Divinity & Religious Studies

Postgraduate Opportunities 2018

Influencing the world since 1583
“Edinburgh isn’t so much a city, more a way of life … I doubt I’ll ever tire of exploring Edinburgh, on foot or in print.”

Ian Rankin
Best-selling author and alumnus
Influencing the world since 1583

For more than 400 years the University of Edinburgh has been changing the world. Our staff and students have explored space, won Nobel Prizes and revolutionised surgery. They’ve published era-defining books, run the country, made life-saving breakthroughs and laid the foundations to solve the mysteries of the universe.

Our distinguished alumni include NASA astronaut Piers Sellers, former MI5 Director-General Dame Stella Rimington, Olympians Sir Chris Hoy and Katherine Grainger and historical greats such as philosopher David Hume, suffragist Chrystal Macmillan, who founded the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, and physicist and mathematician James Clerk Maxwell.

International collaboration
An internationally renowned centre for academic excellence, we forge world-class collaborations with partners such as the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), Stanford University, the University of Melbourne, Peking University, the University of Delhi and the University of KwaZulu-Natal. As a member of the League of European Research Universities and the Coimbra Group, we link up with leading institutions across Europe.

Linking research and commerce
We were one of the first UK universities to develop commercial links with industry, government and the professions. Edinburgh Innovations promotes and commercialises our research excellence and can assist you in taking the first step to market, through collaborative research, licensing technology or consultancy.

Enhancing your career
We are committed to embedding employability in your University experience and have one of the Russell Group’s best track records for graduate employment. From volunteering schemes to our sector-leading careers service, we provide you with opportunities to develop your skills, knowledge and experience, giving you an edge in the competitive job market.

TOP 50
We’re consistently ranked one of the top 50 universities in the world. We’re 23rd in the 2018 QS World University Rankings.

4th
We’re ranked fourth in the UK for research power, based on research quality and breadth.*

83%
The majority of our research – 83 per cent – is considered world leading or internationally excellent.*

32nd
We’re ranked 32nd in the world for the employability of our graduates†.

£268m
In 2015/16 we won £268 million in competitive research grants.

21
We’re associated with 21 Nobel Prize winners, including physicists Peter Higgs, Charles Barkla and Max Born, medical researcher Peter Doherty and biologist Sir Paul Nurse.

13th
We’re ranked 13th in the world’s most international universities.‡ Students from two-thirds of the world’s countries study here.

* Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014
† Latest Emerging Global Employability University Ranking
‡ Times Higher Education: The World’s Most International Universities 2017
Taught masters programmes

We offer five taught masters programmes, most of which can be taken either as a Master of Theology (MTh) or a Master of Science (MSc), the difference being one of nomenclature only.

Our taught masters programmes are designed to deepen knowledge in a subject you will typically have studied at undergraduate level, although they can in some cases offer a new direction in your academic career.

Taught masters programmes take 12 months, consisting of two semesters of taught courses followed by an individually supervised dissertation. They can also be studied part-time over two years by UK and EU students.

See also...
You may also be interested in postgraduate programmes offered by other Schools, particularly the Schools of History, Classics & Archaeology; Literatures, Languages & Cultures; Philosophy, Psychology & Language Sciences; and Social & Political Science.

www.ed.ac.uk/studying/prospectus-request

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/57

Biblical Studies

MTh or MSc 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description
This programme is for students who wish to develop expertise in biblical studies, including those who want to prepare for a PhD. Its emphasis is on adding depth and breadth to expertise in biblical languages. Finely honed language skills are central to the programme’s engagement with the Bible, the world that produced it, and its later readers. The programme provides expert-in-depth study of the Hebrew Bible and New Testament, the wider ancient Near East and Mediterranean World, and related extra-biblical literature including the Dead Sea Scrolls. You will be taught by leading academics with research interests in the Hebrew Bible, New Testament, early Judaism and early Christianity. You will benefit from weekly research seminars in biblical studies and from our Centre for the Study of Christian Origins.

Programme structure
This programme is taught over one year full-time (or two years part-time), mainly in small classroom/seminar groups. You will receive research methods training, offering a practical approach to postgraduate level critical investigation and writing skills, and individual supervision for your 15,000-word dissertation.

COMPELLARY COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:
- Our compulsory courses comprise two biblical language/reading courses, in Greek or Hebrew/Aramaic, and two in research methods. Many scenarios for language study can be chosen in consultation with the Programme Director. If you have only one year’s prior biblical languages study you may take Intermediate Biblical Hebrew or Intermediate New Testament Greek.

OPTION COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:
- You will choose three options. At least two must be from biblical studies courses such as Hebrew Bible in Historical Critical Perspective; Hebrew Scripture Theology; The New Testament in its Graeco-Roman Context; Science and Scripture. With your Programme Director’s agreement, you may also choose options from other taught masters or from advanced undergraduate courses such as Historical Jesus or Jesus in Film.

