



Faculty of Religious Studies (Graduate)
Programs, Courses and University Regulations
2014-2015

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This publication provides guidance to prospects, applicants, students and staff

1 . McGill University reserves the right to mak

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1 Dean's Welcome

To Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Fellows

I am extremely pleased to welcome you to McGill University. Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (GPS) collaborates with the Faculty of Arts and other administrative and academic units to provide strategic leadership and vision for graduate teaching, supervision, and research across 400 graduate programs. GPS also oversees quality assurance in admissions and graduation, the disbursement of graduate fellowships, support for postdoctoral fellows, and facilitates graduate degree completion, including the examination of theses. GPS has partnered with Enrolment Services to manage the admission and registration of graduate students and postdoctoral fellows and to offer streamlined services in a one-stop location at

2.3 General Statement Concerning Higher Degrees

Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (GRS) oversees all programs leading to graduate diplomas, certificates, and higher degrees, with the exception of some programs in the School of Continuing Studies. It is responsible for admission policies, the supervision of graduate students, and recommending to Senate those who may receive the degrees, diplomas, and certificates.

3 Important Dates 2014–2015

For all dates relating to the academic year, consult www.mcgill.ca/importantdates

4 Graduate Studies at a Glance

Please refer to the eCalendar, University Regulations and Resources > Graduate > [Graduate Studies at a Glance](#) for a list of all graduate departments and degrees currently being offered.

5 Program Requirements

5.1 Master's Degrees

Residence Requirements ± Master's Degrees

Refers to the number of terms (or years) students must ~~be~~ ^{be} on a full-time basis to complete their program. Students are ~~not~~ ^{not} permitted to graduate until they have fulfilled the residence requirement (or paid the corresponding fees) in their program.

- The following master's programs have a minimum residence requirement of ~~three~~ ^{three} full-time terms: M.Arch., M.A., M.Eng., LL.M., M.Mus. (except M.Mus. in Sound Recording), M.Sc., M.S., M.Sc.A. (except M.Sc.A. in Communication Sciences and Disorders).
- The following master's programs have a minimum residence requirement of ~~four~~ ^{four} full-time terms: M.I.St.; M.Mus. in Sound Recording; M.U.; M.A. (60 credits ± Counselling Psychology ± thesis; 78 credits ± Educational Psychology, Teaching and Learning ± Non-Thesis; M.Sc.A. in Communication Sciences and Disorders; SMT, Religious Studies).
- The residence requirement for the master's program in Education (M.Ed.); Information Studies (M.I.St.); Management (M.B.A.); Religious Studies (S.T.M.); M.A. Counselling Psychology ± Non-Thesis; M. Teaching and Learning ± Non-Thesis; M.Sc. in Public Health ± Non-Thesis; M.Sc.A. Nursing; M.Sc.A. Occupational Therapy; M.Sc.A. Physical Therapy; and students in part-time programs is determined on a per course basis. Residence requirements are fulfilled when students complete all course requirements in their respective programs.
- For master's programs structured as Course, Project, or Non-Thesis options where the program is pursued on a part-time basis, residence requirements are normally fulfilled when students complete all course requirements in their respective programs (minimum 45 credits or a minimum of three full-time terms) and pay the fees accordingly.

These designated periods of residence represent minimum time requirements. There is no guarantee that the ~~work~~ ^{work} for the degree can be completed in this time. Students must ~~register~~ ^{register} for such additional terms as are needed to complete the program.

Coursework ± Master's Degrees

Program requirements are outlined in the ~~various~~ ^{various} departmental sections of the Graduate and Postdoctoral ~~Studies~~ ^{Studies} [page](#).

The department concerned will examine the student's ~~previous~~ ^{previous} training and then decide which of the ~~available~~ ^{available} courses in the area of specialization or related fields are required to bring the candidate to the ~~proper~~ ^{proper} level for the master's ~~degree~~ ^{degree}. Due account will be ~~taken~~ ^{taken} of relevant courses passed at a ~~recognized~~ ^{recognized} university.

As a rule, no more than one-third of the McGill program formal ~~course~~ ^{course} (not thesis, project, stage, or internship) can be credited with courses from another ~~university~~ ^{university}.

Non-thesis ~~degrees~~ ^{degrees} normally specify the course program which the candidate ~~must~~ ^{must} follow.

The candidate is required to pass, with a grade of B- or ~~higher~~ ^{higher}, those courses that ~~have~~ ^{have} been designated by the department as forming a part of the program, including additional requirements.

Students taking courses at another university must obtain a minimum grade of B- (65%) if the course is to be credited toward their McGill degree. In the cases where only a letter grade is used, a B- is the minimum passing grade and where a percentage will be considered. In the cases where only a percentage grade is used, 65% is the minimum passing grade.

If courses were not used for a degree, they could be credited toward a McGill degree, keeping in mind that a maximum of one-third of the course

Students expecting to enrol in Professional Corporations in the pro

8 Postdoctoral Research

Students must inform themselves of University rules and regulations and keep abreast of any changes that may occur. The Postdoctoral Research section of this publication contains important details required by postdoctoral scholars during their studies at McGill and should be periodically consulted, along with other sections and related publications.

