



**Faculty of Religious Studies**  
**Programs, Courses and University Regulations**  
**2014-2015**



This PDF excerpt of *Programs, Courses and University Regulations* is an archived snapshot of the web content on the date that appears in the footer of the PDF.

Archival copies are available at [www.mcgill.ca/study](http://www.mcgill.ca/study).

This publication provides guidance to prospects, applicants, students, faculty and staff.

- 1 . McGill University reserves the right to make changes to the information contained in this online publication - including correcting errors, altering fees, schedules of admission, and credit requirements, and revising or cancelling particular courses or programs - without prior notice.
- 2 . In the interpretation of academic regulations, the Senate is the final authority.
- 3 . Students are responsible for informing themselves of the University's procedures, policies and regulations, and the specific requirements associated with the degree, diploma, or certificate sought.
- 4 . All students registered at McGill University are considered to have agreed to act in accordance with the University procedures, policies and regulations.
- 5 . Although advice is readily available on request, the responsibility of selecting the appropriate courses for graduation must ultimately rest with the student.
- 6 . Not all courses are offered every year and changes can be made after publication. Always check the Minerva Class Schedule link at [https://horizon.mcgill.ca/pban1/bwckschd.p\\_disp\\_dyn\\_sched](https://horizon.mcgill.ca/pban1/bwckschd.p_disp_dyn_sched) for the most up-to-date information on whether a course is offered.
- 7 . The academic publication year begins at the start of the Fall semester and extends through to the end of the Winter semester of any given year. Students who begin study at any point within this period are governed by the regulations in the publication which came into effect at the start of the Fall semester.
- 8 . Notwithstanding any other provision of the publication, it is expressly understood by all students that McGill University accepts no responsibility to provide any course of instruction, program or class, residential or other services including the normal range of academic, residential and/or other services in circumstances of utility interruptions, fire, flood, strikes, work stoppages, labour disputes, war, insurrection, the operation of law or acts of God or any other cause (whether similar or dissimilar to those enumerated) which reasonably prevent their provision.

**Note: Throughout this publication, "you" refers to students newly admitted, readmitted or returning to McGill.**

## *Publication Information*

Published by

### **Enrolment Services**

McGill University  
3415 McTavish Street  
Montreal, Quebec, H3A 0C8  
Canada

All contents copyright © 2014 by McGill University. All rights reserved, including the right to reproduce this publication, or portions thereof, in any form.

McGill University reserves the right to make changes to the information contained in this publication - including correcting errors, altering fees, schedules of admission and credit requirements, and revising or cancelling particular courses or programs - without prior notification.

Not all courses are offered every year and changes can be made after publication. Always check the Minerva Class Schedule link at [https://horizon.mcgill.ca/pban1/bwckschd.p\\_disp\\_dyn\\_sched](https://horizon.mcgill.ca/pban1/bwckschd.p_disp_dyn_sched) for the most up-to-date information on whether a course is offered.

- 
- 1 About the Faculty of Religious Studies, page 7
  - 2 History of the Faculty, page 7
    - 2.1 The Faculty and the Colleges , page 7
  - 3 Facilities, page 7
  - 4 Birks Lectures, page 7
  - 5 Numata Visiting Professor in Buddhist Studies, page 7
  - 6 About the Faculty of Religious Studies (Undergraduate), page 8
    - 6.1 Location, page 8
    - 6.2 Administrative Officers, page 8
    - 6.3 Academic Staff, page 8
  - 7 Overview of Degrees Offered, page 10
    - 7.1 Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Religious Studies, page 10
    - 7.2 Overview of Degrees Offered: Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.), page 10
      - 7.2.1 ATS Accreditation, page 10
      - 7.2.2 Admission Requirements, page 10
        - 7.2.2.1 Mature Student Admissions Policy, page 11
      - 7.2.3 Proficiency in English, page 11
      - 7.2.4 Applying to the B.Th. Program, page 11
        - 7.2.4.1 Required Documents, page 11
      - 7.2.5 Application Deadlines, page 12
      - 7.2.6 Tuition Fees and Funding, page 12
      - 7.2.7 Admissions Review Procedure, page 12
      - 7.2.8 Registration Procedures, page 12
      - 7.2.9 Withdrawal Procedures, page 12
      - 7.2.10 Graduation Requirements, page 12
      - 7.2.11 Course Selection, page 13
      - 7.2.12 Academic Standing and Course Loads, page 13
        - 7.2.12.1 Satisfactory Standing, page 13
        - 7.2.12.2 Probationary Standing, page 13
        - 7.2.12.3 Unsatisfactory Standing, page 13
        - 7.2.12.4 Incomplete Standing, page 13
      - 7.2.13 Academic Achievement, page 13
        - 7.2.13.1 Graduation Honours, page 13
      - 7.2.14 Evaluation, page 13
      - 7.2.15 Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) - Religious Studies (120 credits) , page 14
      - 7.2.16 Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) - Honours Religious Studies (120 credits) , page 16
    - 7.3 Master of Divinity (M.Div.), page 16



---

## 1 About the Faculty of Religious Studies

The Faculty of Religious Studies has enjoyed a long history at McGill providing a wide range of programs, including B.A. programs offered in cooperation with the Faculty of Arts, theological programs, and several specialized graduate degree programs.