Career opportunities
This programme is designed to provide a strong foundation for postgraduate research in the field or for employment in a range of areas requiring critical analysis and empathetic understanding.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree with a mark of at least 65 per cent or its international equivalent (see international graduate entry), in theology/religious studies or a related field in which biblical studies features prominently. Previous study of at least one biblical language is required.

English language requirements
See page 17.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 17 and for funding information see page 18.

Programme Director
Dr David Reimer (to 31 December 2017) / Professor Helen Bond (from 1 January 2018)
Email david.reimer@ed.ac.uk / helen.bond@ed.ac.uk

“Choosing New College for both my masters and PhD has been one of the best decisions I’ve ever made. The world-class quality of academic instruction and research, the warm and vibrant postgraduate community, and the relationships I’ve formed with both students and staff members have all been invaluable in preparing me for both academic and personal success.”

Sarah Lane Ritchie, Masters and PhD in Divinity
Research Fellow in Theology & Science, University of St Andrews

www.ed.ac.uk/divinity

Key FT: Full time. PT: Part time.

Taught masters programmes

The University of Edinburgh
Divinity & Religious Studies Postgraduate Opportunities 2018

www.ed.ac.uk/divinity

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/611

Religious Studies

MSc 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description
This programme provides the opportunity to study a variety of religious traditions, in combination with advanced learning in the theory and method of the study of religion. Religious beliefs, behaviours and institutions are fascinating and powerful components in human societies. Understanding their motivations and structures can help the search for solutions to major challenges in the contemporary world. This programme allows a deepening engagement with the methodological ramifications of the field, while encouraging in-depth study of one or more religious traditions. The focus extends beyond theory and method in religious studies to specific local, national and international religious traditions. You can study Jewish, Christian, Islamic and Indian traditions, as well as indigenous religions of Africa, North America and East Asia, and new age and diasporic traditions. This combination of theoretical know-how with studies in specific traditions equips you to compare, interpret and explain religion in a cross-cultural perspective. The programme also offers the opportunity to learn Sanskrit, Arabic or Persian (subject to availability) through our leading expertise in Asian Studies and in Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies.

Programme structure
This programme is taught over one year full-time (or two years part-time), mainly in small classroom/seminar groups. You will receive research methods training, offering a practical approach to postgraduate level critical investigation and writing skills, and individual supervision for your 15,000-word dissertation.

COMPELLARY COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:
- Theory and Method in the Study of Religion; with one further course from the options specific to this programme and two courses in research methods.

OPTION COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:
- You will choose three options. At least one must be a religious studies course, such as Theories of Religion in Hindu Traditions: Critical Investigations; From Diatribe to Dialogue in Christian-Muslim Relations; New Age Spirituality in Contemporary Culture. With your Programme Director’s agreement, you may also choose options from other taught masters, language courses, or advanced undergraduate courses.

Career opportunities
This programme is designed to provide a strong foundation for postgraduate research in the field or for employment in a range of areas requiring critical analysis and empathetic understanding.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree with a mark of at least 65 per cent or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry), in theology/religious studies or a relevant field within humanities and social sciences, or the natural sciences.

English language requirements
See page 17.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 17 and for funding information see page 18.

Programme Director
Dr Naomi Appleton
Email naomi.appleton@ed.ac.uk

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/653

Science & Religion

MSc 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description
This dedicated masters programme in science and religion is intended for students who wish to engage in the advanced interdisciplinary study of science and religion, including those who wish to prepare for subsequent PhD work.

This is one of the world’s very few science and religion programmes. Much of the recent debate surrounding ‘new atheism’ has taken place within a poorly informed view of the history and philosophy of science and its relationship with religion. This programme aims to inform and engage with the debate in depth, looking at it from scientific, philosophical, historical, ethical and theological perspectives. The history of science is studied from ancient times through the modern scientific revolution, together with philosophical trends in our understanding of reality. The main areas of dialogue between science and religion are explored in depth, including cosmology, evolution, divine action and miracles, consciousness and the mind.

Programme structure
This programme is taught over one year full-time (or two years part-time), mainly in small classroom/seminar groups. You will receive research methods training, offering a practical approach to postgraduate level critical investigation and writing skills, and individual supervision for your 15,000-word dissertation.

COMPELLARY COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:
- History of Science and Religion in the Christian Tradition; Cosmos, Cell and Creator: Current Debates in Science and Religion; and two courses in research methods.

OPTION COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:
- You will choose three options from science and religion courses, such as Economy, Ecology, and Ethics: Key Thinkers in Science and Religion; Philosophy of Time; Philosophy of Science: Contemporary Debates; Science and Religion in Literature; Science and Scripture. With your Programme Director’s agreement, you may also choose options from other taught masters, language courses, or advanced undergraduate courses.

Career opportunities
This programme is designed to provide a strong foundation for postgraduate research in the field or for employment in a range of areas requiring critical analysis and empathetic understanding.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree with a mark of at least 65 per cent or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry), in theology/religious studies or a relevant field within humanities and social sciences, or the natural sciences.

