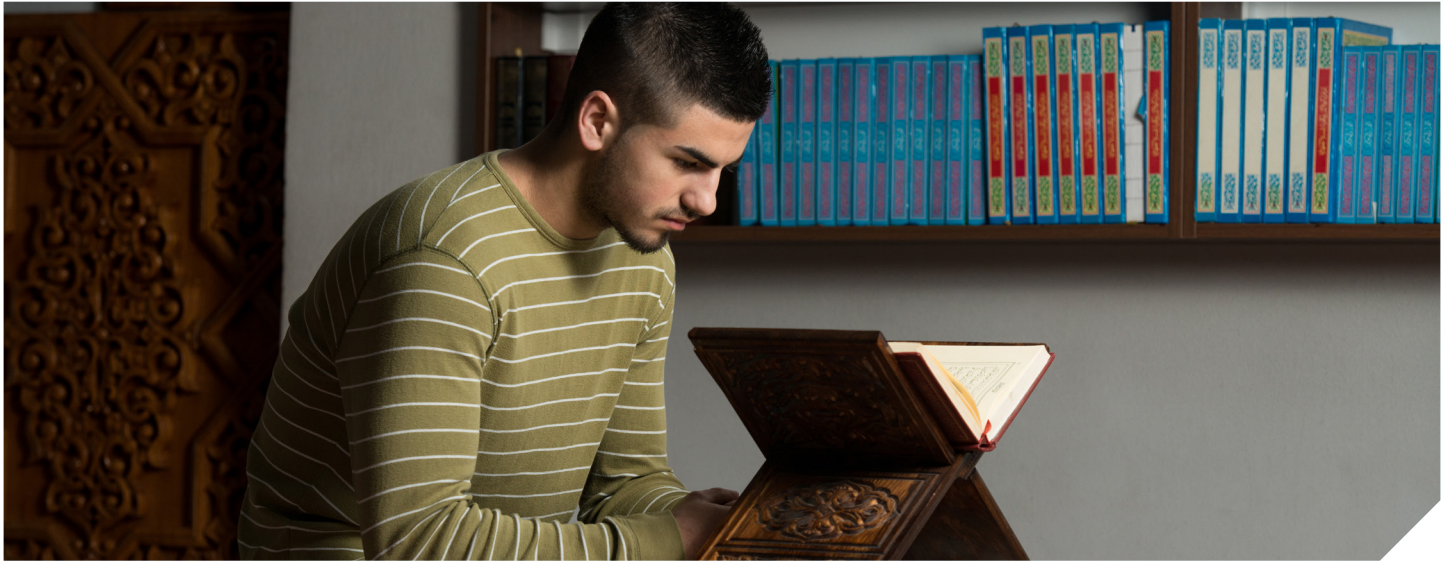


Religious Studies BA (Hons)*

UCAS Code: RES1 | Duration: 3 years | Full-time | Hope Park | 2025/2026



Course Overview

This course leads you into a profound exploration of spirituality, wisdom, and mysticism across major religious traditions - Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, and Buddhism - while emphasising lived religious experiences and the search for meaning. But it also takes you beyond the traditional religious and philosophical perspectives. You'll examine contemporary spiritual identities, ethical and theological questions on life, death, gender, suffering, and pressing global issues like radicalisation, ecology, and interfaith dialogue.

You'll engage with historical sacred spaces, exploring their continued relevance in an age of technology and climate crisis. The course also tackles how our beliefs shape our treatment of the planet and all life forms. In a world saturated with diverse worldviews, you'll investigate how people negotiate faith, philosophy, and media, critically engaging with Western and non-Western perspectives. Questions like "Does scientism limit human understanding?" and "Is Western secularism inherently colonialist?" will challenge you to rethink assumptions about spirituality and global citizenship.

By studying ancient wisdom, modern spiritual movements, and philosophical debates, you'll develop a nuanced understanding of how people form and reform their worldviews—gaining essential insights for navigating today's pluralistic world.

Entry Requirements

This course follows the standard University entry requirements. Please see the website for further information.

**Subject to validation*

Fees and Additional Costs

The tuition fees for 2025/2026 are £9,535 for full-time undergraduate courses.

On top of your tuition fees, you also need around £250 to purchase key textbooks throughout your Degree.

You will also need to consider the cost of your accommodation each year whilst you study at university.

Visit our accommodation webpages for further details about our Halls of Residence: www.hope.ac.uk/halls

Applicants will need access to a computer if course delivery is switched to online. The University has a laptop lending service if remote study is necessary.



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Religious Studies Curriculum

Year One

The first year lays the foundations for your studies by introducing you to some of the key ideas of the course:

- Spirituality and Religious Experience
- African and Indic Religions
- Sacred Texts in Abrahamic Religions
- Sacred Space and Time (Sacred Spaces, pilgrimage, the environment, death and the afterlife)
- Introducing Worldviews
- Challenging Eurocentrism
- Modernity and Post-Modernity: The Secular and the Post-Secular
- Globalisation, Decolonization and 'Global Ethics'
- The World in One City: Liverpool and Its Peoples.

Year Two

In the second year you on the one hand take a closer focus on the human dimension of theology, religion and spirituality, and on the other, the global dimension of the course becomes even more prominent:

- Challenging Traditions and Authority
- Mysticism & Religious Experience
- Religious Ethics and Spirituality

- Religious Philosophies (aspects of Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism, and others)
- God, Christ and Humanity
- Islamic Law and Society
- Religion and Disability
- Ecology, Hope and Conflict
- The World in One City: Istanbul as a Case Study.

Year Three

The third year allows for an in-depth study some of the most important issues at play today:

- Religious Fundamentalisms, including American Fundamentalisms, Radical Islam, radical Jewish religious Zionism, Russian nationalism and Orthodoxy
- Judaism in the Shadow of the Shoah
- Post/Modern Theology and the Darkness of God
- The Soul and the Absolute, including Advaita Vedanta, Kabbalah, Zen, among others
- Religion, Conflict and Reconciliation
- Interpreting the Bible for Our Times
- The World in One City: Jerusalem as a Case Study

COURSE STRUCTURE

Teaching on this degree is structured into lectures, where all students are taught together, seminars, which are smaller groups, and tutorials, which typically have no more than 10 students in the first year. You also have the opportunity to have one-to-one meetings with your tutor on a regular basis.

In your first year there are approximately 12 teaching hours each week, which reduces to approximately 10 teaching hours in your second and third years. On top of teaching hours, you are also expected to spend a number of hours studying independently each week, as well as group study to prepare for any group assessments you may have.

ASSESSMENT AND FEEDBACK

Throughout your three years of study, you will have a number of assessments, including essays, vivas (oral exams), textual analyses, written exams, fieldwork reports, case studies and portfolios. In your final year, you will complete a dissertation on a research topic of your choice.

You will receive your feedback via the University's Virtual Online Learning Environment (Moodle), and you are also welcome to discuss the feedback with your tutors.



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