The Faculty's expertise in world religions engages many methods and disciplines, combining the rigorous and historically focused study of religious traditions and contexts with approaches that explore contemporary expressions of religions. For more on the Faculty's distinctive, holistic approach to the study of religion, please visit [About Us](#).

The Faculty is home to the Centre for Research on Religion (CREOR) and McGill's Initiative in Globalization and the World's Religions. It is also affiliated with the Montreal Diocesan Theological College of the Anglican Church of Canada, the Presbyterian College Montreal, and the United Theological College of the United Church of Canada. Each of these colleges is located close to campus.

---

## 2 History of the Faculty

---

### 2.1 The Faculty and the Colleges

During the 19th century, several Theological Colleges in Montreal became affiliated with McGill. In 1912, they formed a Joint Board for the academic study of Theology, leaving each denominational College to provide its own professional training for Christian ministry. This relationship between the Colleges and the University led naturally to the creation in 1948 of a Faculty of Divinity, which assumed the academic functions of the Joint Board, now designated the Montreal School of Theology. In 1970, the name of the Faculty was changed to the Faculty of Religious Studies. This University Faculty now offers the Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) degree and several graduate degree programs.

---

## 3 Facilities

The Faculty of Religious Studies is located in the handsome William and Henry Birks Building, erected in 1931, formerly known as Divinity Hall, at 3520 University Street. Besides the usual classrooms, offices, and common rooms, this building accommodates the Birks Heritage Chapel and the Birks Reading Room.

---

## 4 Birks Lectures

An annual series was established in 1950 through the generosity of the late William M. Birks. The lectures are given by distinguished visitors, usually in late September or early October. The first lecturer was the Right Reverend Leslie Hunter. More recent lecturers have included Huston Smith, Northrop Frye, Wilfred Cantwell Smith, Gregory Baum, Robert McAfee Brown, Krister Stendahl, Charles Adams, Jon Levenson, David Little, Azim Nanji, Paul Griffiths, Bernadette J. Brooten, Harvey Cox, John S. Hawley, Gabriel Vahanian, Oliver O'Donovan, Jan Assmann, Donald Lopez, Réemi Brague, and David Fergusson.

---

## 5 Numata Visiting Professor in Buddhist Studies

In recognition of the strong Buddhist Studies program in the Faculty of Religious Studies, the Numata Foundation has given a 20-year grant to the Faculty to bring a visiting scholar in Buddhist Studies to McGill each year.

The visiting professor teaches one course at the 500 level, gives a public lecture, and is available to students for conferences and consultation. The first Numata Professor, in 1999–2000, was Dr. Mahinda Deegalle (Ph.D., Chicago), a Theravada Buddhist Sri Lankan monk. Subsequent visiting professors have included Dr. John Pettit, Professor Robert Morrison, Dr. Thupten Jinpa, Dr. Kate Crosby, Ven. Yifa, Dr. Robert Kritzer, Dr. Andrew Skilton, Dr. Joel Tatelman, Dr. Miriam Levering, Dr. Hiroko Kawanami, Dr. Dorji Wangchuk, Dr. Martin Adam, Dr. Jin Park, and Dr. Roger Jackson.

The visiting professor for 2014–2015 is Dr. Burkhard Scherer.

---

## 6 About the Faculty of Religious Studies (Undergraduate)

Cultivating a thorough understanding of the world's religions and the roles of religion throughout history and in contemporary society is at the heart of the Faculty of Religious Studies' teaching at the undergraduate level. The Faculty takes a multidisciplinary approach to scholarship on a plurality of religions and incorporates a broad range of perspectives and methods. In studying the world's religious traditions, we emphasize the ways in which religious expression and practices are embedded in culture, politics, aesthetics, and social change.

The Faculty's undergraduate teaching supports two degrees, the B.A. and the B.Th.

The Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) programs in Religious Studies are offered in conjunction with the Faculty of Arts. These programs explore the many cultural, historical, and political issues related to both Eastern and Western religions and to religion in comparative perspective. Majors and minors in World Religions are available, as well as a minor in Religion and Globalization and honours and joint honours programs in Religious Studies. Students frequently combine majors and minors in World Religions with a wide range of other B.A. concentrations, highlighting the importance of the rigorous study of religion to many other areas of inquiry.

A distinctive strength of the Faculty's offerings is the Major in Scriptures and Interpretations which allows for a concentration on a particular scriptural tradition (Jewish, Christian, or Hindu and Buddhist scriptures); the Minor in Scriptural Languages supports all these concentrations by providing intensive study of either Indo-Tibetan languages or Biblical Languages.

The Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) offers academic instruction in the disciplines of theology and a more intensive study of Christianity. The B.Th. degree can be pursued independently or in preparation for ordained ministry and other careers in pastoral settings such as hospitals and schools. The B.Th. is a key component of the Master of Divinity (M.Div.) degree, which is offered through the affiliated colleges of the Montreal School of Theology.

---

### 6.1 Location

William and Henry Birks Building  
3520 University Street  
Montreal, Quebec H3A 2A7  
Canada

Telephone: 514-398-4121

Website: [www.mcgill.ca/religiousstudies](http://www.mcgill.ca/religiousstudies)

---

### 6.2 Administrative Officers

#### Administrative Officers

Ellen B. Aitken; A.B.(Harv.), M.Div.(University of the South), Th.D.(Harv.) **Dean**  
(*In memoriam*)

Ian H. Henderson; B.A.(Manit.), B.D.(St. And.), M.A.(McM.), D.Phil.(Oxf.) **Dean**  
(*Acting*)

Luvana Di Francesco **Administrative Officer**

Francesca Maniaci **Administrative Assistant**

---

### 6.3 Academic Staff

#### Emeritus Professors

Gregory B. Baum; B.A.(McM.), M.A.(Ohio St.), D.Th.(Fribourg)

Maurice Boutin; B.A., B.A., B.A.(Montr.), D.Th.(Munich)

Douglas J. Hall; B.A.(W. Ont.), M.Div., S.T.M., Th.D.(UTS, NY), L.L.D.(Wat.), D.D.(Pres. Coll., Montr.), D.D.(Qu.)

Joseph C. McLelland; B.A.(McM.), M.A.(Tor.), B.D.(Knox, Tor.), Ph.D.(Edin.), D.D.(Montr. Dio. Coll.; Knox, Tor.)

Donna R. Runnalls; B.A.(Br. Col.), B.D.(McG.), Ph.D.(Tor.)



**Emeritus Professors**

Frederik Wisse; Ing.(Utrecht), B.A., B.D.(Calvin, Mich.), Ph.D.(Claremont)

Katherine K. Young; B.A.(Vermont), M.A.(Chic.), Ph.D.(McG.)

**Professors**

Douglas B. Farrow; B.R.E.(Providence), M.Div.(Grace), M.Th.(Regent), Ph.D.(Lond.) (*Christian Thought*)

W.J. Torrance Kirby; B.A.(KCNS), M.A., D.Phil.(Oxf.) (*Ecclesiastical History*)

G.S. Oegema; B.A., Th.D.(Vrije, Amsterdam), M.A., Ph.D.(Free Univ., Berlin), Dr. Theol. Habil(Tübingen) (*Biblical Studies*)

Arvind Sharma; B.A.(Allahabad), M.A.(Syrac.), M.T.S., Ph.D.(Harv.) (*Henry Birks Professor of Comparative Religion*)

**Associate Professors**

Ellen B. Aitken; A.B.(Harv.), M.Div.(Univ. of the South), Th.D.(Harv.) (*Early Christian History and Literature*) (*In memoriam*)

Lara Braitstein; B.A., M.A., Ph.D.(McG.) (*Indo-Tibetan Buddhism*)

Daniel Cere; B.A., M.A.(McG.), Ph.D.(C'dia) (*Religion, Ethics, and Public Policy*)

Gaëlle Fiasse; B.A., M.A., Ph.D.(Louvain) (*Ethics and Religious Ethics*) (*joint appt. with Department of Philosophy*)

Garth W. Green; B.A.(Ariz.), M.A.(Boston), M.A.(Louvain), Ph.D.(Boston) (*Philosophy of Religion*)

Ian H. Henderson; B.A.(Manit.), B.D.(St. And.), M.A.(McM.), D.Phil.(Oxf.) (*New Testament Studies*)

G. Victor Hori; B.A.(York), M.A.(Tor.), Ph.D.(Stan.) (*Japanese Religions*)

Patricia G. Kirkpatrick; B.A.(McG.), M.Th.(Lond.), D.Phil.(Oxf.), D.D.(Montr. Dio. Coll.) (*Old Testament Studies*)

Davesh Soneji; B.A.(Manit.), Ph.D.(McG.) (*South Asian Religion*)

**Assistant Professors**

Jim Kanaris; B.A.(C'dia), M.A., Ph.D.(McG.) (*Philosophy of Religion*)

Andrea M. Pinkney; B.A.(McG.), M.A.(Hawaii at Manoa), Ph.D.(Col.) (*South Asian Religions*)

**Numata Visiting Professor**

Burkhard Scherer; M.A.(Münster), Ph.D.(Groningen)

**Adjunct Professors**

George Di Giovanni; Ph.D.(Tor.)

Barbara Galli; B.A.(Car.), M.A.(Tor.), Ph.D.(McG.)

Hilliard Todd Goldfarb; A.B.(Bowdoin), A.M.(Harv.), Ph.D.(Harv.)

Alyson Huntly; Dip.Min.(Centre for Christian Studies, Winnipeg), M.T.S.(St. And., Saskatoon), Ph.D.(Qu.)