English language requirements
See page 17.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 17 and for funding information see page 18.

Programme Director
Dr Mark Harris
Email mark.harris@ed.ac.uk

www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-opportunities
Theology in History

MTh or MSc 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description
This flexible programme looks at the Christian past from a variety of perspectives – theological, philosophical and historical – and provides options for special study of themes from the early church to modern times.

The programme will enable you to understand and reflect critically upon the historical contexts in which Christian thought has developed. Our approach is interdisciplinary: instructors include historians, philosophers of religion and systematic theologians. Your work will be enriched by the School’s guest lectures and regular research seminars in theology and ethics, and the history of Christianity.

Programme structure
This programme is taught over one year full-time (or two years part-time), mainly in small classroom/seminar groups. You will receive research methods training, offering a practical approach to postgraduate level critical investigation and writing skills, and individual supervision for your 15,000-word dissertation.

COMPULSORY COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:
Creeds, Councils and Controversies I: Patristic and Medieval; Creeds, Councils and Controversies II: Reformation and Modern; and two courses in research methods.

OPTION COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:
You will choose three options. At least one must be a theology in history course, such as Byzantine Theology; Calvinist Theology and Piety: Church, State and Civil Society; From Dialutheism to Dialogue in Muslim-Christian Relations; History of Christianity in Africa; Reformation in Sixteenth Century Britain and Ireland; Religion and the Enlightenment: the Birth of the Modern. With your Programme Director’s agreement, you may also choose options from other taught masters, language courses, or from advanced undergraduate courses.

Career opportunities
This programme is designed to provide a strong foundation for postgraduate research in the field of, or for employment in a range of areas requiring critical analysis and empathetic understanding.

Entry requirements
A UK 2.1 honours degree with a mark of at least 65 per cent or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry), in theology/religious studies or a relevant field within humanities and social sciences.

English language requirements
See page 17.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 17 and for funding information see page 18.

Programme Director
Dr. Sara Parvis
Email s.parvis@ed.ac.uk

World Christianity

MTh or MSc 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Programme description
This programme is designed to enable you to understand a wide range of Christian belief, culture and practice throughout the world, in historical, theological, and sociological contexts.

With more than 2.2 billion followers, and as one of the oldest religions, Christianity plays an important role in influencing a wide range of social, political and cultural issues. This programme interprets some of the key themes and trends in Christianity in the non-western world, and is designed to provide expert insight, knowledge, skills and understanding, particularly in relation to Africa, Latin America and Asia. It is taught in a strongly interdisciplinary way, and employs historical, sociological, anthropological and theological perspectives. You will enjoy a unique framework to study, research and understand the complexity of Christian communities in the world and their wider significance for culture and society.

Programme structure
This programme is taught over one year full-time (or two years part-time), mainly in small classroom/seminar groups. You will receive research methods training, offering a practical approach to postgraduate level critical investigation and writing skills, and individual supervision for your 15,000-word dissertation.

COMPULSORY COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:
Selected Themes in the Study of World Christianity; with one further course from the options specific to this programme and two courses in research methods.

OPTION COURSES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED INCLUDE:
You will choose three options. At least two must be world Christianity courses, such as Christianity in Asia: Critical Debates in Christian Mission; History of Christianity in Africa; Theologies of World Christianity. With your Programme Director’s agreement, you may also choose options from other taught masters, language courses, or advanced undergraduate courses.

Career opportunities
This programme is designed to provide a strong foundation for postgraduate research in the field and for employment in a range of areas requiring critical analysis and empathetic understanding.

Entry requirements
A UK 2.1 honours degree with a mark of at least 65 per cent or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry), in theology/religious studies or a relevant field within humanities and social sciences.

English language requirements
See page 17.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 17 and for funding information see page 18.

Programme Director
Professor Brian Stanley
Email brian.stanley@ed.ac.uk
Research opportunities

We offer two types of research-based masters, as well as PhD programmes.

Masters by Research
If you have academic training in theology or religious studies (or another relevant subject), and would like to develop your interest with a focus on a particular area, the Masters by Research may be for you. This programme can be taken as a Master of Theology by Research or a Master of Science by Research – the difference is only in the name. You can study full-time (three years) or part-time (two years). The programme consists of at least two supervised research essays, followed by a 30,000 word dissertation. Most students take the research essays and shorter dissertation path. All students receive research training.

Master of Philosophy (MPhil)
Studying for an MPhil commits you to at least two years' full-time study and to writing a thesis of at least 50,000 words. You will have regular 1:1 supervision and work with advice from two supervisors. During the first year you explore your chosen area of research and refine your research proposal. At around the nine-month mark, you will submit a draft chapter for discussion at a Review Board, together with a developed proposal for the whole thesis. On the basis of your progress to date, and the prospects for your research, the Review Board will make recommendations on the continuation of your studies into the second year.

