</p>

*Consult the Academic Calendar for greater detail on course requirements, program notes and degree requirements.

HISTORY OF RELIGIONS

Skills developed in History of Religions

Students gain valuable knowledge and skills while studying religion. Visit the Career Centre to learn how to articulate the following skills:

Communication: Learn about the historical development of different communities; gain insights into cultural diversity; formulate and defend positions based on evidence; listen objectively and thoughtfully; adapt in cross-cultural settings.

Problem-solving: Make well-informed decisions; mediate conflicts; think critically.

Organizational: Apply theoretical knowledge in practical settings (e.g., via internships).

Research: Examine and assess research; evaluate ideas and reasoning; gather information; interpret data.

Get involved

Check out the 100+ student organizations on campus. Here are a few:

- Historical Studies Society (HSS)
- UTM Student Union (UTMSU)
- UTM Athletics Council (UTMAC)

For a full listing of clubs on campus visit the **Student Groups and Societies Directory**

Services that support you

- **Accessibility Services (AS)**
- **Career Centre (CC)**
- **Centre for Student Engagement (CSE)**
- **Centre for South Asian Critical Humanities (CSAC)**
- **Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Office (EDIO)**
- **Experiential Education Unit (EEU)**
- **Health & Counselling Centre (HCC)**
- **International Education Centre (IEC)**
- **Office of the Registrar (OR)**
- **Recreation, Athletics and Wellness Centre (RAWC)**
- **Robert Gillespie Academic Skills Centre (RGASC)**
- **UTM Library, Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre (HMALC)**

Department of Historical Studies

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FUTURE STUDENTS

Admission to UTM

All program areas require an Ontario Secondary School Diploma, or equivalent, with six Grade 12 U/M courses, or equivalent, including English. The admission average is calculated with English plus the next best five courses. The approximate average required for admission is mid- to high-70s. More information is available at utm.utoronto.ca/viewbook.

NOTE: During the application process, applicants will select the Humanities admissions category but will not officially be admitted to a formal program of study (Specialist, Major, and/or Minor) until after first year.

Sneak Peek

How does religion shape popular culture? How does popular culture shape religion? Trace the history of these questions from the early modern period through the twenty-first century in RLG211H5. Learn about the extraordinary diversity of South Asian religions through an array of beliefs, practices, and texts, in RLG205H5.

History of Religions is excellent preparation for living and working in a cosmopolitan and multiconfessional world.

Student Recruitment & Admissions

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905-828-5400

www.utm.utoronto.ca/future-students