Philip Joudrey; B.A., M.Div.(Acad.), D.Min.(Andover Newton Theological School)

William Klempa; B.A.(Manit.), M.A.(Tor.), B.D., D.D.(Knox, Tor.), Ph.D.(Edin.)

T. Jinpa Langri; Dr. Div., B.A.(King's Coll., Lond.), Ph.D.(Camb.)

Anne Leahy; M.A.(Tor.), Ph.D.(New Br.)

Lucille Marr; B.A., M.A., Ph.D.(Wat.)

Susan Palmer; B.A.(McG.), M.A., Ph.D.(C'dia)

Angelica Piché; B.A.(Saarbrücken), M.Th.(Ludwig-Maximilian)

Vanessa Sasson; B.A., M.A., Ph.D.(McG.)

John M. Simons; B.A.(Bishop's), S.T.B.(Trin. Coll., Tor.), Ph.D.(G'town) (PT)

David Williams; B.A.(Boston); M.A., Ph.D.(Tor.)

Dale Woods; B.A.(Alta.), M.C.S.(Regent), M.Div.(Vancouver School of Theology), D.Min.(Luther Seminary, Minneapolis)

## 7 Overview of Degrees Offered

### Degrees Offered by the Faculty

[section 7.1: Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies](#)

[section 7.2: Bachelor of Theology](#)

[section 7.3: Master of Divinity](#)

---

### 7.1 Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Religious Studies

Honours concentration, Major concentration and Minor concentration in Religious Studies are offered in cooperation with the Faculty of Arts.

Admission is to the Faculty of Arts and all admission requirements and procedures, academic rules, and regulations of that Faculty apply to students in these programs.

For general information on B.A. Honours, Major concentrations, and Minor concentrations, consult the advisers. Check the Faculty's website for a list of advisers. Detailed descriptions of the Religious Studies programs for Arts students are found in the [eCalendar](#) under *Faculties & Schools > Faculty of Arts > Undergraduate > Academic Programs > : Religious Studies (RELG)*. Religious Studies B.A. Honours, Major, and Minor students may take any of the courses described in the programs except where otherwise indicated. For specific course information, consult the instructor.

Students who are interested in the Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) ([section 7.2: Overview of Degrees Offered: Bachelor of Theology \(B.Th.\)](#)) or Master of Divinity (M.Div.) ([section 7.3: Master of Divinity \(M.Div.\)](#)) programs should refer to the appropriate section.

---

### 7.2 Overview of Degrees Offered: Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.)

The main goals of the Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) program are:

1. to offer academic instruction in the disciplines of theology within a university setting;
2. to contribute to preparation for ministry in the contemporary world by giving special attention to the Canadian and North American contexts, the Quebec context, and religious pluralism.

The Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) may be taken as a first or second baccalaureate degree.

As a first degree (90 or 120 credits), it offers a more intensive study of Christianity than is available within the Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) programs, while also permitting the student to combine this specialization with other academic or professional interests, whether in Religious Studies or in other faculties and schools of the University.

As a second bachelor's degree (60 credits), the Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) program is designed primarily for those who intend to qualify for the ordained ministry in a Christian denomination, although here too, some students pursue the degree out of an interest in the academic study of theology for its own sake, or with a view to combining these studies with proficiency gained in other disciplines. The 60-credit program forms the core of the Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) degree.

Those studying for the ordained ministry usually pursue the Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) as part of a Master of Divinity (M.Div.) offered by one of the three Theological Colleges affiliated with McGill University in the Montreal School of Theology: Montreal Diocesan Theological College (Anglican Church of Canada), the Presbyterian College (Presbyterian Church in Canada), and United Theological College (United Church of Canada).

#### 7.2.1 ATS Accreditation

The B.Th. program offered by McGill and the M.Div. program offered by the Theological Colleges are together fully accredited by the Association of Theological Schools in the U.S. and Canada (ATS).

#### 7.2.2 Admission Requirements

The B.Th. program has three points of entry:

1. To enter the 120-credit degree program from outside Quebec, you must hold a high school diploma, unless you qualify as a mature student. A maximum of 60 credits from another institution of higher learning can be considered for transfer into the 120-credit program.
2. To enter the 90-credit first-degree program, you are expected to have completed the Diploma of Collegial Studies (DCS) from a Quebec CEGEP with a minimum average of Cote R of 24, or the equivalent elsewhere. A maximum of 30 credits from another institution of higher learning can be considered for transfer into this program.

3. To enter the 60-credit program, you must have completed a B.A. or other bachelor's degree with a minimum CGPA of 2.7 (B-). No credits can be transferred from another institution of higher learning into the 60-credit program.

Any McGill student in good standing, with a minimum of 30 credits, may apply for transfer from their current degree program into the B.Th. program. B.Th. students entering the 120- or 90-credit programs are free to pursue minors in other departments, schools, or faculties, in consultation with their B.Th. adviser(s).