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
Research for a PhD requires you to undertake at least three years' full-time study and write a thesis of up to 100,000 words. You will have regular 1:1 supervision and work with advice from two supervisors. For admission to the PhD programme, you will need to show a proven ability to sustain independent research under supervision, normally in the form of a masters programme that includes a dissertation. From the beginning, the British pattern of PhD studies focuses on working towards the thesis – there is no or coursework. Thus you will need to be well prepared in any special skills you need for your research project, including languages, and competent in academic writing in English. During the first year you explore your chosen area of research and refine your research proposal. At around the nine-month mark, you will submit a draft chapter for discussion at a review board, together with a developed proposal for the whole thesis. On the basis of your progress to date, and the prospects for your research, the review board will make recommendations on the continuation of your studies into the second year. You will then have an annual review to discuss your progress.

Entry requirements
A UK 2:1 honours degree with a mark of at least 65 per cent, or its international equivalent (www.ed.ac.uk/international/graduate-entry), in a relevant subject. You should also have academic training in the area of your research project. PhD applicants also require a specialist masters degree with a high level of attainment (at least 67 per cent in both coursework and dissertation, or their international equivalents). Please check the specific entry requirements for your programme online before applying.
The University of Edinburgh
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Case study: Edinburgh’s research with impact

Ethics and theology of climate change

Should there be a division between nature and culture, science and ethics? This question and others that probe the moral implications of climate change form the basis of Moral Climate: The Ethics of Global Warming. Written by the University of Edinburgh’s Michael Northcott, Professor in Ethics at the School of Divinity, the book highlights the moral responsibility of faith communities to adopt exemplary actions that mitigate the impact of human behaviours on the earth’s climate.

Project background
Professor Northcott’s groundbreaking research addresses the moral implications of climate science: that those who suffer most from growing weather extremes in the less industrialised nations have the least responsibility for their causation, while those who have most benefited from the wealth generated by fossil fuels suffer the least. He argues that the industrialised nations have both the greatest capacity and the greatest duty to mitigate the atmospheric footprint of human development.

Project results
Favourable responses to his arguments within the book led to more than 100 public-speaking invitations to Professor Northcott, on the ethics of climate change, across the world. His research has mobilised faith communities as sponsors of low-carbon living, renewable energy, local food and other climate change mitigation practices. Professor Northcott’s work has reached lay religious as well as scholarly audiences in Australasia, Europe, North America and south-east Asia. A Benedictine Monastery in the south of England uses it for readings at mealtimes and UK churches associated with the ‘Eco-Congregations’ movement have adopted the book for home-group study. Northcott’s work has reached lay religious as well as scholarly audiences in Australasia, Europe, North America and south-east Asia.

See more online: www.ed.ac.uk/research/impact

The University of Edinburgh

Research opportunities

For fees see page 17 and for funding information see page 18.

Contact Dr Sara Parvis
Email s.parvis@ed.ac.uk

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/64

Hebrew & Old Testament Studies

PHD 3 yrs FT (6 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)
MPhil 2 yrs FT (4 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)
MSc/MTh by Research 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Research profile

Academics in this area offer research supervision in most areas of research related to the Hebrew Bible – pentateuchal and historical studies, poetry and prophecy, biblical theology and ethics. Hebrew language, Septuagint and targumic studies, and the Dead Sea Scrolls in their heliostatic context. You can find out more and identify a potential supervisor via the programme entry online. You will be part of a research seminar for staff and students to which visiting speakers are invited and to which postgraduate students present their work-in-progress. You may also be able to take taught courses that are relevant to your interests and research.

Contact Professor Timothy Lim
Email tlim@ed.ac.uk

See page 17.

www.ed.ac.uk/pg/63

History of Christianity

PHD 3 yrs FT (6 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)
MPhil 2 yrs FT (4 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)
MSc/MTh by Research 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Research profile

We offer excellent specialist supervision and library resources for research on the history of Christianity. Areas of particular strength include patristics and early Christian history; the Reformation in Britain and on the continent; pietism; the history of British and European Christianity from the 18th century; and the history of Christian missions, especially in Africa, from the 18th century. You can find out more and identify a potential supervisor via the programme entry online. You will be part of a research seminar for staff and students to which visiting speakers are invited and to which postgraduate students present their work-in-progress. You may also be able to take taught courses that are relevant to your interests and research.

Contact Dr Sara Parvis
Email s.parvis@ed.ac.uk

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www.ed.ac.uk/pg/65


PHD 3 yrs FT (6 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)
MPhil 2 yrs FT (4 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)
MSc/MTh by Research 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Research profile

Our specialists focus on the gospels; Paul; the apocalypse; the apocalyptic gospels and early second-century texts and developments; textual criticism; New Testament ethics; Qur’an; the historical, religious and literary environment of the New Testament; and New Testament Christology. You can undertake research in exegesis, historical-critical issues, textual and literary criticism, the relation between Christianity and its religious and historical setting, the history of interpretation, and hermeneutical questions. You can find out more and identify a potential supervisor via the programme entry online. You will be part of a research seminar for staff and students to which visiting speakers are invited and to which postgraduate students present their work-in-progress. You may also be able to take taught courses relevant to your interests and research.

