

**MODULE HANDBOOK  
MASTERS PROGRAM  
RELIGIOUS STUDIES 1-  
SUBJECT-MA**



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## 1. STUDENT COUNSELLING

Questions and organizational challenges come with every course of studies. Most such questions can usually be answered by the examination regulations, the module handbook and/or the study schedule (see below).

The Center for Religious Studies (CERES) at the RUB has various possibilities and points of contact for the questions and concerns of its students.

### INFORMATION

Important documents, e.g. examination regulations or the module handbook, can be found on the CERES homepage:

- examination regulations, module handbook, etc.: <https://ma.ceres.rub.de/en/program/documents/>
- general information: <https://ma.ceres.rub.de/en/>

Website: <https://studium.ceres.rub.de/de/>

### PERSONS TO CONTACT

You can visit the following institutions to ask for advice:

#### DEAN OF STUDENTS:

Dr. Jens Schlamelcher

Universitätsstr. 90a, 1.06

Tel.: +49 (0)234 – 32 24807

Fax: +49 (0)234 – 32 14909

E-Mail: [religionswissenschaft@rub.de](mailto:religionswissenschaft@rub.de)

#### STUDY COUNSELLING COMMISSION

The Study Counselling Commission consists of research assistants and professors of CERES. You can find any important information via this link:

<https://studium.ceres.rub.de/de/kontakt/>

#### STUDY COUNSELLING

The Study Counselling service is happy to help you with problems or questions concerning your studies. The student assistants who work at the Study Counselling service can provide information and support you with regard to modules, courses, eCampus or study schedule.

Universitätsstr. 90a, 0.11; Tel.: +49-234-32-24809

[koordinationrelwiss@rub.de](mailto:koordinationrelwiss@rub.de)

#### STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES FOR RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Universitätsstr. 90a, 0.10; Tel.: +49-234-32-26490

<https://www.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/fsr-relwiss/>

## 2. ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Religious Studies Masters Program is divided into the fields of Systematics, History of Religion and Practical Religious Studies, as well as a module to improve your personal interests and skills.

In the field of *Systematics*, you are obliged to attend the two modules in *Systematic Religious Studies* (S11/S12).

In the field of *History of Religion* (R) one has to make a choice between 3 modules that are classified in different categories. Two out of three modules have to be attended. It is also possible to attend one module twice. For further information see below.

The goal of the module *Practical Religious Studies* (AC/SC) is to prepare students for the time after their studies. Students can orient their studies either more academically or vocationally.

The *Complementary Module* (C) allows the opportunity to specialize in an area of interest outside of religious studies, so long as this is still of use for Religious Studies.

Abbr.	Module name	ECTS
<b>Systematics</b>		
S11	Masters Introduction	6
S12	Theories and Methods in the Study of Religions	16
<b>History of Religion</b> (two modules of this field have to be attended)		
R11	Pre-modern History of Religion: Europe and West-Asia	
R12	Modern History of Religion: Europe, America and West-Asia	32
R13	Asian History of Religion	
<b>Practical Religious Studies</b> (one out of two modules has to be attended)		
AC	Applied Career Track	
SC	Scientific Career Track	18
<b>Supplementary Area</b>		
C	Complementary Module	28
<b>Overall:</b>		<b>100</b>

Overall, the 1-subject MA in Religious Studies consists of 8 modules:

- Two modules of the *Systematic Religious Studies*. S11 consists of a four-hour-long mandatory lecture, whereas in S12 you can choose between different courses in the field of theories and methods, of which four courses have to be selected. At least two of those courses need to handle theories, at least one course must be taken in the field of methods. It is optional whether the fourth seminar is a seminar on theories or a seminar on methodology. The courses on offer change every semester. (S)
- Three modules in the area of *History of Religion*. Eight courses in two modules (each module has four courses) have to be completed. Instead of two different modules you can also choose one module twice. (R)
- One module as a *Supplementary Area* to strengthen and deepen your personal interests and competences, especially in the fields of languages and methodological principles of scientific academic research in Religious Studies or interdisciplinary knowledge. (C)
- One research-oriented module (SC)
- One practice-oriented module (AC)