Prospective students should contact the Chair of the B.Th. Committee to discuss their qualifications, expectations, and objectives. Appointments can be made by emailing Professor Douglas Farrow at [douglas.farrow@mcgill.ca](mailto:douglas.farrow@mcgill.ca).

### 7.2.2.1 Mature Student Admissions Policy

Those who will be 23 years of age or older by September 1 of the year that they seek admission (or by January 1 for admission to the Winter term) and who lack the academic qualifications normally required for entry into the B.Th. program may apply as mature students for admission to a qualifying year in the B.Th. program.

Admitted students enrol in a qualifying year (30 credits) of designated Religious Studies and Arts courses (determined by the Chair of the B.Th. Committee).

Those who, during the qualifying year, earn a CGPA of 2.5 to 2.9 (with no grade less than 60%) normally will be granted admission to the 120-credit B.Th. program. Credits completed during the qualifying year may be applied toward the 120-credit requirement.

Those who, during the qualifying year, earn a CGPA of at least 3.0 (having taken 30 credits, including at least two 300-level courses and with no grade less than 65%) normally will be granted admission to the 90-credit B.Th. program. Credits completed during the qualifying year may be applied toward the 90-credit requirement.

Students who, during the qualifying year, do not earn a minimum CGPA of 2.5 or who have grades less than 60%, may apply to retake courses, pending approval of the Chair of the B.Th. Committee.

### 7.2.3 Proficiency in English

The language of instruction for most courses at McGill University is English; however, you may make arrangements to write term papers, examinations, and theses in English or in French, except in courses where knowledge of the language is one of the objectives of the course. You must demonstrate an adequate level of English proficiency prior to admission to McGill, regardless of citizenship status or country of origin. For non-Canadian applicants whose mother tongue is not English, a Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is required, with a minimum score of 577 for the paper-based version and of 90 for the new Internet-based composite score (iBT). For the iBT, a minimum score of 21 is also required in each individual component of reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Permanent residents of Canada may be required to submit a TOEFL score as well. Note: The McGill ETS Institution code is: 0935.

### 7.2.4 Applying to the B.Th. Program



**Note: Owing to McGill University's implementation of a comprehensive online application system, paper applications to the B.Th. Program can no longer be accepted. All applicants must [apply online](#).**

The online application process should take about 20 minutes and a credit card is required for payment of the application fee. Once completed, the online application form may be printed for your own records.

#### 7.2.4.1 Required Documents

- Transcript(s) of all previous post-secondary academic work. Applicants to the B.Th. Program as a first degree must submit high school and/or CEGEP transcripts. Copies of your **unofficial transcript(s)** can be uploaded to complete your application. **Official transcript(s)** are required only if you are admitted, and must be mailed directly from the institution to the mailing address below.
- Personal Statement, according to the directions in the application. Please download and use the *Personal Statement Form*, available at [www.mcgill.ca/religiousstudies/prospective/undergraduate/bth/apply](http://www.mcgill.ca/religiousstudies/prospective/undergraduate/bth/apply).

After your application has been received, you will be given access to your Minerva account, where you will be able to upload your **unofficial transcripts** and **personal statement** to complete your application. You can find full instructions on how to prepare, upload, and submit relevant documents at [www.mcgill.ca/applying/submitting-your-documents/uploadingdocuments](http://www.mcgill.ca/applying/submitting-your-documents/uploadingdocuments).

- Two letters of recommendation including at least one from an instructor in an academic institution previously attended. Your referee must download and use the *BTh Reference Form*, available at [www.mcgill.ca/religiousstudies/prospective/undergraduate/bth/apply](http://www.mcgill.ca/religiousstudies/prospective/undergraduate/bth/apply).

The two letters of recommendation must be sent to the mailing address below.

#### Drop-off, Courier, and Mailing Address

Bachelor of Theology Program  
Enrolment Services  
Student Records  
McGill University  
3415 McTavish Street, Room MS-13  
Montreal QC H3A 0C8

Canada

If you are applying to one of the Theological Colleges, another complete set of these required documents must also be sent to the College concerned.

**Please note that your file will not be considered by the Admissions Committee until all the required documents have been received.**

### 7.2.5 Application Deadlines

Applicants to the B.Th. program may be accepted into the Fall, Winter, or Summer term. The online application deadlines are:

- **May 1** for September Admission (Canadian and International applicants)
- **June 15** for September Admission (College affiliated applicants only)
- **September 15** for January Admission (International applicants)
- **November 1** for January Admission (Canadian applicants)
- **March 1** for May Admission (Canadian and International applicants)

Please note that all required documents listed in [section 7.2.4: Applying to the B.Th. Program](#) must be received by the Faculty of Religious Studies prior to these deadlines in order for the applicant to be considered by the Admissions Committee.

### 7.2.6 Tuition Fees and Funding

Information concerning current tuition fees can be found at: [www.mcgill.ca/student-accounts](http://www.mcgill.ca/student-accounts). Applicants for admission to one of the affiliated Colleges should contact the institution concerned for information regarding College-related fees.