Contact Professor Helen Bond
Email h.bond@ed.ac.uk

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www.ed.ac.uk/pg/926

Islamic Studies & Christian-Muslim Relations

PHD 3 yrs FT (6 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)
MPhil 2 yrs FT (4 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)
MSc/MTh by Research 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Research profile

We offer interdisciplinary study of Islamic thought and practice, and of historical, theological, ethical and political encounters between Christianity and Islam. Staff research focuses on Islamic theology (Kalam), law (shari’a and fiqh), and philosophy; Qur’an, Hadith, and Tafsir; Islamic views of Christianity and Judaism; Christian theological engagements with Islam; constructive theology and ethics from a Christian or Muslim perspective; Arab Christianity, classic and contemporary; political Islam; Islamic political theology; comparative theology; migration, religion and politics. You can find out more and identify a potential supervisor via the programme entry online. You can attend research seminars for staff and students to which visiting speakers are invited and to which postgraduate students present their work-in-progress. You may also be able to take taught courses relevant to your interests and research.

Contact Dr Joshua Ralston
Email joshua.ralston@ed.ac.uk

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www.ed.ac.uk/pg/26

Religious Studies

PHD 3 yrs FT (6 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)
MPhil 2 yrs FT (4 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)
MSc/MTh by Research 1 yr FT (2 yrs PT available for UK/EU students)

Research profile

Religious studies or the study of religion/s is a vibrant research cluster based in theoretically informed and comparative studies of religion. You can specialise in a variety of areas including contemporary and historical topics and fields such as Asian studies, history of religions/new religions, and Jewish studies. You will be encouraged to frame your research using theoretical and methodological approaches from the classic to the cutting edge. You will be able to draw on methodological expertise which includes biographical analysis, discourse analysis, ethnography, historical and textual studies, memory studies and narrative studies. The thematic interests of academic staff include ethnicity, gender, indigeneity, nationalism, textuality and the transnational. You can find out more and identify a potential supervisor via the programme entry online. The School’s staff web pages each include details of their research interests and publications. You will be part of a research seminar for staff and students to which visiting speakers are invited and to which postgraduate students present their work-in-progress. You may also be able to take taught courses that are relevant to your interests and research.

Contact Dr Steven Sutcliffe
Email s.sutcliffe@ed.ac.uk

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www.ed.ac.uk/pg/66

The University of Edinburgh

www.ed.ac.uk/divinity

Key: FT: Full time. PT: Part time.

For fees see page 17 and for funding information see page 18.
Science & Religion

Research profile
This research area invites you to bring together the two great truth-seeking disciplines and understand the ways in which science and religion challenge and inform each other. This interdisciplinary venture is more than the sum of its parts. You will make use of the methods of historical study, philosophy, theology, and literary studies to assess state-of-the-art scientific research alongside well-established areas of debate. Research supervision is offered by academic staff with interests in physics, cosmology and faith; reduction and emergence; consciousness and the soul; evolutionary biology, human uniqueness, and the image of God; the laws of nature and the idea of ultimate reality; science and the doctrine of creation; miracles and science; the Bible and science; science and religion in literature and the arts; ecology, ethics and theology. You can find out more and identify a potential supervisor via the programme entry online. The School’s staff web pages each include details of their research interests and publications. You will be part of a research seminar for staff and students to which visiting speakers are invited and to which postgraduate students present their work-in-progress. You may also be able to take taught courses relevant to your interests and research.

English language requirements
See page 17.

Fees and funding
See page 17 for fees. For funding information see page 18.

Contact
Dr Mark Harris
Email mark.harris@ed.ac.uk

See also...
You may also be interested in research areas offered by other Schools, particularly the Schools of History, Classics & Archæology; Literatures, Languages & Cultures; Philosophy, Psychology & Language Sciences; and Social & Political Science.

www.ed.ac.uk/studying/prospectus-request

Systematic Theology

Research profile
You will join academic staff and graduate students who represent a variety of nationalities and theological perspectives. This intellectual diversity is strongly encouraged. Recent PhD projects have included research into Augustine, medieval theology, the history of reformed theology, Dutch Neo-Calvinism, Edwards, Schleiermacher, Barth, Wittgenstein, Torrance, Levinas, Balthasar, Pannenberg, Adams, contextual theology, theology of religions, providence, theological anthropology, ecclesiology, pneumatology, eschatology and puritan theology. The interests of academic staff range across philosophical, historical and systematic theology. You can find out more and identify a potential supervisor via the programme entry online. The School’s staff web pages each include details of their research interests and publications. You will be part of a research seminar for staff and students to which visiting speakers are invited and to which postgraduate students present their work-in-progress. You may also be able to take taught courses relevant to your interests and research.

English language requirements
See page 17.

Fees and funding
See page 17 for fees. For funding information see page 18.