You have to complete 6 out of these 8 modules to finish the 1-subject MA

The individual focus is set at all levels:

- Within *Systematic Religious Studies*, you can set an individual priority through the different topics that are discussed in the various courses in S12.
- A focus can be in *History of Religion* by attending courses that focus on particular regions, periods and traditional entanglements.
- The area of *Practical Religious Studies* shall lead students to the period after their studies. Here the students can choose between a research project in module SC or an internship in module AC. The implementation of a religious studies research project in SC may provide the impetus for a subsequent PhD. The Internship in AC can facilitate the first steps into the world of work as part of the students' studies.
- The Supplementary Area provides the opportunity to deepen knowledge in quantitative, qualitative, historical-critical or philological research methods in Religious Studies. Furthermore, it is possible to broaden the field of knowledge from different disciplines, which are helpful for developing one's skill-set both in academic and non-academic career settings. Students who want to study the SC module, are especially encouraged to deepen their knowledge of languages within this module.

**STUDY SCHEDULE**

Semester	Systematic Approaches S	History of Religions R	Applied Career Track AC	Scientific Career Track SC	Complementary C
1	Masters Introduction S11	Pre-modern Europe/ West Asia			
2	Theory and Methods S12	Modern Europe / West Asia	Applied Career	Scientific Career	Complementary Courses
3		Asia			
4			Internship P2	Research Study C2	

### 3. OUTLINE OF THE MODULES

#### SYSTEMATICS

MODULE S11: MASTER'S INTRODUCTION					
MA-2018-S11	Credits	Workload	Semester	Frequency	Time Span
	6 ECTS	180 h	1st sem.	SS	1 semester
Courses			Contact Hours	Self-Study	Group Size
Lecture (2 SWS/2 ECTS) + Exercise (2 SWS/2 ECTS)			4 SWS / 60 h	120 h	around 25 students
Participation Requirements					
<p><b>formal:</b> Basic knowledge of systematics of religious studies (Module S1, S2 or. S3 of the B.A.-degree or equivalent)</p> <p><b>content:</b> -</p> <p><b>preparation:</b> The reading matter necessary for the courses can be found on Moodle.</p>					
Learning Outcomes					
<p><b>Subject-related goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to the specialist discourse of general religious studies, orientated towards the social sciences and cultural knowledge</li> <li>• Knowledge of interdisciplinary perspectives in the subject of religion</li> <li>• Overview of the field of basic concepts in religious studies and systematic perspectives on the subject of religion</li> <li>• Overview of problems and questions of methodical approaches encountered within concrete research projects</li> <li>• Expertise to engage abstract questions with precise, in-depth studies</li> </ul> <p><b>Interdisciplinary goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transfer of theoretical development and empirical research</li> <li>• Understanding of the distinction between an academic perspective and everyday discourse</li> <li>• Ability to relate and connect the fields of an academic perspective and everyday discourse</li> <li>• Enhancing knowledge and skills of independent research of scholarly literature</li> <li>• Knowledge of how to approach academic texts</li> <li>• Ability to deal with discipline-specific questions and to present their outcomes in written and oral form</li> </ul>					
Content					
<p>The Masters introductory module is intended to provide students with an orientation in the subject of religious studies in general and at Bochum (CERES) in particular. The conceptual aim of this module is to relate in-depth questions of the academic field of religious studies to detailed studies in the history of material religion through concrete research projects.</p>					

