

V614: Theology and Religion



Undergraduate BA 2020

Essentials

UCAS code	V614
Degree	BA
Mode of study	Full Time
Duration	3 years
Location	Durham City (www.durham.ac.uk/study/location/durham.city)
A-Level	AAB
BTEC	DDD
International Baccalaureate	36
Alternative qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other UK qualifications (www.dur.ac.uk/resources/undergraduate/UKequivalencies2017-18.pdf) • EU qualifications (www.dur.ac.uk/resources/undergraduate/apply/EUequivalencies2017-18.pdf) • International qualifications (www.dur.ac.uk/international/country.information/)
Contextual Offers	You may be eligible for an offer which is one or two grades lower than our standard entry requirements. Find out more (www.durham.ac.uk/study/ug/apply/contextualoffers/).
More information	Still have questions? (www.durham.ac.uk/study/askus/)
Department(s) Website	www.durham.ac.uk/theology.religion

Course Summary

Description

What do people believe about the world and their place in it? How do those beliefs shape society and culture? Can those beliefs be critically examined, scrutinised and tested?

At the Department of Theology and Religion, the answer to the final question is 'Yes'. We teach you how to use the tools of philosophy, social science, history, literature and language to understand human beliefs and worldviews, past and present. We do this both from within, seeking to test our own beliefs for clarity and coherence, and from without, as critical observers. We have a historic strength in the study of Christian thought, history, practice, and texts, while offering strong provision in other areas such as politics, ethics, non-Christian faith traditions, humanism and atheism (which are also belief systems).

Year 1

Four compulsory modules are taken in the first year, as follows:

- Worldview, Faith and Identity (world religions)
- Introduction to Biblical Studies (scriptural studies)
- Christianity in Context (historical studies)
- Introduction to Christian Theology (philosophical studies)

and two optional modules from a list which in the past has included:

- Islam Observed
- God and Evil
- Biblical Hebrew
- God and the Good: Philosophy of Religion and Ethics
- New Testament Greek
- A module from another department (such as Arabic, or Ethics and Values).

One of these optional modules may be taken in your second year.

Year 2

Beyond the first year, you have the opportunity to either develop your expertise in all of these areas, or to specialise in one or more according to your interests. Here are some examples of modules that have previously been offered in the second year:

- Atheism, Belief, and the Edge of Reason
- Science and Theology: Exploring the Interface
- Literature and Theology of the Old Testament
- Sacred India: Land, Politics, and Identity
- Faith, Identity and Power in Latin America
- Jewish Religion in Antiquity: Belief Systems, Ethics, Political Conflicts

- Philosophy and the Christian Tradition 100–1300
- Imaging God
- The Making of Modern Christianity: Medieval and Reformation Europe
- Religion in Contemporary Britain
- Myth and Meaning
- New Testament Theology: Exploring Paul and John
- Death, Ritual and Belief
- Catholic Identity in the Modern World.

In your second year you may also take up to two modules in other departments.

Year 3

In your final year, you will submit a double dissertation which allows you to explore in depth a topic of your choice which is of special interest to you. In the third year you can also take optional modules, selecting from a list which in the past has included:

- Jesus Christ in the Twentieth Century
- Competing Gospels: Jesus Inside and Outside the Canon
- Issues in Old Testament Studies
- Religious Diversity in African Context
- The Sociology of Conservative Protestantism
- Theology, Nature, Environment
- The Thought of St Thomas Aquinas
- The First Urban Churches
- Biblical Theology
- Religion and Film
- Emotion, Religion and Identity
- Christian Tradition and the Practice of Politics.
- The Postmodern God.

If not taken in the second year (see above), you may also take up to two Finals modules (in total) in another department.

We review course structures and core content (in light of e.g. external and student feedback) every year, and will publish finalised core requirements for 2020 entry from September 2019.

Study Abroad

Durham University currently has over 240 student exchange agreements across the world as part of our International Exchange programmes. Our partner institutions are spread across the globe from Austria to New Zealand. Students apply for this opportunity during their first two years and (if successful) spend a year, between their second and third years at Durham in one of our overseas partner institutions.

