

# HISTORY OF RELIGIONS (HBA)

*Department of Historical Studies*

**History of Religions** explores the importance of religion in our world. It situates religion in the historical, cultural, and socio-political contexts that together constitute the story of humanity, and acknowledges how religion shapes and is shaped by this story. The program's approach involves (but is not limited to) the study of particular religious traditions, the comparative study of religion, and the study of the religious dimension of human experience and of common historical phenomena. Its subject includes ancient and indigenous religions as well as present-day world religions.

## 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](http://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...

How does the study of religion enhance your understanding of horror and sci-fi films? Find out in RLG332H5, Reel Religion - a course that examines the narrative and visual aspects of films that are not explicitly religious.

### What can I do with my degree?

The career you choose will depend on your experience and interests. Visit the Career Centre to explore your career options.

**Careers for graduates:** Mediator; Settlement worker; Journalist; Archivist; Community outreach worker; Communications specialist; Equity officer; Immigration officer; Legal assistant; Museum technician; Political aide; Social policy researcher; Student life/residence coordinator.

**Workplaces:** Museums; Shelters; Community centres; Preservation boards; Historical societies; Newspapers/ magazines; Government; Legal agencies; Non-profit agencies; Inter-religious dialogue organizations; Mediation firms.



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



	1 <sup>ST</sup> YEAR	2 <sup>ND</sup> YEAR
PLAN YOUR ACADEMICS*	<p>Enrol in RLG101H5.</p> <p>Choose a program of study (Subject POST) once you complete 4.0 credits. Use the <b>Degree Explorer</b> and the <b>Academic Calendar</b> to plan your degree.</p> <p>Start strong and get informed with <b>utmONE</b> and <b>LAUNCH</b> through the Centre for Student Engagement (CSE). Join a RGASC <b>Peer Facilitated Study Group</b>.</p>	<p>Attain 1.5 200-level credits. Majors in the History of Religions must select a concentration. View the Academic Calendar for details. View the <b>Academic Calendar</b> for details.</p> <p>Consider applying for <b>Research Opportunity Program (ROP)</b> courses RLG299Y, RLG399Y and RLG499Y. Visit the EEU website for <b>ROP Course Prerequisites</b>. Attend the RGASC's <b>P.A.R.T.</b> to enhance your research skills.</p>
BUILD SKILLS	<p>Use the <b>Co-Curricular Record (CCR)</b>. Search for opportunities beyond the classroom, and keep track of your accomplishments.</p> <p>Attend the <b>Get Experience Fair</b> through the Career Centre (CC) to learn about on- and off-campus opportunities.</p>	<p>Use the <b>Career Learning Network (CLNx)</b> to find postings for on- and off-campus work and volunteer opportunities.</p> <p>Work on-campus through the <b>Work-Study program</b>. 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 <b>Historical Studies Society (HSS)</b>. Go to the <b>HSS Meet &amp; Greet</b> to meet professors and fellow students.</p> <p>Visit the UTM Library <b>Reference Desk</b>.</p>	<p>Do you have a professor you really like or connect with? Ask them a question during office hours. Discuss an assignment. Go over lecture material. Don't be shy! Learn <b>Tips On How to Approach a Professor</b> available through the Experiential Education Unit (EEU).</p>
BUILD A GLOBAL MINDSET	<p><b>Attend events held by the International Education Centre (IEC)</b>, whether you are an international or domestic student. Explore your culture and other cultures through weekly/regular conversations, <b>Language Conversation Circles</b>, debates, and activities to enhance your global and intercultural mindset.</p>	<p>Engage in programs like the <b>Global and Intercultural Fluency Training Series (GIFTS)</b> or learn about and prepare for a future <b>UTM Abroad Experience</b> 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>Attend the <b>Program Selection &amp; Career Options</b> workshop offered by the Office of the Registrar and the CC.</p> <p>Check out <b>Careers by Major</b> at the CC to see potential career options.</p>	<p>Explore careers through the CC's <b>Job Shadowing Program</b>.</p> <p>Considering <b>further education</b>? Attend the CC's <b>Graduate and Professional Schools Fair</b>. Talk to professors – they are potential mentors and references.</p>