<p>The module consists of lectures and an exercise. In the lectures, students are familiarized with systematic perspectives on the subject of religion. Essential aspects to be dealt with are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emergence of the study of religion and the question of what religion is;</li> <li>• The cognitive dimension of religion: religious knowledge in the form of myths, dogmas or religious reflection;</li> <li>• The aesthetic dimension of religion: Religious experience in the context of material culture</li> <li>• The practical dimension of religion: rituals, magic and ethicized lifestyle as expressions of religious action;</li> <li>• The social dimension of religion: Religious institutions and religion in different social forms;</li> <li>• The temporal dimension of religion: questions of evolutionary lines of development in religion;</li> </ul> <p>In the guest seminars that follow the lectures, CERES Scholars will present their current research projects. The systematic perspectives dealt with in the lecture will here be discussed in relation to concrete questions and sources of religious history. At the same time, students will be familiarized with research methods in religious studies and how they themselves might seek to apply them.</p>
<p><b>Forms of Teaching</b></p> <p>Course „Key Concepts“: Exercise + Lecture</p>
<p><b>Forms of examination</b></p> <p>essays of 4.000 words</p>
<p><b>Conditions for receiving Credit Points</b></p> <p>To complete the module successfully you need to fulfill the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• regular participation at the seminar „Key Concepts“</li> <li>• Prepare Hand-Ins</li> </ul>
<p><b>Application of the module</b> (in other study programmes)</p> <p>-</p>
<p><b>Significance of the note for the final grade</b></p> <p>none</p>
<p><b>Module representatives and full-time lecturers</b></p> <p><b>module representative:</b> Dean of Students of Religious Studies  <b>Full-time lecturers:</b> see the respective current course catalogue</p>
<p><b>Other information</b></p> <p>-</p>



MODULE S12: THEORIES AND METHODS IN THE STUDY OF RELIGIONS					
MA-2018-S12	Credits	Workload	Semester	Frequency	Time Span
	16 ECTS	480 h	2nd sem.	WS + SS	2 semesters
Courses			Contact Hours	Self-Study	Group Size
4 x seminars			4 x 2 SWS/30 h	4 x 60 h	20-30 students
Participation Requirements					
<p><b>formal:</b> Basic knowledge of systematics of religious studies (Module S1, S2 or. S3 of the BA-degree or equivalent)</p> <p><b>content:</b> -</p> <p><b>preparation:</b> The reading matter necessary for the courses can be found on Moodle.</p>					
Learning Outcomes					
<p><b>Subject related goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In-depth knowledge of the theories and approaches within the humanities, cultural studies and social sciences to the subject of religion</li> <li>• In-depth knowledge of methodological approaches within the humanities, cultural studies and social sciences to the subject of religion</li> <li>• The ability to distinguish between internal and external perspectives in religious studies</li> </ul> <p><b>Interdisciplinary goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased reflectivity and the ability to interpret social phenomena from a critical distance</li> <li>• Acquisition of complex and abstract perspectives</li> <li>• The ability to deal with complex texts and arguments</li> <li>• Developing the ability to evaluate scholarly publications theoretically and methodically</li> </ul>					
Content					
<p>Religious studies, like every subject, is characterized by a methodical and theoretical view of its subject. Both the methodology of religious studies and the formation of theories therein have been influenced by various other disciplines.</p> <p>The module serves an intensive examination of different theories and methods of scholarly research in religion. In the module as it is described here, the focus is on the targeted application of individual theoretical or methodological approaches.</p> <p>In terms of theory, certain approaches can be developed in individual seminars: systems theory, postcolonialism, (post-)structuralism, semiotics, etc. It is also possible to take courses that explore different theoretical perspectives regarding certain aspects or contexts of application.</p> <p>The spectrum of methods relevant to religious studies includes courses on quantitative social empiricism, qualitative social empiricism (such as objective hermeneutics, grounded theory, content analysis), discourse analysis, philological methods and approaches to historical source interpretation and criticism.</p> <p>Students must attend at least two courses in the field of theories and at least one course in the field of methods.</p>					

<p><b>Forms of Teaching</b></p> <p>Seminars with compulsory attendance to practice scholarly discourse</p>
<p><b>Forms of examination</b></p> <p>Term paper of 8.000 words</p>
<p><b>Conditions for receiving Credit Points</b></p> <p>To complete the module successfully you need to fulfill the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four seminars: Regular participation in the lectures (3 ECTS each)</li> <li>• Two of the four seminars must be theory seminars</li> <li>• One of the four seminars must be a methodology seminar</li> <li>• Successfully passing the module examination (4 ECTS)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Application of the module</b> (in other study programmes)</p> <p>-</p>
<p><b>Significance of the note for the final grade</b></p> <p>Goes into the final grade and forms 25% of the subject grade</p>
<p><b>Module representatives and full-time lecturers</b></p> <p><b>module representative:</b> Dean of Students of Religious Studies  <b>Full-time lecturers:</b> See the respective current course catalogue</p>
<p><b>Other Information</b></p> <p>Students must attend at least two courses in the field of theories and at least one course in the field of methods.</p>

