

RELIGION & THEOLOGY PROGRAMS  
**CENSUS**  
"THE STUDY OF RELIGION COUNTS"

Dear Colleague,

Today we begin a research project—the Census of Religion and Theology Programs—that will have enormous import for our field. We need your participation!

The questionnaire, designed by leaders in the study of religion with assistance from the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago, seeks to capture critically needed data on the academic study of religion at the undergraduate level. By the “academic study of religion,” we mean all disciplined reflection in the areas of religious studies, theology, Bible and sacred texts—from both within and outside of communities of belief and practice.

The Census includes questions about the curriculum, faculty, and students of departments and programs in religion at fully accredited colleges and universities in the United States and Canada. This information is available only from you and your colleagues.

The questionnaire asks specifically about undergraduate programs. A future research effort will address graduate programs. Taken together, these two Census elements will provide a never-before-available data resource for all those interested in the future development of our field.

With the support of the Lilly Endowment and the endorsement of major societies in the study of religion, we can address effectively the need for accurate, reliable and useful information. We intend to collect data from every identified academic unit in which the study of religion is a central focus. Moreover, we will provide these data to you and your colleagues for your use in strategic decisions.

Please take time to complete the Census of Religion and Theology Programs and return it to NORC in the enclosed envelope as soon as possible. By participating, you will help your department as well as the field. **NORC will prepare for all respondents a customized report comparing your department or program with national data.** Your responses are strictly confidential. No data identifying individual institutions, departments or programs will be released.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation. With it, the Census will open yet another new chapter in the study of religion across North America. Your participation will ensure our success.

Yours,



Barbara DeConcini, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
American Academy of Religion

with . . .

Association of Theological Schools in the U.S. and Canada  
Auburn Center for the Study of Theological Education  
Canadian Corporation for Studies in Religion  
Canadian Society for the Study of Religion  
Council of Societies for the Study of Religion  
Fund for Theological Education  
Graduate Council for the Study of Religion  
Society of Biblical Literature

## Instructions for Completing Census Questionnaire

1. Please review the label on the back cover of this questionnaire. Use the "Information Supplied By" box to correct any information on the label.
2. In this questionnaire, all questions asking about your "department or program" refer to the study of religion within the academic unit printed on the first line of the label. When we ask about "the study of religion," we mean the term in an inclusive sense (**e.g. religious studies, theology, Bible and sacred texts**).
3. Please answer each question in sequence by marking the appropriate box and/or by printing the requested information in the space provided. The questionnaire will ask you for data on courses offered, student enrollments, and faculty. To help you provide the most accurate data possible, you may need to consult records such as course schedules and catalogs, student enrollment rosters and department budgets.
4. The reference period for the Census is the **1999-2000** academic year, by which we mean the academic year that spanned the summer term of 1999 through the spring term of 2000. Several questions ask for comparison data from the **1996-1997** academic year, by which we mean the academic year that spanned the summer term of 1996 through the spring term of 1997. If a question does not give a specific time reference, the assumed time reference is the 1999-2000 academic year.
5. Please mail the completed questionnaire to NORC within 14 days in the pre-addressed, pre-paid envelope provided. You may wish to retain a photocopy of your completed questionnaire. While your participation is voluntary, it is essential to the survey's success.

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**If you have any questions, please contact Lance Selfa, NORC Project Director, at 1-877-356-0548 or email NORC at [religioncensus@norcmail.uchicago.edu](mailto:religioncensus@norcmail.uchicago.edu).**

## General Information

**A1. Which of the following descriptions best characterizes your institution?**

(Mark (X) only one.)

- 1  Public
- 2  Private, non-sectarian
- 3  Catholic
- 4  Jewish
- 5  Protestant
- 6  Other religion

**A2. On what type of academic calendar does your institution operate?**

(Mark (X) only one.)

- 1  Semester
- 2  Quarter
- 3  Trimester
- 4  4-1-4
- 5  Other

**A3. Which of the following descriptions best characterizes your department or program?**

(Mark (X) only one.)

- 1  Free-standing department (e.g. "Department of Religious Studies")
- 2  Combined department (e.g. "Department of Religion and Philosophy")
- 3  Program that "borrows" faculty from a number of departments
- 4  Humanities or social science department or division
- 5  Research center

**A4. Does your institution. . .**

**Yes No**

- 1  2  **a.** Require that students take courses in religion in order to graduate?
- 1  2  **b.** Offer religion degrees in partnership with another institution?
- 1  2  **c.** Offer distance learning for religion courses?
- 1  2  **d.** Have a tenure system for full-time faculty?

**A5. Is the study of religion a central focus of your department or program?**

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**A6. Does your department or program offer an undergraduate major in religion?**

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**A7. Does your department or program offer an undergraduate minor in religion?**

- 1  Yes
- 2  No

**A8. What degrees in religion does your institution confer?**

(Mark (X) all that apply.)

- a.  Certificate
- b.  Associate of Arts
- c.  Bachelor's Degree
- d.  Master's Degree (e.g. M.A., M.Div, etc.)
- e.  Doctorate Degree (e.g., Ph.D., Th.D., D.Min, etc.)
- f.  Other

**A9. Does your department or program . . .**

(Mark (X) all that apply.)