Contact
Professor David Ferguson
Email david.fergusson@ed.ac.uk

World Christianity

Research profile
You will work with the academic specialists in the Centre for the Study of World Christianity, which focuses on Christianity in and from all parts of the majority world, and also on the growing presence of African and Asian churches in the northern hemisphere. The research interests of academic staff include Asian and African Christian theologies and history; the history of Christian missions; new missionary movements from the global south; Pentecostalism; current missiological issues such as inculturation, ethnicity, gender, and inter-faith relations. You can find out more and identify a potential supervisor via the programme entry online. The School’s staff web pages each include details of their research interests and publications. You will be part of a research seminar for staff and students to which visiting speakers are invited and to which postgraduate students present their work-in-progress. You may also be able to take taught courses relevant to your interests and research.

English language requirements
See page 17.

Fees and funding
For fees see page 17 and for funding information see page 18.

Contact
Professor Brian Stanley
Email brian.stanley@ed.ac.uk

See also...
You may also be interested in research areas offered by other Schools, particularly the Schools of History, Classics & Archæology; Literatures, Languages & Cultures; Philosophy, Psychology & Language Sciences; and Social & Political Science.

www.ed.ac.uk/studying/prospectus-request
About the School of Divinity

Theology has been taught at Edinburgh since the foundation of the University in 1583. Now housed in the historic New College building near Edinburgh Castle, the School of Divinity occupies a commanding city-centre site on the Mound, overlooking Princes Street Gardens, the Scottish National Gallery and the Royal Scottish Academy.

You will be part of a community of 450 students (undergraduate and postgraduate) and more than 30 full-time academic staff. This is one of the largest centres for the study of religion in the United Kingdom.

Our international standing for research has been a traditional strength, but is also vital to our identity here and now. Historically, the School’s origins lie in providing education for ministers, but today this is a small part of our work. From the 1970s – alongside long-established strengths such as in biblical studies, systematic theology, and the history of Christianity – the School pioneered work on the comparative study of religions. In recent times we have built on these areas of expertise in Christian-Muslim relations and in science and religion and we foster a variety of cutting-edge interdisciplinary approaches.

The ethos of the Graduate School is to promote excellence in postgraduate study, within a stimulating and supportive environment. We value equality and diversity in the School community, and an academic culture that is both critical and constructive.

Leading Lights

The School is led by some of the UK’s most respected and high-profile scholars of theology and religion, including:

- David Fergusson, Professor of Divinity and Principal of New College, who has delivered the Gifford Lectures (Glasgow), the Warfield Lectures (Princeton) and the Blinks Lectures (Montreal). He was elected a Fellow of the British Academy in 2013.
- Hannah Hollschneider, Senior Lecturer in Jewish Studies, who leads a major AHRC-funded project on the immigration of Jews to Scotland from 1880 to 1950, Jewish Lives, Scottish Spaces.
- Michael Northcott, Professor of Ethics, who is the lead researcher on a major interdisciplinary project about faith-based activism and climate change, Caring for the Future through Ancestral Time.
- Mona Siddiqui, Professor of Islamic and Interreligious Studies and the University’s Assistant Principal for Religion and Interreligious Studies and the University’s Assistant Principal for Religion and Society, who is a well-known contributor to broadcast and print media. She has been appointed to chair an independent review of the application of Sharia’s law in England and Wales.
- Brian Stanley, Professor of World Christianity and Director of the Centre for the Study of World Christianity, who is a leading interpreter of the past century’s shifting patterns in the global diffusion of Christianity. He collaborates with Yale Divinity School to lead the Yale-Edinburgh Group on the History of the Missionary Movement and World Christianity.
- Helen Bond, Professor in Christian Origins and Director of the School’s Centre for the Study of Christian Origins, who is a distinguished historian of the New Testament period. She has shared her scholarship more widely by contributing to BBC Radio 3 and 4 and on television to the BBC and Channel 4.

Facilities and resources

The School of Divinity has its own unique library, dining and socialising areas, and a strong sense of community between students and staff, as well as being part of a large, world-class university.

The School takes a personal interest in students and offers a welcoming and friendly setting in which to pursue the exciting and demanding study of theology and religious studies.

New College Library has one of the largest theology collections in the UK, with more than a quarter of a million items and a large and rich manuscript collection, including the papers of Thomas Chalmers, John Bailie, Ich Oldham and James S. Stewart.

The strengths of the Library collections contribute greatly to the teaching and research of members of the School as well as students elsewhere in the University. These collections are complemented by the many resources available in the University and beyond. The total holdings in all the University libraries exceed 2.25 million volumes. In addition, the National Library of Scotland holds more than five million volumes. The New College Library boasts a magnificent reading hall, originally built as the sanctuary of the Free Kirk.

The School provides extensive and well-equipped computing facilities for coursework and research at all levels, including dissertations. All students have access to computers, scanners and printers, across four labs.

Postgraduate students are provided with dedicated study spaces in the Ramsay Lane Wing and the Wilson Wing of New College. Both are accessible 24 hours a day via a secure swipe-card entry system.