HISTORY OF RELIGION

MODULE R11: PRE-MODERN HISTORY OF RELIGION: EUROPE AND WEST-ASIA					
MA-2018-R11	Credits	Workload	Semester	Frequency	Time Span
	16 ECTS	480 h	from 1st sem.	WS + SS	2 semesters
Courses			Contact Hours	Self-Study	Group Size
4 x seminars			4 x 2 SWS/30 h	4 x 60 h	20-30 students
Participation Requirements					
<p><b>formal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic knowledge of the ancient and/or medieval history of religion in West Asia, parts of Africa and/or Europe</li> <li>• Basic knowledge of Ancient Near Eastern, Greco-Roman, Jewish, Christian, Islamic and/or Zoroastrian religions</li> <li>• Language skills: Hebrew, Latin, Ancient Greek, Akkadian, Sumerian, Arabic, (Old-) Persian and/or other after consultation with the lecturers</li> </ul> <p><b>content:</b> -</p> <p><b>preparation:</b> The reading matter necessary for the courses can be found on Moodle.</p>					
Learning Outcomes					
<p><b>Subject related goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In-depth knowledge of the History of Religion in Europe, West Asia and/or parts of Africa from ancient times to the late-medieval period</li> <li>• In-depth knowledge of the pre-modern history of Ancient Near Eastern and/or Greco-Roman religions as well as Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Christianity and/or Islam</li> <li>• In-depth knowledge of the formation and history of interactions between of religious traditions from pre-modern times up until the late-medieval period</li> <li>• Understanding of the dynamics of Ancient Near Eastern, ancient European and medieval History of Religious traditions in terms of their interaction with nonreligious social dynamics</li> </ul> <p><b>Interdisciplinary goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In-depth knowledge of working with primary and secondary sources</li> <li>• In-depth knowledge of different types of source interpretation</li> <li>• Strengthening of source interpretation skills</li> <li>• Sensitivity to kinds of symbolic reference</li> <li>• Sensitivity to the diachronic relativity of one’s own and contemporary socialization</li> <li>• Ability to use appropriate presentation techniques</li> </ul>					
Content					
<p>This module deals with the History of Religion in Europe, West Asia and parts of Africa from premodern times to the late-medieval period. This module offers courses on the following range of topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developments and dynamics within Ancient Near Eastern and Greco-Roman religions as well as Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam up until the late Middle Ages</li> <li>• Formation of religious traditional networks and their interreligious interdependence</li> <li>• Processes of religious transformation from antiquity to the late Middle Ages in the context of social and cultural historical dynamics</li> </ul>					

<p>Within the framework of this module, students have the opportunity to specialize in a number of ways. This includes primarily the focus on a particular region as well as on one or more religious traditions within the thematic spectrum of this module. The requirements for participation in the individual courses vary, among other things, according to subject and language knowledge and are specified in the annotated course catalogue.</p>
<p><b>Forms of Teaching</b></p> <p>Advanced seminars</p>
<p><b>Forms of examination</b></p> <p>Term paper of 8.000 words</p>
<p><b>Conditions for receiving Credit Points</b></p> <p>To complete the module successfully you need to fulfill the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two seminars: Regular participation in the lectures (3 ECTS each)</li> <li>• Successfully passing the module examination (4 ECTS)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Application of the module</b> (in other study programmes)</p> <p>-</p>
<p><b>Significance of the note for the final grade</b></p> <p>Goes into the final grade and forms 25% of the subject grade</p>
<p><b>Module representatives and full-time lecturers</b></p> <p><b>Module representative:</b> Chair of the History of Religion of Judaism and Chair of the History of the Religions of West Asia</p> <p><b>Full-time lecturers:</b> See the respective current course catalogue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair of History of Religion of Judaism</li> <li>• Chair of History of the Religions of West Asia</li> <li>• Honorary Professor for the History of Religions in the New World</li> </ul>
<p><b>Other Information</b></p> <p>-</p>