Placement Year

You may be able to take a work placement. Find out more (www.durham.ac.uk/placements/).

Admissions Process

Subject requirements, level and grade

A level offer – AAB including a social science or humanities subject.

BTEC Level 3 National Extended Diploma/OCR Cambridge Technical Extended Diploma – DDD and A levels as above.

Typical IB score 36 to include 665 in higher level subjects.

In addition to satisfying the University's general entry requirements, please note:

- We welcome applications from those with other qualifications equivalent to our standard entry requirements and from mature students with non-standard qualifications or who may have had a break in their study. Please contact our Admissions Selectors.
- We are pleased to consider applications for deferred entry.
- If you are an international student who does not meet the requirements for direct entry to this degree, you may be eligible to take an International Foundation Year pathway programme at the Durham University International Study Centre
(www.durhamisc.com/?ch=uniweb&cc=signposting&cid=uniweb&utm_source=signposting&utm_medium=signposting&utm_campaign=uni)

Science A levels

Applicants taking Science A levels that include a practical component will be required to take and pass this as a condition of entry. This applies only to applicants sitting A levels with an English examination board.

English Language requirements

Please check requirements for your subject and level of study (www.durham.ac.uk/learningandteaching.handbook/1/3/3/)

How to apply

www.durham.ac.uk/undergraduate/apply

Information relevant to your country

www.durham.ac.uk/international/country.information/

Fees and Funding

Full Time Fees

EU Student	£9,250.00 per year
Home Student	£9,250.00 per year
Island Student	£9,250.00 per year
International non-EU Student	£20,500.00 per year

The tuition fees shown for **home and EU** students are for one complete academic year of full time study and are set according to the academic year of entry. Fees for subsequent years of your course may rise in line with an inflationary uplift as determined by the government.

The tuition fees shown for **overseas** students are for one complete academic year of full time study, are set according to the academic year of entry, and remain the same throughout the duration of the programme for that cohort (**unless otherwise stated**).

Please also check costs for colleges and accommodation (www.durham.ac.uk/undergraduate/accommodation/costs/).

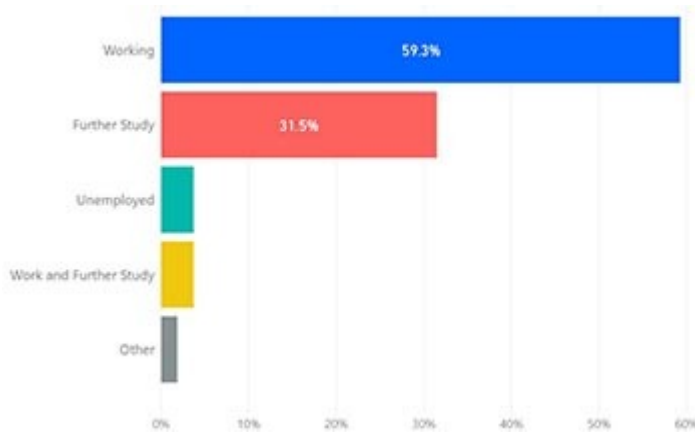
Scholarships and funding

www.durham.ac.uk/undergraduate/finance

Career Opportunities

Theology and Religion

“ Studying Theology and Religion I learnt how to develop and present my arguments and appreciate and critique those of others. Developing these communication and analytical skills has been really important in preparing me for my current role, as this includes working with colleagues on project teams, finding solutions to challenges and sometimes analysing complex data. Equally, studying a diverse range of topics during my degree, from Church History to the Anthropology of Religion, has prepared me to adapt to the varied nature of the graduate scheme. I also elected to study several ethics modules, which has undoubtedly informed my career path and choice of business: I knew that I wanted to work for a business which was commercially competitive, but shaped by its ethical values. ”



Of those students that left in 2017:

- **96%** are in employment or further study six months after graduating

Of those in employment:

- **77%** are in graduate level employment
 - Median salary £22,000

(Source: Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education (DLHE) survey of 2016/17 graduates. The DLHE survey asks leavers from higher education what they are doing six months after graduation. Full definitions for the DLHE Record can be found here: www.hesa.ac.uk/support/definitions/destinations)

A significant number of students progress onto higher level study following their degree in theology and religion. Some remain within their academic field of interest and pursue a Masters, notably at Durham but also other prestigious institutions. Others take a different route and pursue professional postgraduate programmes in law, finance and teaching at institutions including Manchester, King's College, Cambridge and Oxford.