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

3 <sup>RD</sup> YEAR	4 <sup>TH</sup> OR FINAL YEAR
<p>Enrol in RLG312Y5. Attain 3.0 300-level credits (1.5 in a Concentration); the remaining 1.5 credits cannot be in the same Concentration.</p> <p>Throughout your undergraduate degree:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>use the <b>Degree Explorer</b> to ensure you complete your degree and program requirements.</li> <li>see the <b>Office of the Registrar</b> and the <b>Historical Studies Academic Counsellor</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Community Engaged Learning</b> combines academics with meaningful service in the community.</p>	<p>Attain 1.0 400-level credit and 0.5 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 request graduation.</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 <b>Community Engagement Assistant</b> with the CSE.</p>
<p>Establish a professional presence on social media (e.g., LinkedIn).</p> <p>Get published in <b>Prandium: The Journal of Historical Studies at UTM</b>.</p>	<p>Join a professional association. Check out the <b>Canadian Society for the Study of Religion</b> or the <b>American Academy of Religion</b>.</p> <p>Go to a conference such as the <b>Graduate Conference on South Asian Religions (GCSAR)</b> at UTM.</p>
<p><b>Earn credits overseas!</b> Apply to study for a summer, term or year at one of 140+ universities. Speak to the IEC for details about <b>Course Based Exchange</b>, funding and travel safety.</p>	<p>Learn about working abroad. Read up on worldwide employment trends and industry outlooks through <b>GoInGlobal</b>. Attend the <b>Go Global Expo</b>. See if you are eligible for <b>International Experience Canada</b>.</p>
<p>What's your next step after undergrad?</p> <p>Entering the workforce? Evaluate your career options through a CC <b>Career Counselling appointment</b>. Create a job search strategy — book a CC <b>Employment Strategies appointment</b>.</p> <p>Considering further education? Research application requirements, prepare for admission tests (LSAT, GMAT) and research funding options (OGS, SSHRC).</p>	<p>Market your skills to employers. Get your <b>resume critiqued</b> at the CC. Attend the CC's workshop <b>Now That I'm Graduating What's Next?</b></p> <p>Write a strong application for further education. Attend the CC's <b>Mastering the Personal Statement workshop</b>.</p>

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# HISTORY OF RELIGIONS

## Skills developed in History of Religions

To be competitive in the job market, it is essential that you can explain your skills to an employer. Visit the Career Centre to learn how to articulate and market the following skills:

**Communication:** gain understanding of history and development as it applies to nations/ groups of people; understanding of cultural diversity; formulate and defend positions; mediate in disputes and conflicts; listen objectively; and adapt in cross-cultural setting.

**Problem-solving:** decision-making; reason logically; and think critically.

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

**Research:** develop attention to detail; examine evidence; evaluate ideas and research; gather information and data; and interpret research and 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 listing of clubs on campus visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/clubs](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/clubs).

## Services that support you

- Accessibility Services (AS)
- Career Centre (CC)
- Centre for Student Engagement (CSE)
- Centre for South Asian Civilizations (CSAC)
- Experiential Education Unit (EEU)
- Health & Counselling Centre (HCC)
- Indigenous Centre (IC)
- 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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[www.utm.utoronto.ca/historical-studies](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/historical-studies)

## 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](http://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 vast array of global Indigenous religions, with a focus on North American traditions, in RLG209H5.

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

### Student Recruitment & Admissions

Innovation Complex, Room 1270  
University of Toronto Mississauga  
3359 Mississauga Rd  
Mississauga ON Canada L5L 1C6

905-828-5400

[www.utm.utoronto.ca/future-students](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/future-students)