MODULE R12: MODERN HISTORY OF RELIGION: EUROPE, AMERICA AND WEST-ASIA					
MA-2018-R12	Credits	Workload	Semester	Frequency	Time Span
	16 ECTS	480 h	from 1st sem.	WS + SS	2 semesters
Courses			Contact Hours	Self-Study	Group Size
4 x seminars			4 x 2 SWS/30 h	4 x 60 h	20-30 students
Participation Requirements					
<p><b>formal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic knowledge of European, American and/or West Asian history of religion</li> <li>• Basic knowledge of Judaism, Christianity and/or Islam</li> <li>• Language Skills: Hebrew, Latin, Arabic, Turkish, Persian and/or other languages after consultation the representative lecturers</li> </ul> <p><b>content:</b> -</p> <p><b>preparation:</b> The reading matter necessary for the courses can be found on Moodle.</p>					
Learning Outcomes					
<p><b>Subject related goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In-depth knowledge of the History of Religion in Europe, America, West Asia and/or parts of Africa</li> <li>• In-depth knowledge of the modern history of Judaism, Christianity and/or Islam</li> <li>• In-depth knowledge of the interactions between Judaism, Christianity and Islam in modern times, as well as the influences of East and South Asian religions on religious developments in Europe, America, West Asia and parts of Africa</li> <li>• Understanding of the dynamics of interaction between religious traditions and nonreligious social dynamics in modern times</li> </ul> <p><b>Interdisciplinary goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In-depth knowledge of working with primary and secondary sources</li> <li>• In-depth knowledge of different types of source interpretation</li> <li>• Strengthening of source interpretation skills</li> <li>• Sensitivity of types of symbolic reference</li> <li>• Sensitivity to the diachronic relativity of one's own and contemporary cultural socialization</li> <li>• Ability to use appropriate presentation techniques</li> </ul>					
Content					
<p>This module deals with the History of Religion in Europe, America, West Asia and parts of Africa from the early modern period to the present. This module offers courses on the following range of topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interreligious connections between different religious traditions in Europe</li> <li>• Processes of religious transformation within the context of non-religious fields and functional systems in the modern period</li> <li>• Developments and dynamics within the religious traditions of Judaism, Christianity and Islam as well as new religious movements</li> <li>• Contemporary religiosity</li> </ul>					

<p>Within the framework of this module, students have the opportunity to specialize in a number of ways. This includes primarily the focus on a particular region as well as on one or more religious traditions within the thematic spectrum of this module. The requirements for participation in the individual courses vary, among other things, according to subject and language knowledge and are specified in the annotated course catalogue.</p>
<p><b>Forms of Teaching</b></p> <p>Advanced seminars</p>
<p><b>Forms of examination</b></p> <p>Term paper of 8.000 words</p>
<p><b>Conditions for receiving Credit Points</b></p> <p>To complete the module successfully you need to fulfill the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four seminars: Regular participation in the lectures (3 ECTS each)</li> <li>• Successfully passing the module examination (4 ECTS)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Application of the module (in other study programmes)</b></p> <p>-</p>
<p><b>Significance of the note for the final grade</b></p> <p>Goes into the final grade and forms 25% of the subject grade</p>
<p><b>Module representatives and full-time lecturers</b></p> <p><b>Module representative:</b> Chair of the History of Religion of Judaism and Chair of the History of the Religions of West Asia</p> <p><b>Full-time lecturers:</b> cf. the respective current course catalogue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair of the History of Religion of Judaism</li> <li>• Chair of the History of Religions of West Asia</li> <li>• Honorary Professor for the History of Religion in the New World</li> </ul>
<p><b>Other Information</b></p> <p>-</p>