Employment development opportunities

The Careers, Employability and Enterprise Centre (www.durham.ac.uk/careers/) collaborates closely with the Department of Theology and Religion. The link Careers Adviser delivers presentations to each year group on a range of areas including options with the subject, career decision making, successful applications and interviews, and advice for those considering further study. Student representatives also organise alumni events at which Durham Theology and Religion graduates return to speak about their career experiences, offering first hand advice and tips on how to enter different sectors.

Durham University theology and religion graduates enter a wide range of career areas including teaching, government, law, recreation and leisure, marketing, business and finance. Our graduates find employment with leading employers such as the Cooperative Group, Teach First, Samaritans, Legal Services Commission, National Health Service, Royal Placement Agency, National Theatre and Deloitte.

Specific roles our graduates have progressed into include project manager, teacher, clergy, communications researcher, events organiser, projects officer and civil servant.

Recruitment Consultancies

Using recruitment consultancies can be a very useful approach to help you find employment. You can identify consultancies using the Recruitment and Employment Confederation (www.rec.uk.com/jobseeker) website. Consultancies specialising in graduate opportunities, such as the Graduate Recruitment Bureau (www.grb.uk.com), can also be an excellent source of help.

Open days and visits

Pre-application open day

Pre-application open days are the best way to discover all you need to know about Durham University. With representatives from all relevant academic and support service departments, and opportunities to explore college options, the open days provide our prospective undergraduates with the full experience of Durham University.

Please see the following page for further details and information on how to book a place:
www.durham.ac.uk/opendays

Discover Durham Tours

Discover Durham tours offer a brief introduction to the University. The tour begins at one of our undergraduate colleges, where you will receive an introductory talk from a member of college staff, followed by a tour of the college by current students.

www.durham.ac.uk/undergraduate/live/visit/discoverdurham

Overseas Visit Schedule

www.durham.ac.uk/international/office/meetus

Department Information

Theology and Religion

Overview

Durham is a place of self-discovery, where 'belief' and 'beliefs' are taken seriously.

Human beings always have had, and always will have, worldviews and fundamental beliefs about the way the universe is, and their role in it. This is the part of the human condition that is studied in Theology and Religion at Durham, from a range of methodological and disciplinary perspectives: social scientific/anthropological; textual; historical; and philosophical/ethical.

Rankings

- World **Top 10** in the *QS World University Subject Rankings 2019*.
- 2nd in *The Times and Sunday Times University Guide 2019*.

Staff

For a current list of staff, please see the Theology & Religion Department web pages.

Facilities

Durham University has important museums including the Oriental Museum that houses many religious artefacts. Durham University students are given the opportunity to learn from, research and handle objects not normally on view to the public.

We are well placed for the study of living religious traditions and enjoy a strong relationship with the adjacent cathedral. We also have good links to other faith communities in the North East and run regular field trips to Durham's Muslim chapel, Newcastle's Hindu Temple and Newcastle's Gurdwara. The department has connections with the highly active societies for Theology and Religion, which are active in organising seminar series, field trips and social events.

We enjoy centrally located classrooms in historically important buildings that are comfortably furnished and fully integrated into the digital age. The new Centre for Teaching and Learning, located on Saint Mary's Field, is due to open for the 2019 academic year and will push forward the current boundaries of learning environments and technologies.

The Bill Bryson library is centrally located and well stocked with relevant Theology, Religion and Cultural Studies holdings with both the latest in academic research across these areas and a large collection of historical texts relating to Oriental religions. The Cathedral Sharp library has strong theological holdings and the nearby Ushaw library has around 30,000 early printed books and a major collection of archives and manuscripts, some of which formed part of the medieval monastic library of Durham Priory.

Website

www.durham.ac.uk/theology.religion

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The information relating to this course was last updated on Thursday, 28th February 2019 at 11:30am