### 7.2.7 Admissions Review Procedure

An unsuccessful applicant, or a Faculty of Religious Studies Council member acting on behalf of an unsuccessful applicant, who believes that not all factors having a bearing on the application have been fully considered, may submit a request for a review of the decision.

The request must be made in writing and directed to the Chair of the B.Th. Admissions and Awards Committee. A CAD\$40 certified cheque or money order made payable to McGill University must accompany the request.

The request for review must include information in support of reconsideration, such as a description of significant change in the applicant's circumstances since the initial consideration, correction of any missing or erroneous information in the application, or information that the applicant believes may have been overlooked when the original decision was made.

Requests for reconsideration must be received at McGill no more than two weeks after notification of refusal.

The review procedure will be carried out by the B.Th. Admissions and Awards Committee. Please note that the original admission decision will stand unless the Committee is persuaded that admissions standards have been misapplied or that an applicant's academic record has been misapprehended.

Decisions on Special, Visiting, and Exchange applications are final; requests for reconsideration will not be considered.

### 7.2.8 Registration Procedures

All students register by Minerva, McGill's web-based registration system. Minerva provides web access to registration, class schedules, course descriptions, and address changes.

For detailed information about registration, refer to the [eCalendar](#) under *University Regulations and Resources > Undergraduate > : Registration* or [www.mcgill.ca/newstudents](http://www.mcgill.ca/newstudents), and to the courses website, [www.mcgill.ca/students/courses](http://www.mcgill.ca/students/courses).

### 7.2.9 Withdrawal Procedures

Dropping or adding courses must be done via Minerva, prior to the deadline listed in this publication (see [section 7.2.8: Registration Procedures](#)). Permission of the adviser is required for all changes to course selection. In case of withdrawal from the University prior to the published course withdrawal deadline, you must withdraw from all courses via Minerva. In addition, you must contact the Chair of the Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) Committee and complete the necessary withdrawal form.

### 7.2.10 Graduation Requirements

1. The B.Th. is either a 120-credit program (if you were admitted from outside Quebec and without a prior Bachelor's degree), a 90-credit program (if you were admitted on the basis of a Quebec D.C.S. or equivalent), or a 60-credit program (if you were admitted on the basis of a recognized bachelor's degree).
2. Qualification for the degree must include Satisfactory Standing (a grade of C or better) in all required courses and the complementary courses specified in Year 3, and the accumulation of enough acceptable credits to make a total of either 60, 90, or 120 credits. It should be noted that if you take the B.Th. program as part of the M.Div. program, you need to maintain a minimum CGPA of 2.5 to be eligible for the M.Div. degree.
3. Normally, the program credits must be earned within five years from the date of entrance.

## 7.2.11 Course Selection

You are to seek the guidance of your adviser(s) when registering for courses. You must have your courses approved and your Minerva form signed by the Chair of the Bachelor of Theology (B.Th) Committee before classes begin. If you are affiliated with one of the Theological Colleges, your Minerva form must first be approved and signed by your College adviser.

## 7.2.12 Academic Standing and Course Loads

### 7.2.12.1 Satisfactory Standing

You enter the University in Satisfactory Standing and remain in this Standing unless your grade point average (GPA) or cumulative grade point average (CGPA) for any year drops below 2.00. The normal course load in any academic session is five courses per term (15 credits per term). If you have a high GPA (at least 3.00), you may take more than the normal five courses per term.

### 7.2.12.2 Probationary Standing

You are placed in Probationary Standing if either your CGPA or your term GPA falls between 1.50 and 1.99. (If you are a part-time student, your GPA is calculated on the basis of your last 9 credits.) While in Probationary Standing, you may take a minimum of 6 credits and a maximum of 12 credits per term.

While in Probationary Standing, you may return to Satisfactory Standing by completing 12 additional credits with a GPA of at least 2.50, or by completing 12 credits with a GPA and a CGPA of 2.00 or greater.

As a student in Probationary Standing, if you fail to achieve the levels of performance specified above, you will be placed in Unsatisfactory Standing, unless you obtain a GPA of 1.50–1.99 while continuing to have a CGPA of 2.00 or greater.

### 7.2.12.3 Unsatisfactory Standing

You are placed in Unsatisfactory Standing if you have a GPA of less than 1.50.

As a student in Unsatisfactory Standing, you will have to withdraw, or seek readmission as a probationary student with special permission from the B.Th. Committee and the Dean. If you are a student who is readmitted on Probationary Standing, you may have additional restrictions or conditions to meet over and above those required of students referred to above under “Probationary Standing.”

In the event that you are placed in Unsatisfactory Standing for a second time, you must withdraw permanently.

### 7.2.12.4 Incomplete Standing

If, in any year, your record shows a mark of K, K\*, L, L\*, or &&, you will have no GPA or CGPA calculated for that year, and your record will show “Standing Incomplete.” After completing the appropriate course requirements, your GPA and CGPA will be calculated and your Standing determined as described above.