8.1 Postdocs

Postdocs are recent graduates with a Ph.D. or equivalent (i.e., Medical Specialist Diploma) employed by a member of the University's academic staff including Adjunct Professors, to assist him/her in research.

Postdocs must be appointed by their department in consultation with Enrolment Services in order to have access to University facilities (library computer etc.).

8.2 Guidelines and Policy for Academic Units on Postdoctoral Education

The general guidelines listed below are meant to encourage units to examine their policies and procedures to support postdoctoral education. Units hosting Postdocs should have explicitly stated policies and procedures for the provision of postdoctoral education as well as established means for informing Postdocs of policies, procedures, and privileges (e.g., orientation sessions, handbooks, etc.), as well as mechanisms for addressing academic issues. Units should ensure that their policies, procedures and privileges are consistent with these guidelines and the Charter of Students' Rights. For their part, Postdocs are responsible for informing themselves of policies, procedures, and privileges.

1. Definition and Status

i. Postdoctoral status will be recognized by the University in accordance with Quebec provincial regulations. Persons may only be registered with postdoctoral status for a period of up to two years from the date they were awarded a Ph.D. or equivalent degree. Time allocated to parental or health leave is added to this period of time. Leaves for other reasons, including sabbatical leave, do not extend the term. Postdocs must do research under the supervision of a McGill professor, including Adjunct Professors, who is a member of McGill's academic staff and is qualified in the discipline in which training is being provided and with the abilities to fulfill responsibilities as a supervisor of the research and as a mentor for the postdoc. They are expected to be engaged primarily in research with minimal teaching or other responsibilities.

2. Registration

i. Postdocs must be registered annually with the University through Enrolment Services. Initial registration will require an original or notarized copy of the Ph.D. diploma. Registration will be limited to persons who fulfill the definition of a postdoc and for whom there is an assurance of appropriate funding and where the unit can provide assurance of the necessary resources to permit postdoctoral education.

ii. Upon registration, the Postdoc will be eligible for a University identity card issued by Enrolment Services.

3. Appointment, Pay, Agreement of Conditions

i. Appointments may not exceed your registration eligibility status.

ii. In order to be registered as a Postdoc, you must be assured of financial support other than from personal means during your stay at McGill. Unit stipend must be equivalent to the minimal stipend requirement set by the University in accordance with guidelines issued by federal and provincial research granting agencies. There are no provisions for paid parental leave unless this is stipulated in the conditions of a funding agency outside the University.

iii. At the outset of a postdoctoral appointment, a written Letter of Agreement for Postdoctoral Education should be drafted and signed by the Postdoc, the supervisor and the department head or delegate (see template Letter of Agreement and supporting documents [Commitments of Postdoctoral Scholars and Supervisors](#) on the web at www.mcgill.ca/gps/postdocs/fellows/letter). This should stipulate, for example, the purpose of the postdoctoral appointment

i. Postdocs ~~have~~ the same pertinent rights as the ones granted to McGill students in the

- the individual must be engaged in full-time research;
- the individual must provide copies of official transcripts/diploma;
- the individual must have the approval of a McGill professor to supervise the research and of the Unit;
- the individual must have adequate proficiency in English, but is not required to provide official proof of English competency to Enrolment Services;
- the individual must comply with regulations and procedures governing research ethics and safety and obtain the necessary training;
- the individual will be provided access to McGill libraries, email, and required training in research ethics and safety. Other University services must be purchased (e.g., access to athletic facilities);
- the individual must arrange for basic health insurance coverage prior to arrival at McGill and may be required to provide proof of coverage.

9 Graduate Studies Guidelines and Policies

Refer to the [Calendar](#) under University Regulations and Resources > Graduate > [Guidelines and Policies](#) for information on the following:

- Guidelines and Regulations for Academic Units on Graduate Student Advising and Supervision
- Policy on Graduate Student Research Program Tasking
- Ph.D. Comprehensive Policy
- Graduate Studies Reread Policy
- Failure Policy
- Guideline on Hours of Work

10 Information on Research Policies and Guidelines, Patents, Postdocs, Associates, Trainees

Refer to the [Calendar](#) under University Regulations and Resources > Graduate > [Research Policy and Guidelines, Patents, Postdocs, Associates, Trainees](#) for information on the following:

- Policy on Research Ethics
- Regulations on Research Policy
- Policy on Research Integrity
- Guidelines for Research Involving Human Subjects
- Guidelines for Research with Animal Subjects
- Policy on Intellectual Property
- Regulations Governing Conflicts of Interest
- Safety in Field Work
- Office of Sponsored Research
- Postdocs
- Research Associates

11 Academic Programs

The programs and courses in the following sections have been approved

11.1 Religious Studies

11.1.1 Location

Faculty of Religious Studies
William and Henry Birks Building
3520 University Street
Montreal QC H3A 2A7
Canada

Telephone: 514-398-4121

Fax: 514-398-6665

Website: www.mcgill.ca/religiousstudies

11.1.2 About Religious Studies

The Faculty of Religious Studies offers programs leading to the degrees of Master of Arts (M.A.) (Thesis and Non-Thesis), Master of Arts (M.A.) (Thesis) with specialization in Bioethics, Master of Arts (M.A.) (Thesis) with option in Gender and Women's Studies, Master of Sacred Theology (S.T.M.), and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.). An interdisciplinary option in Gender and Women's Studies is available for doctoral students.

