

Course Information Sheet for entry in 2024-25: PGDip in Theology and Religion



Course facts

Mode of study	Full Time	Part Time
Expected length	9 months	21 months

About the course

The Postgraduate Diploma in Theology and Religion is provided for those wishing to pursue graduate study in theology and religion but whose first degree is not in theology or religious studies.

This course offers an intensive period of study which you will complete either in nine months as a full-time student or in twenty-one months as a part-time student.

You choose three papers which are typically taught through a series of eight tutorials supported by lectures and classes; a fourth paper may also be chosen if you wish to extend your studies. These papers are chosen from the syllabus for the faculty's BA in Theology and Religion and cover four major subject areas:

- biblical studies
- systematic theology and ethics
- history of religions, including Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam and Judaism
- religion and religions, including contemporary Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam and Judaism.

You might choose to study a range of papers from across these areas, for example, on aspects of the New Testament, Hebrew Bible, the nature of religion or modern doctrine. Alternatively, you might prefer to focus on a single area, for example, the sources and formations of Hinduism, modern Hinduism and further studies in Hinduism or in feminist approaches to religion.

There is a wide range of options available but please note that not all options will be available every year. If studying part-time, you will enrol on two papers in your first year of study, and the third (and fourth, if this option is chosen) in your second year.

Teaching for the Postgraduate Diploma in Theology and Religion is organised by your Director of Studies, appointed by the faculty, who may or may not be based in your college or Permanent Private Hall. Your Director of Studies will arrange for some or all of your teaching to be undertaken by other members of academic staff, but will retain overall responsibility for your progress.

The course is mainly taught via tutorials, for which you would customarily spend one week preparing written work, with the aid of a reading list provided by your tutor, followed by a meeting to discuss this written work with your tutor for approximately one hour. The tutorial format thus includes both self-directed and supported learning elements, but it is weighted towards self-direction. You will also attend relevant classes and lectures as advertised for the BA in Theology and Religion, as well as seminars organised specifically for Postgraduate Diploma students (usually two per term). The events offer supported learning opportunities which complement the self-directed focus of tutorials. Teaching usually takes place up to the fourth week of your final term on the course.

Although students for the PGDip attend undergraduate lectures and classes, they are full members of the graduate community and are expected to draw on all the graduate resources of the faculty and the university.

Please note that there is no graduation ceremony for the PGDip.

Supervision

Tutorials are typically weekly, but supervisions for longer essay projects will be less frequent. The allocation of graduate supervision for this course is the responsibility of the Faculty of Theology and Religion and it is not always possible to accommodate the preferences of incoming graduate students to work with a particular member of staff. Under exceptional circumstances a supervisor may be found outside the Faculty of Theology and Religion.

Teaching is organised by your Director of Studies, who may or may not be based in your college or Permanent Private Hall.

Assessment

Most papers are examined by a written examination whilst others are assessed by one or more submitted essay(s). Depending on the combination of papers you choose, you may write either two short essays, or one long essay in place of

one written examination. The subject area of the essays will be approved by the Faculty of Theology and Religion and the tutor teaching the paper. Written examinations for all papers are held in Trinity Term of the final year of study and vary in date each year depending on the papers selected and the schedule of the Examination Schools. Submitted essays are due at the beginning of Trinity Term in the final year of study.

Changes to this course

The University will seek to deliver this course in accordance with the description set out above. However, there may be situations in which it is desirable or necessary for the University to make changes in course provision, either before or after you commence your course. These might include significant changes made necessary by any pandemic, epidemic or local health emergency. For further information, please see the University's Terms and Conditions (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/terms>) and our page on changes to courses (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/coursechanges>).

Costs

Annual fees for entry in 2024-25

Full-time study

Fee status	Annual Course fees
Home	£14,890
Overseas	£33,970

Part-time study

Fee status	Annual Course fees
Home	£7,445
Overseas	£16,985

Information about course fees

Course fees are payable each year, for the duration of your fee liability (your fee liability is the length of time for which you are required to pay course fees). For courses lasting longer than one year, please be aware that fees will usually increase annually. Information about how much fees and other costs may increase is set out in the University's Terms and Conditions (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/terms>).

Course fees cover your teaching as well as other academic services and facilities provided to support your studies. Unless specified in the additional cost information (below), course fees do not cover your accommodation, residential costs or other living costs. They also don't cover any additional costs and charges that are outlined in the additional cost information.

Additional cost information

Full-time study

There are no compulsory elements of this course that entail additional costs beyond fees and living costs. However, as part of your course requirements, you may need to choose a dissertation, a project or a thesis topic. Please note that, depending on your choice of topic and the research required to complete it, you may incur additional expenses, such as travel expenses, research expenses, and field trips. You will need to meet these additional costs, although you may be able to apply for small grants from your department and/or college to help you cover some of these expenses.

Part-time study

Please note that this course requires that you attend in Oxford for teaching, and you may incur additional travel and accommodation expenses for this. Further, as part of your course requirements, you may need to choose a dissertation, a project or a thesis topic. Depending on your choice of topic and the research required to complete it, you may incur additional expenses, such as travel expenses, research expenses, and field trips. You will need to meet these additional costs, although you may be able to apply for small grants from your department and/or college to help you cover some of these expenses.

Living costs

In addition to your course fees, you will need to ensure that you have adequate funds to support your living costs for the duration of your course.

If you are studying part-time your living costs may vary depending on your personal circumstances but you must still ensure that you will have sufficient funding to meet these costs for the duration of your course.

The likely living costs for 2024-25 are published below. These costs are based on a single, full-time graduate student, with no dependants, living in Oxford. We provide the cost per month so you can multiply up by the number of months you expect to live in Oxford.

Likely living costs for one month

	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£315	£495
Accommodation	£745	£925
Personal items	£190	£320
Social activities	£40	£95
Study costs	£35	£85
Other	£20	£35
Total	£1,345	£1,955

Likely living costs for nine months

	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£2,835	£4,445
Accommodation	£6,705	£8,325
Personal items	£1,710	£2,880
Social activities	£360	£855
Study costs	£315	£765
Other	£180	£315
Total	£12,105	£17,595

Likely living costs for twelve months

	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£3,780	£5,940
Accommodation	£8,940	£11,100
Personal items	£2,280	£3,840
Social activities	£480	£1,140
Study costs	£420	£1,020
Other	£240	£420
Total	£16,140	£23,460

When planning your finances for any future years of study at Oxford beyond 2024-25, it is suggested that you allow for potential increases in living expenses of 5% or more each year – although this rate may vary depending on the national economic situation.

More information about how these figures have been calculated is available at www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/livingcosts.

Document accessibility

If you require an accessible version of this document please contact Graduate Admissions and Recruitment by email (graduate.admissions@admin.ox.ac.uk) or via the online form (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/ask>).