If your Standing is still “Incomplete” at the time of registration for the next academic year, you must obtain a *Letter of Permission to Register* from the Chair of the B.Th. Committee.

## 7.2.13 Academic Achievement

Several designations are used to acknowledge the superior academic achievement of in-course and graduating students. These designations are awarded at the discretion of the Faculty.

**Dean's Honour List:** to designate *in-course* students who have completed a minimum of 27 credits during regular session (14 credits for those registered for one term) and have attained a GPA placing them in the top 5% - 10% of their class.

### 7.2.13.1 Graduation Honours

**Dean's Honour List:** For information on the designation of Dean's Honour List awarded at graduation, see the [eCalendar](#) under *University Regulations and Resources > Undergraduate > Graduation > : Graduation Honours: Dean's Honour List*.

**Distinction:** For information on the designation of Distinction awarded at graduation, see the [eCalendar](#) under *University Regulations and Resources > Undergraduate > Graduation > : Graduation Honours: Distinction*.

**Honours:** to designate graduating students who have completed a minimum of 60 credits at McGill and have fulfilled the Honours course requirements with a CGPA of 3.20, or 3.50 for First Class Honours.

## 7.2.14 Evaluation

Competence in a course may be determined by examinations and/or essays, or by other means chosen by the instructor and approved by the Dean.

**7.2.15 Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) - Religious Studies (120 credits)**

The Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) degree requires 120 credits. Many students enter the program with advanced standing, and their credit requirement for the degree is adjusted accordingly.

All students must discuss their course selection with their program adviser.

The required and complementary course requirements below describe the program for students who enter in Year 1 (U1) with 30 credits of advanced standing based on a Quebec Diploma of Collegial Studies (DEC).

Students admitted directly from high school into U0 must consult their program adviser regarding appropriate courses for their first year of study.

Students admitted on the basis of a bachelor degree will have advanced standing and should consult their program adviser to determine any course equivalencies completed during their first degree and how these affect their program requirements for the Bachelor of Theology. Normally, these students start in Year 2 (U2) and follow the requirements below starting with Year 2.

The normal course load in the degree for full-time students is 15 credits per term, five 3-credit courses.

By permission of the Dean and the Chair of the B.Th. Committee, students may also enrol for courses at any university in the province of Quebec. For further information, see "Quebec Inter-University Transfer Agreement: McGill Students" in the "University Regulations and Resources" section under "Registration."

Professional and vocational courses (e.g., leading to ordination) are available through the In-Ministry Year (Master of Divinity (M.Div.)) upon the completion of the B.Th. degree.

**First Year (U0) - Courses (30 credits)**

Courses are to be selected in consultation with the student's program adviser for students admitted from high school into U0.

**Required Courses (9 credits)**

PHIL 200*	(3)	Introduction to Philosophy 1
PHIL 201*	(3)	Introduction to Philosophy 2
RELG 203	(3)	Bible and Western Culture
RELG 207	(3)	The Study of World Religions 1

\* Students may select either PHIL 200 or PHIL 201.

**Complementary Courses (21 credits)**

3 credits in History and Classical Studies at the 200 or 300 level

3 credits in Catholic Studies, Jewish Studies, or Islamic Studies at the 200 or 300 level

6 credits in languages (ancient or modern), literature (other than biblical), Art History, or Music at the 200 or 300 level

9 credits to be determined in consultation with the B.Th. program adviser

Note: All courses at the 300 level require Faculty approval.

**Year 1 (U1) - Required Courses (12 credits)**

Students admitted to U1 on the basis of a Quebec Diploma of Collegial Studies (DEC) will normally take the following required courses in their first year.

By permission of the B.Th. Committee, students may substitute courses for any of the required courses if they have already taken them or similar courses for credit elsewhere.

RELG 204	(3)	Judaism, Christianity and Islam
RELG 210	(3)	Jesus of Nazareth
RELG 321	(3)	Western Intellectual Tradition
RELG 334	(3)	Christian Thought and Culture

**Year 1 (U1) - Complementary Courses (18 credits)**

3 credits selected from the following list (or another approved course in ethics):

PHIL 230	(3)	Introduction to Moral Philosophy 1
PHIL 240	(3)	Political Philosophy 1
RELG 371	(3)	Ethics of Violence/Non-Violence

RELG 376 (3) Religious Ethics

3 credits selected from the following list (or 3 credits in Political Science, Sociology, Psychology, or Philosophy and Western Religions):

RELG 331 (3) Religion and Globalization  
RELG 375 (3) Religion, Politics and Society

12 credits to be determined in consultation with the B.Th. program adviser

### Year 2 (U2) - Required Courses (24 credits)

Students entering the B.Th. as a second degree program would normally take 60 credits and begin with Year 2 (U2) courses. These students should verify with their program adviser regarding course substitutions if they have completed similar courses elsewhere.