New College’s gothic Rainy Hall provides a marvellous setting for dining and a welcoming social space for lively conversation and informal debate. The New College complex is also home to the General Assembly Hall of the Church of Scotland.

“...My experience at New College was part of what trained me to think. My dissertation was on ‘Augustine, Scripture and Power’, and I’ve been thinking about how people use and think about power ever since.”

David Nussbaum, School of Divinity alumnus, Chief Executive of The Elders Foundation

Collections of the University

The University of Edinburgh has one of the world’s great collections, which has been growing ever since its foundation in 1583. Our collections include rare books, archives and manuscripts, art, historical musical instruments and a wide range of museum objects from geological specimens to anatomical models. If laid out end to end, we would have almost 60 kilometres of shelving and storage space devoted to our heritage material, from 1st-century Greek papyrus fragments to new works of sculpture. This is curated by specialist staff across 45 sites and used for our teaching, research and by the wider public community.

The Centre for Research Collections in the Main Library is the hub for all our collections, where specialist curators make them available for study, research and pleasure. Postgraduate students are welcome to study original objects and have made many important research discoveries while working on the archives. You will find an incredible range of material in our collections that is available nowhere else in the world.

A panoramic tour of New College: http://edin.ac/divinitytour
A postgraduate qualification from the School of Divinity prepares you for a vast array of employment, depending on your subject area. You will develop transferable skills, which could be applied in a wide range of careers such as advocacy, community development, counselling, crisis services, public relations, journalism, social work and teaching.

Institute for Academic Development
All postgraduate students can benefit from our Institute for Academic Development (IAD), which provides information, events and courses to help you develop your skills and competence as a student. IAD also offers online resources and planning tools to help you get your research started, plus support for tutoring and demonstrating, and research public engagement and communication.

Careers Service
Our Careers Service plays an essential part in your wider student experience at the University, offering a range of tailored careers and personal development guidance and support. We support you to recognise the wealth of possibilities ahead, while at university and after graduation, helping you explore new avenues, tap into your talents and build your employability with confidence and enthusiasm.

We provide specialist support for postgraduate students. From exploring career options to making decisions, from CV writing to interview practice, from Employability workshops to graduate jobs and from careers fair to postgraduate alumni events, we help you prepare for the future.

We sustain and continually develop links with employers from all industries and employment sectors, from the world’s top recruiters to small enterprises based here in Edinburgh. Our employer team provides a programme of opportunities for you to meet employers on campus and virtually, and advertises a wide range of part-time and graduate jobs.

More information:
www.ed.ac.uk/careers/postgrad

Connect.ed
Edinburgh encourages its alumni to stay in touch with current students who share an academic background or are interested in a similar career path. Connect.ed is a networking system run by the Careers Service that provides an informal and confidential opportunity for alumni to share their occupational knowledge and experience with current students, who can contact them for advice and guidance on their future career.

More information:
www.ed.ac.uk/careers/connected

Backpacking bright ideas
LAUNCH.ed is the University’s award-winning programme for student entrepreneurs. Each year, LAUNCH.ed works with hundreds of students to assess their ideas and develop their business skills and helps many start their businesses. We have helped Edinburgh students and alumni launch almost 100 new businesses in the last three years, ranging from language tuition to robotics companies.

More information:
www.LAUNCH.ed.ac.uk

Applications and fees

We have an online application process for all postgraduate programmes. It’s a straightforward system with full instructions, including details of any supporting documentation you need to submit.

Tuition fees for EU students
EU students enrolling in the 2018/19 academic year will be admitted as Scottish/EU fee status students. Taught masters students will be eligible for the same tuition support as Scottish domiciled students from the Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS).

For UK/EU students

Tuition fees
The following table provides an overview of indicative fee levels for programmes commencing in 2018.

Figures marked * show the fee level set for the 2017/18 academic year. All other figures are indicative of expected fee levels for your studies during the 2018/19 academic year. Because these figures are indicative, it is important you check online before you apply and check the up-to-date fee level that will apply to your specific programme: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/tuition-fees/postgraduate

Please note:
• International students starting full-time taught programmes of study lasting more than one year will be charged a fixed annual fee.
• All other students on full-time and part-time programmes of study lasting more than one year should be aware that annual tuition fees are subject to revision and are typically increased by approximately five per cent per annum. This annual increase should be taken into account when you are applying for a programme.
• In addition to tuition fees, your programme may be subject to an application fee and additional costs.

More information:
www.ed.ac.uk/divinity
Funding

A large number of scholarships, loans and other funding schemes are available for your postgraduate studies. It is only possible to show a small selection in print.

