



Centre for Comparative Religions and Civilizations
Ph.D., Comparative Religion - Course Work
(Ph.D. Programme w.e.f. 2021-2022)

The PhD. Programme in Comparative Religion shall consist of course work comprising courses/papers to be done in the Semester-I of the PhD Programme. After successful completion of course work the scholar shall proceed to the process of regular registration in PhD Programme by preparing and presenting a research proposal. Details are mentioned in the Ph.D. Ordinance.

The PhD one-semester course work structure to be adopted for the new PhD Programme w.e.f. the academic session 2021-2022 is as following:

PhD Course Work Structure

Paper No.	Name of the Paper	Max. Marks (100)		Passing Marks	Credits
		Mid Semester/ Assignment(s)	End Semester		
Semester – I					
Paper I	Research Methodology	25	75	55	4
Paper II	Theories of Religion	25	75	55	4
Paper III	Approaches to Religious Studies	25	75	55	4
Paper IV	Research and Publication Ethics	12	38	28	2
Paper V	Seminar / Term Paper	12	38	28	2
Total Credits for Course Work					16

Semester – I

PAPER — I

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This course is designed to familiarize students with the wide variety of approaches and methods to the study of religion, and to introduce them to the past and current debates over the key issues in the discipline. By the end of the course, it is hoped that students will be able to frame their research questions and locate them in the wider debates. The emphasis will be on empirical and qualitative methods in the study of religion. The course will proceed by reviewing major ethnographic works on religion conducted from a variety of perspectives.

Unit-I

- Formulating Research Problem
- Types of Research
- Reviewing of Literature

Unit-II

- Identifying Variables
- Constructing Hypothesis
- Research Design

Unit-III

- Data Collection Methods
- Observation, Interview
- Fieldwork: Participant observation and ethical questions in ethnography
- Questionnaire, Sampling etc.
- Text historical methods

Unit-IV

- Analysis of Data
 - Writing Research Report
 - Writing Research Proposal & Dissertation
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PAPER — II

THEORIES OF RELIGION

Unit-I

- Max Muller, E.B. Tylor, James Frazer,
- Tracing the history of Comparative Religions & Civilizations.

Unit-II

- Max Weber, Emile Durkheim, Karl Marx,
- Sociological approaches to the study of Religion.

Unit-III

- Mircea Eliade, Rudolf Otto, Kritstenson,
- Phenomenological studies in Religion.

Unit-IV

- Sigmund Freud, Clifford Geertz, Talal Asad
- Different trends in Religious studies.

PAPER — III

APPROACHES TO RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Unit-I

- Issue of Reductionism
- Hermeneutics
- Emic vs. Etic

Unit-II

- Colonialism, Ideology & Study of Religion
- Richard King, Russel McCutcheon, Timothy Fitzgerald.

Unit-III

- Michel Foucault & Jacques Derrida Pierre Bourdieu
- Pierre Bourdieu & Paul Ricoeur on Religion.

Unit-IV

- Feminist and Subaltern approaches to religious studies.

PAPER — IV

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION ETHICS

UNIT 1

- Clarification of concepts and terminologies: ethics, morality, plagiarism, research integrity,
- consent, social responsibility, accountability
- Philosophy and history of research ethics
- Research integrity and responsibility

UNIT 2

- Guidelines on publication, dissemination, and research collaboration
- Identification of publication misconduct. Complaints, and appeals procedure
- Adverse effects of research misconduct. Preventions and sanctions
- Avoiding predatory publication scams
- Open access repositories and responsible research
- Impact factor and other research metrics

READING MATERIALS

- Aristotle, 2009, The Nicomachean Ethics. Oxford, Oxford University Press.
- Beach, D., 1996, The Responsible Conduct of Research, Weinheim–New York, VCH.
- Hiriyanna, M., Chidambaram, K., 1975, Indian Conception of Values, Mysore, Kavyalaya
- Publishers.
- Jackson, F., & Smith, M., (eds.), 2007, The Oxford Handbook of Contemporary Philosophy, Oxford, Oxford University Press.
- Jonas, H., 1984, The Imperative of Responsibility. In Search for an Ethics for the Technological Age, Chicago, Il., The University of Chicago Press.
- Kant, I., 1998, Groundwork of the Metaphysics of Morals, Cambridge, U.K., Cambridge University Press.
- Loue, S., 1999, Textbook of Research Ethics. Theory and Practice. Dordrecht, Kluwer.
- MacIntyre, A., 2006 5 , A Short History of Ethics. A History of Moral Philosophy from The Homeric Age to the 20 th Century, Oxfordshire, Routledge.

Ph.D., Comparative Religion - Course Structure (w.e.f. 2021-2022)

- Olivelle, P., 1993, The Āśrama System: The History and Hermeneutics of a Religious Institution, Oxford, Oxford University Press.
- Ranganathan, S., (ed.), 2017, The Bloomsbury Research Handbook of Indian Ethics, Bloomsbury, Bloomsbury Academy.
- Rawls, J., 1991, A Theory of Justice, Cambridge, Belknap Press.

ON THE WEB

- Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs.
- [http:// www.aahrpp.org](http://www.aahrpp.org) .
- The Altmetric Attention Score.
- <http://www.altmetric.com>
- The Confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR).
- <http://www.coar-repositories.org>
- World Conference on Research Integrity WCRI (2013). Montreal Statement on Research Integrity in Cross-Boundary Research Collaborations.
- <http://www.researchintegrity.org/Statements/Montreal>
- World Conference on Research Integrity WCRI (2010). Singapore Statement on Research Integrity.
- <http://www.singaporestatement.org/statement.html>

PAPER — V

SEMINAR / TERM PAPER

A Seminar Paper is to be offered by each permanent faculty member as per their specialization of domain knowledge or an area of their research interest. The PhD scholars are required to choose one Seminar paper, which is to be written in consultation with the concerned faculty member. It is to be finally presented and defended and subsequently to be submitted to the concerned faculty member for marks to be allotted.