RELG 302 (3) Literature of Ancient Israel 1  
RELG 303 (3) Literature of Ancient Israel 2  
RELG 311 (3) New Testament Studies 1  
RELG 312 (3) New Testament Studies 2  
RELG 322 (3) The Church in History 1  
RELG 323 (3) The Church in History 2  
RELG 333 (3) Principles of Christian Theology 1  
RELG 341 (3) Introduction: Philosophy of Religion

### Year 2 (U2) - Complementary Courses (6 credits)

To be chosen from among the 300- or 400-level courses offered in the B.Th. or B.A. Religious Studies programs (or RELG 280D1/RELG 280D2) in consultation with the B.Th. program adviser.

RELG 280D1 (3) Elementary New Testament Greek  
RELG 280D2 (3) Elementary New Testament Greek

### Year 3 (U3) - Required Courses (12 credits)

\* Note: RELG 420 may be replaced with another course if recommended by the program adviser.

RELG 420\* (3) Canadian Church History  
RELG 434 (3) Principles of Christian Theology 2  
RELG 470 (3) Theological Ethics  
RELG 479 (3) Christianity in Global Perspective

### Year 3 (U3) - Complementary Courses (18 credits)

18 credits selected as follows:

One 3-credit course in a religious tradition other than Christianity, such as the courses listed below.

Students who have previously completed a university-level course in world religions may replace this with another complementary course.

ISLA 380 (3) Islamic Philosophy and Theology  
RELG 252 (3) Hinduism and Buddhism  
RELG 253 (3) Religions of East Asia  
RELG 352 (3) Japanese Religions  
RELG 354 (3) Chinese Religions

9 credits, one 3-credit course in each of the following areas:

**Old Testament**

3 credits from:

RELG 407	(3)	The Writings
RELG 408	(3)	The Prophets

**New Testament**

3 credits from:

RELG 411	(3)	New Testament Exegesis
RELG 482	(3)	Exegesis of Greek New Testament

**Christian Theology**

3 credits from:

RELG 330	(3)	Reformed Theology
RELG 336	(3)	Contemporary Theological Issues
RELG 399	(3)	Christian Spirituality
RELG 423	(3)	Reformation Thought

6 credits, to be chosen from among the 300- or 400-level courses offered in the B.Th. or B.A. Religious Studies programs (or RELG 280D1/RELG 280D2) in consultation with the B.Th. program adviser.

**7.2.16 Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) - Honours Religious Studies (120 credits)**

Students who have achieved a CGPA of 3.30 at the end of B.Th. Year 2 (U2) may apply to the B.Th. Committee for permission to enter the Honours program. They will be required to complete the normal requirements for the B.Th. degree and the honours courses RELG 494 and RELG 495 in the B.Th. Year 3 (U3) with a grade of B or better.

**Year 3 (U3) - Required Courses - Honours (6 credits)**

RELG 494	(3)	B.Th. Honours Seminar 1
RELG 495	(3)	B.Th. Honours Seminar 2

---

**7.3 Master of Divinity (M.Div.)**

The Master of Divinity (M.Div.) degree is offered by the Colleges affiliated with the Faculty of Religious Studies through the Montreal School of Theology. Students who have completed a first degree prior to the B.Th. with a minimum CGPA of 2.7 are eligible to apply the B.Th. degree toward the Master of Divinity (M.Div.) degree conferred by the Theological Colleges.

The Master of Divinity Program is divided into two years of foundational studies at McGill's Faculty of Religious Studies (i.e., the Bachelor of Theology degree) and a year of professional studies, known as the "In-Ministry Year," offered jointly by the three affiliated theological Colleges under the auspices of the Montreal School of Theology. The program is supervised by the Academic Committee of the Montreal School of Theology, on which all three Colleges and McGill's Faculty of Religious Studies are represented.

Students from the affiliated colleges may be eligible for bursary assistance if they are properly registered candidates for the ministry. Information about church requirements and the professional year should be sought from the principals of the appropriate colleges.

One biblical language, usually Greek, is required by some of the colleges. Ministerial candidates should consult with the College advisers regarding biblical language requirements.

Prospective candidates for ordination with a B.A. Honours or Major in Religious Studies and a CGPA of 3.3 (B+) may apply for the Master of Sacred Theology (S.T.M.) degree upon completion of the professional In-Ministry Year (IMY).



**Applicants for the M.Div. program** must apply to the McGill B.Th. program, as well as to one of the Theological Colleges. College application forms should be requested from the Colleges themselves.

The Montreal School of Theology  
(formerly the Joint Board of Theological Colleges)  
École théologique de Montréal (affiliée à l'Université McGill)  
3475 University Street  
Montreal QC H3A 2A8

Montreal Diocesan Theological College  
Séminaire Diocésain de Montréal  
3475 University Street  
Montreal QC H3A 2A8

The Presbyterian College  
Le Collège Presbytérien  
3495 University Street  
Montreal QC H3A 2A8

The United Theological College  
Le séminaire Uni  
3521 University Street  
Montreal QC H3A 2A9