MODULE R13: ASIAN HISTORY OF RELIGION					
MA-2018-R13	Credits	Workload	Semester	Frequency	Time Span
	16 ECTS	480 h	from 1st sem.	WS + SS	2 semesters
Courses			Contact Hours	Self-Study	Group Size
4 x seminars			4 x 2 SWS/30 h	4 x 60 h	20-30 students
Participation Requirements					
<p><b>formal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic knowledge of South, Central and/or East Asian History of Religion</li> <li>• Basic knowledge of Buddhism, Hinduism, Jainism, Confucianism, and/or Taoism</li> <li>• Language Skills: Sanskrit, Tibetan, Chinese, Korean, Japanese and/or others after consultation with the representative lecturers</li> </ul> <p><b>content:</b> -</p> <p><b>preparation:</b> The reading matter necessary for the courses can be found on Moodle.</p>					
Learning Outcomes:					
<p><b>Subject related goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In-depth knowledge of the History of Religion of South, Central and/or East Asia</li> <li>• In-depth knowledge of the History of Religion of Buddhism, Hinduism, Jainism, Confucianism, and/or Taoism</li> <li>• In-depth knowledge of the historical interaction between different religious traditions in Asia</li> <li>• Understanding of the dynamics of the History of Religion in Asia in the interaction within the wider context of nonreligious social dynamics</li> </ul> <p><b>Interdisciplinary goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In-depth knowledge of working with primary and secondary sources</li> <li>• In-depth knowledge of different types of source interpretation</li> <li>• Strengthening of source interpretation skills</li> <li>• Sensitivity for symbolic reference contexts</li> <li>• Sensitivity to the diachronic relativity of one’s own and contemporary cultural socialization</li> <li>• Ability to use appropriate presentation techniques</li> </ul>					
Content					
<p>This module deals with the History of Religion of South, Central and East Asia from antiquity to the present. This module offers courses on the following range of topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formation, development and dynamics of the religious traditions of South, Central and East Asia, especially Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Confucianism and Taoism as well as later influences of Islam and Christianity</li> <li>• The interreligious interdependence of these traditional religious networks</li> <li>• Religious transformation processes from antiquity to the present in the context of dynamics of non-religious fields and functional systems</li> </ul>					

<p>Within the framework of this module, students have the opportunity to specialize in a number of ways. This includes primarily the focus on a particular region as well as on one or more religious traditions within the thematic spectrum of this module. The requirements for participation in the individual courses vary, among other things, according to subject and language knowledge and are specified in the annotated course catalogue.</p>
<p><b>Forms of Teaching</b></p> <p>Advanced seminars</p>
<p><b>Forms of examination</b></p> <p>Term paper of 8.000 words</p>
<p><b>Conditions for receiving Credit Points</b></p> <p>To complete the module successfully you need to fulfill the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two seminars: Regular participation in the lectures (3 ECTS each)</li> <li>• Successfully passing the module examination (4 ECTS)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Application of the module (in other study programmes)</b></p> <p>-</p>
<p><b>Significance of the note for the final grade</b></p> <p>Goes into the final grade and forms 25% of the subject grade</p>
<p><b>Module representatives and full-time lecturers</b></p> <p><b>Module representative:</b> Chair of the History of Religion of Central Asia</p> <p><b>Full-time lecturers:</b> cf. the respective current course catalogue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair of the History of Religion of Central Asia</li> <li>• Chair of the History of Religion of East Asia</li> <li>• Junior Professor for the History of Religion in South Asia</li> </ul>
<p><b>Other Information</b></p> <p>-</p>