To see the full range, please visit: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/postgraduate

Scholarships at the University of Edinburgh

- Beit Trust
- The University and the University of Edinburgh Scholarships jointly fund postgraduate students from Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe to undertake a master’s: www.beittrust.org.uk
- Church of Scotland Scholarship
- This scholarship will provide funding for an applicant from mainland China to undertake a programme of theological study: http://tiny.cc/divinityfunding
- College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences Studentships and Scholarships
- Studentships and scholarships are open to those admitted to the first year of PhD research: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/research-ahss
- Desmond Tutu Masters Scholarship (Africa)
- One scholarship will be awarded to a student from Africa on a full-time masters programme in the School of Divinity: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/Tutu
- Edinburgh Global Masters Scholarships
- A number of scholarships are available to international students for masters study: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/masters
- Edinburgh Global Research Scholarships
- These scholarships are designed to attract high-quality international research students to the University: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/global-research

School of Divinity Postgraduate Research Scholarships
- A number of scholarships, open to UK, EU and international PhD students: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/postgraduate
- Enlightenment Scholarships
- The University is currently developing a new style of PhD scholarship to attract the best PhD applicants from around the world. These scholarships will provide funding for up to four years. For the latest information, and for details on which Schools will be participating, please check: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/ahss
- Edinburgh Syrian Postgraduate Scholarships
- A number of scholarships are available to postgraduate students from Syria studying a full-time one-year masters: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/postgraduate/syria
- Julius Nyerere Masters Scholarship (Tanzania)
- One scholarship is available to citizens of Tanzania who are normally resident in Tanzania who are accepted on a full-time masters programme: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/nyerere
- The Kirby Laing International Scholarships
- Up to three scholarships are available to applicants domiciled in the ‘Majority World’ for postgraduate masters study: http://tiny.cc/divinityfunding
- The Reverend Dr Norma P Robertson Scholarships
- At least one award available for postgraduate study in Christian History, Bible and Theology: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/robertson
- The Rev Dr Ruth Page Scholarship
- The Rev Dr Ruth Page Scholarship was established to support School of Divinity postgraduates from New Zealand, Australia, the islands of the South Pacific, Indonesia and Japan. At least one award equivalent to international masters fees will be made for an eligible applicant: http://tiny.cc/divinityfunding
- School of Divinity Postgraduate Masters Scholarships
- A number of scholarships are available for postgraduate masters applicants: http://tiny.cc/divinityfunding

Research council awards
- Research council offers award to masters, MPhil and PhD students in most of the Schools within the University of Edinburgh. All student applications from the research councils must be made through the University, through your School or College office. Awards can be made for both taught and research programmes.

Loans available for study at the University of Edinburgh
- The University is eligible to certify loan applications for UK loan applicants. For more information: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/us-loans
- The Erasmus+ Master Loan helps masters students with their living and tuition costs when studying in an Erasmus+ country other than where they live or ordinarily resident in Canada, China, India, Pakistan and the USA for one year of masters study: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/us-loans
- The Canada Student Loans
- The following are examples of the many scholarships and support schemes available to students from particular countries who meet certain eligibility criteria.
- Postgraduate Loans (SAAS)
- Scotland and EU
- The Student Awards Agency Scotland offers tuition fee loans for taught diploma and masters programmes which will be paid directly to the University. Full-time students resident in Scotland can also apply for a non-income assessed living cost loan: www.sas.gov.uk
- Postgraduate Loans (PGL)
- Wales
- Student Finance Wales offers eligible students postgraduate loans for taught and research masters programmes: www.studentfinancewales.co.uk
- US Student Loans
- The University is eligible to certify loan applications for US loan applicants. Full details on eligibility and how to apply can be found online: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/us-loans

Other sources of funding
- The following are examples of the many scholarships and support schemes available to students from particular countries who meet certain eligibility criteria.
- Postgraduate Loans (PGL)
- England
- Offers postgraduate loans for taught and research masters programmes, payable to eligible students: www.gov.uk/postgraduate-loan
- Postgraduate Loans (PGL)
- Northern Ireland
- Student Finance Northern Ireland offers a tuition fee loan for taught and research programmes, at certificate, diploma, and masters-level, which will be paid directly to the University: www.studentfinanceni.co.uk

“The I've enjoyed the keen sense of community, close attention from my supervisors, the view from the windows in the Martin Hall, and the brightness of lunchtime chats. I've valued being able to learn, tutor and do fieldwork relatively unconstrained by anxieties about the exchange rate.”

Kritika Bhattacharjee, PhD Religious Studies, Principal’s Career Development Scholar and Edinburgh Global Research Scholarship
The School of Divinity’s home, New College, has an unrivalled location at the top of the Mound, overlooking one of the most scenic cities in the world. We are a few minutes’ walk from the University’s Central Area, and close to all city-centre amenities.
On 23 June 2016 the UK electorate voted in a national referendum to leave the European Union. At the time of going to print, there was no immediate, material change known that would impact applicants for 2018 entry. However we recommend that you check online for the latest information before you apply: www.ed.ac.uk/news/eu

The University’s standard terms and conditions will form an essential part of any contract between the University of Edinburgh and any student offered a place here. Our full terms and conditions are available online: www.ed.ac.uk/student-recruitment/terms-conditions

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