The areas of graduate specializations of our renowned Faculty are: Hebrew Bible and/or Old Testament Studies; Early Judaism; Greco-Roman Judaism; New Testament and Early Christianity; Church History; Christian Theology; Philosophy of Religion; Religious Ethics; Biomedical Ethics; Hinduism; and Buddhism. The many different areas of research interest among members of the Faculty frequently require the hiring of graduate students as research assistants, especially as the Faculty is so successful in gaining research grants. The Faculty also seeks to train young scholars in the art of lecturing/teaching; to this end it has created opportunities for Ph.D. students to teach courses in the summer and permits M.A. and Ph.D. students to teach as teaching assistants. The individual programs are described below.

Adequate library facilities are available in the William and Henry Birks Building and elsewhere in the University for the courses listed, and for research.

Language Requirements

The Faculty of Religious Studies offers courses in primary resource languages, such as Biblical Hebrew, Aramaic, Biblical Greek, Sanskrit, Pali, Tamil, and classical literary Tibetan. The Faculty does not guarantee instruction in languages other than those mentioned above. Therefore, if a student wishes to have a language such as French, German, or Japanese counted as a second language, instruction must be sought outside the Faculty. The successful completion of at least 12 credits at the post-secondary level in a language course, or successful completion of a language examination administered by the appropriate member of the Faculty, will constitute evidence of the student's having the required reading knowledge of the language in question.

M.A.

Students are required to give their area committee evidence of reading knowledge of a scholarly language other than English. This language may be either a modern language in which there is a significant amount of scholarship in the student's area of research, or a classical language relevant to the student's area of research. If a classical language is chosen, it must be in addition to a prerequisite language for the area in question.



Note: The M.A. with specialization in Bioethics has no language requirement.

Ph.D.

Students are required to give their area committee evidence of reading knowledge of two languages other than English. These languages must be chosen from modern languages in which there is a significant amount of scholarship in the student's area of research or classical languages relevant to the student's area of research.

Research in some disciplines, or on certain thesis topics, may require proficiency in two languages besides English. In that case, additional language requirements may be stipulated by the supervisor.

S.T.M.

The S.T.M. program has no language requirement.

section 11.1.5 Master of Arts (M.A.); Religious Studies (Thesis) (48 credits)

The purpose of the M.A. (Thesis) degree is to encourage advanced study and research in one of the disciplines of Religious Studies for those who wish to become scholars or teachers, or will be engaged in some field of religious or public service. The M.A. (Thesis) program in Religious Studies offers a specialization in Bioethics and an option in Gender and Women's Studies.

section 11.1.6 Master of Arts (M.A.); Religious Studies (Thesis) & Bioethics (45 credits)

The M.A. (Thesis) with specialization in Bioethics is offered in conjunction with the Bioethics Unit. Please contact the Religious Studies Department or Bioethics Unit for more information about this specialization. The curriculum is composed of required courses (6 credits) in the Biomedical Ethics

Emeritus Professors

Maurice Boutin; B.A., B.A., B.A.(Montr

Complementary Courses (15 credits)

15 credits selected from the 500- or 600-level courses accepted by the Faculty of Religious Studies for the granting of a master's degree.

Language Requirement

Students are required to demonstrate evidence of reading knowledge of a scholarly language other than English. This language may be either a modern language in which there is a significant amount of scholarship in the student's area of research, or a classical language relevant to the student's area of research. If a classical language is chosen, it must be in addition to a modern language for the area in question.

11.1.6 Master of Arts (M.A.); Religious Studies (Thesis) — Bioethics (45 credits)

Thesis Courses (24 credits)

BIOE 690	(3)	M.Sc. Thesis Literature Survey
		M.Sc. Thesis Research Proposal in question.

Course selection for all S.M. students needs the approval of the Chair of Religious Studies Graduate Committee.
Related courses are also available in other departments.

11.1.10 Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.); Religious Studies

Thesis

A thesis for the doctoral degree must constitute original scholarship and must be a distinct contribution to knowledge. It must show familiarity with previous work in the field and must demonstrate ability to plan and carry out research, or

WMST 602 (3) Feminist Research Symposium

and one 3-credit graduate seminar with a substantial focus on gender and/women's studies.

One 3-credit graduate seminar must be at the 700 level

Students entering into Ph.D. 2

Students entering into Ph.D. 2 are required to take a minimum of four (3-credit) graduate seminars including:

WMST 601 (3) Feminist Theories and Methods

WMST 602 (3) Feminist Research Symposium

and one 3-credit graduate seminar with a substantial focus on gender and/women's studies.

One 3-credit graduate seminar must be at the 700 level

Language Requirements

Modern and ancient languages as stipulated by field of study