PRACTICAL RELIGIOUS STUDIES

MODULE AC: APPLIED CAREER TRACK					
MA-2018-AC	Credits	Workload	Semester	Frequency	Time Span
	18 ECTS	540 h	from 2nd sem.	WS + SS	2 semesters
Courses			Contact Hours	Self-Study	Group Size
seminars			min.. 1 x 2 SWS/30 h	max. 510h	around 20 students
Participation Requirements					
<p><b>formal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two completed MA semesters</li> </ul> <p><b>content:</b> -</p> <p><b>preparation:</b> The reading matter necessary for the courses can be found on Moodle.</p>					
Learning Outcomes					
<p><b>Subject related goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Application of an understanding of religious studies in non-academic professions</li> <li>Communication of specialist knowledge to a non-academic and non-expert audience</li> </ul> <p><b>Interdisciplinary goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Application of one’s own practical experience</li> <li>Application of one’s expertise with regard to professional fields of practice</li> <li>Ability to work in a team and in a focused, results-orientated manner</li> </ul>					
Content					
<p>This module is designed to prepare students for a career outside university. For this purpose, courses are offered which introduce different professional fields such as museums, education and public relations. Students are shown possibilities of where and how expertise in religious studies can be brought into professional practice. This is followed by an internship of at least two months in an organization. Finding and selecting an internship is done in consultation and close cooperation with the CERES internship office. Students are encouraged to take up an internship outside their local area, to combine it with a stay abroad and gain experience abroad.</p>					
Forms of Teaching					
Preparation courses for an internship, internship					
Forms of examination					
Internship report					
Conditions for receiving Credit Points					
To complete the module successfully you need to fulfill the following requirements:					

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regular participation in the course: Practical Religious Studies</li><li>• Completing an internship</li><li>• Preparation of an internship report</li></ul>
<b>Application of the module (in other study programmes)</b> -
<b>Significance of the note for the final grade</b> Goes into the final grade and forms 25% of the subject grade
<b>Module representatives and full-time lecturers</b>  <b>Module representative:</b> Dean of Students of Religious Studies
<b>Other Information</b> -

MODULE SC: SCIENTIFIC TRACK					
MA-2018-SC	Credits	Workload	Semester	Frequency	Time Span
	18 ECTS	540 h	from 2nd Sem.	WS + SS	2 semesters
Courses			Contact Hours	Self-Study	Group Size
seminars, workshops, colloquia			at least. 1 x 2 SWS/30 h	max. 510h	10 students
Participation Requirements					
<p><b>formal:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• two completed M.A. semesters</li> <li>• Advanced knowledge in relevant source languages</li> </ul> <p><b>content:</b> -</p> <p><b>preparation:</b> The reading matter that is necessary for the courses can be found in Moodle.</p>					
Learning Outcomes					
<p><b>Subject related goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of in-depth knowledge about possibilities and difficulties of empirical research on religious tradition networks</li> <li>• Reflection on the development process of “university knowledge” about religion, continuing from already learned theories of constructivism</li> <li>• Application of theoretical and methodological knowledge to a specific empirical research question</li> </ul> <p><b>Interdisciplinary goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of the competence to design a learning process of one’s own, that extends the previous knowledge within the framework of the self-organized and self-responsible research</li> <li>• Argumentative representation of research decisions taken on one’s own responsibility towards lecturers and students</li> <li>• Extension of the competence of scientific writing within the framework of a research paper capable of publication</li> <li>• Competent integration into a research group, showing the ability to explain one’s own topic and to network with other projects</li> </ul>					
Content					
<p>This elective module is designed to equip students with a strong initial basis from which to pursue an academic career. This is done firstly by offering career-promoting courses from the RUB Research School and the Writing Center. Students can learn skills for academic writing and for formulating research proposals, among other things. Secondly, students should already be involved in one of CERES’ ongoing research projects during their studies, thus laying the foundations for a scholarly career, starting with doctoral study. The requirement for this elective module is a successful application for voluntary work in one of the research projects affiliated to CERES. The requirements regarding the material, systematic-theoretical and methodological knowledge and skills vary and are listed in detail in the call for proposals. The concrete research project will be discussed with the respective project management, but basically contains the following formal steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Familiarization with the topic and processing of the relevant secondary literature</li> <li>• Methodologically guided collection and evaluation of data</li> <li>• Writing at least one research paper in the form of a publication-ready article</li> </ul>					

<p>It is possible to expand the research project and one’s own research into a Masters thesis. However, the Masters thesis must not be congruent with the research report or article that is credited as a module examination for this module.</p>
<p><b>Forms of Teaching</b></p> <p>Courses from the Writing Center („Schreibzentrum“) and the RUB Research School, participation in colloquia and workshops</p>
<p><b>Forms of examination</b></p> <p>Research report of 10.000 words</p>
<p><b>Conditions for receiving Credit Points</b></p> <p>To complete the module successfully you need to fulfill the following requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research report in the range of 10.000 words</li> </ul>
<p><b>Application of the module (in other study programmes)</b></p> <p>-</p>
<p><b>Significance of the note for the final grade</b></p> <p>Goes into the final grade and forms 25% of the subject grade</p>
<p><b>Module representatives and full-time lecturers</b></p> <p><b>Module representative:</b> Dean of Students of Religious Studies</p> <p><b>Full-time lecturers:</b> Professors and Post-Docs of the teaching unit of CERES</p>
<p><b>Other Information</b></p> <p>-</p>

SUPPLEMENTARY AREA

MODULE C: COMPLEMENTARY MODULE					
MA-2018-C	Credits	Workload	Semester	Frequency	Time Span
	28 ECTS	840 h	1st-4th Sem.	WS + SS	1-4 semesters
Courses			Contact Hours	Self-Study	Group Size
depends on the selected module			depends on the selected module	depends on the selected module	depends on the selected module
Participation Requirements					
<p><b>formal:</b> Depends on the selected module</p> <p><b>content:</b> Depends on the selected module</p> <p><b>preparation:</b> Depends on the selected module</p>					
Learning Outcomes					
<p><b>Subject related goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acquisition and deepening of language skills for the relevant historical and regional specialization</li> <li>• Developing additional competencies to contextualize religious dynamics</li> <li>• Developing additional interdisciplinary competences</li> </ul> <p><b>Interdisciplinary goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Language skills</li> <li>• Interdisciplinary additional competences and extension of the interdisciplinary horizon</li> </ul>					
Content					
<p>The supplementary area is to be used by students to acquire skills which are necessary or helpful for their individual focus of study. This may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The acquisition or deepening of language skills</li> <li>• Courses on cultural and social history of the historical areas of focus of the student</li> <li>• Advanced courses on theories or methods without direct religious reference</li> </ul>					
Forms of Teaching					
Language classes, seminars, lectures					
Forms of examination					
Depends on the selected module					
Conditions for receiving Credit Points					
Depends on the selected module					
Application of the module (in other study programmes)					
-					

<b>Significance of the note for the final grade</b>
Not included in the final score
<b>Module representatives and full-time lecturers</b>
<b>Module representative:</b> Dean of Students of Religious Studies
<b>Full-time lecturers:</b> Person responsible in other subject(s)
<b>Other Information</b>
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**MASTER THESIS**

MASTER THESIS					
<b>MA-2018</b>	<b>Credits</b> 20 ECTS	<b>Workload</b> 600h	<b>Semester</b> 4th sem.	<b>Frequency</b> WS + SS	<b>Time Span</b> 1 semester
<b>Courses</b>			<b>Contact Hours</b>	<b>Self-Study</b>	<b>Group Size</b>
None			Ca 50h	Ca. 550h	Individual
Participation Requirements					
Modules of at least 70 CP must be successfully completed in accordance with the respective subject-specific regulations.					
Learning Outcomes					
<b>Goals:</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conception and execution of an independent scientific work</li> </ul>					
Content					
The MA thesis must be completed within four month and should not exceed 200.000 lines (including spaces). Group work is not permitted. The research question has to be developed independently and must come from the field of religious studies.					
Forms of Teaching					
/					
Forms of examination					
MA thesis of 200.000 characters.					
Conditions for receiving Credit Points					
Master thesis in the range of 200.000 characters, which must be at least completed with "passed" (4.0)					
Application of the module (in other study programmes)					
-					
Significance of the note for the final grade					
The grade of the Master thesis is included in the total score by 40%.					
Module representatives and full-time lecturers					
<b>module representative:</b> Dean of Students of Religious Studies					
<b>Full-time lecturers:</b> indivial mentor					
Other Information					
Individual mentoring					