**Yes No**

- 1  2  **a.** Have a mission statement?
- 1  2  **b.** Produce a program brochure or a brochure about the religion major?

**A10. In what year did your institution establish your department or program? (Please write in the year when your institution constituted the department or program you described in A3.)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Write in Year

**REMEMBER:**

When we ask about "the study of religion" we mean the term in an inclusive sense (e.g. **religious studies, theology, Bible and sacred texts**).

## Undergraduate Course Offerings

**B1. Mark (X) each area in which your department or program offered undergraduate courses in the 1999-2000 academic year.** (Then answer B2 through B4 for each area you marked.)

**B2. How many undergraduate courses were offered in this area in the 1999-2000 academic year?** (Write in the number. Please count multiple sections of the same course separately. Each course can be counted in only one area.)

**B3. Are any of these courses required for a major in your department or program?**

**B4. Do any of these courses fulfill a general education or distribution requirement at your institution?**

### Introductory Courses

			Yes	No	Yes	No
a. <input type="checkbox"/> General Introduction to Religion	a. _____	a. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	a. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
b. <input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to World Religions	b. _____	b. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	b. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
c. <input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to Bible	c. _____	c. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	c. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
d. <input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to Sacred Texts	d. _____	d. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	d. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
e. <input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to Eastern Religions	e. _____	e. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	e. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
f. <input type="checkbox"/> Introduction to Western Religions	f. _____	f. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	f. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>

### Traditions Courses

Christianity (include here all courses that deal exclusively or preponderantly with the Christian tradition)

g. <input type="checkbox"/> Old Testament	g. _____	g. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	g. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
h. <input type="checkbox"/> New Testament	h. _____	h. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	h. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
i. <input type="checkbox"/> Historical	i. _____	i. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	i. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
j. <input type="checkbox"/> Theological	j. _____	j. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	j. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>

(include courses on specifically Christian systematic thought, e.g., dogmatic, sacramental, constructive, feminist, etc.)

k. <input type="checkbox"/> Christian Ethics	k. _____	k. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	k. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
l. <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural	l. _____	l. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	l. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
m. <input type="checkbox"/> Buddhism	m. _____	m. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	m. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
n. <input type="checkbox"/> Confucianism/Taoism	n. _____	n. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	n. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
o. <input type="checkbox"/> Hinduism/Jainism/Sikhism	o. _____	o. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	o. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
p. <input type="checkbox"/> Indigenous Religions	p. _____	p. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	p. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
q. <input type="checkbox"/> Islam	q. _____	q. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	q. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
r. <input type="checkbox"/> Judaism	r. _____	r. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	r. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
s. <input type="checkbox"/> Comparative (two or more religions)	s. _____	s. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	s. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>

### Topics Courses

t. <input type="checkbox"/> American Religion	t. _____	t. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	t. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
u. <input type="checkbox"/> Arts, Literature and Religion	u. _____	u. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	u. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
v. <input type="checkbox"/> Ethics	v. _____	v. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	v. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
w. <input type="checkbox"/> Gender & Sexuality	w. _____	w. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	w. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
x. <input type="checkbox"/> New Religious Movements	x. _____	x. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	x. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
y. <input type="checkbox"/> Philosophy of Religion	y. _____	y. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	y. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
z. <input type="checkbox"/> Racial and Ethnic Studies in Religion	z. _____	z. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	z. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
aa. <input type="checkbox"/> Ritual and Performance Studies	aa. _____	aa. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	aa. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
bb. <input type="checkbox"/> Social Scientific Study of Religion	bb. _____	bb. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	bb. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
cc. <input type="checkbox"/> Women's Studies	cc. _____	cc. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	cc. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>
dd. <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe)	dd. _____	dd. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>		2 <input type="checkbox"/>	dd. 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Undergraduate Education

**C1.** How many undergraduate courses did your department or program offer in the 1999-2000 and 1996-1997 academic years? (Write in the numbers. Count multiple sections of the same course separately. The total number of courses reported at C1a should equal the sum of the courses listed at B2.)

a. \_\_\_\_\_ Number of undergraduate courses offered in 1999-2000

b. \_\_\_\_\_ Number of undergraduate courses offered in 1996-1997

**C2.** What was the total enrollment in your department's or program's undergraduate courses in the 1999-2000 and 1996-1997 academic years? (Please provide total enrollment of all sections of all courses. If none, enter "0".)

a. \_\_\_\_\_ Total enrollment in undergraduate courses in 1999-2000

b. \_\_\_\_\_ Total enrollment in undergraduate courses in 1996-1997

**C3.** Does your department or program offer or participate in any of the following program activities? (Mark (X) for all that apply)

- a.  Honors program for majors
- b.  Grant/scholarship/prize for majors
- c.  Internship or service learning program
- d.  Partnerships with primary or secondary schools
- e.  Associations or clubs for majors
- f.  Public lecture series
- g.  Visiting scholar program
- h.  Newsletter for alumni or other interested persons
- i.  World Wide Web site

k. \_\_\_\_\_  
Write in WWW address

**C4.** What is the total number of courses that an undergraduate major in religion must complete?

\_\_\_\_\_ Write in Number

**C5.** What percentage of the total course credit/credit hours your institution requires for graduation does the number of courses in C4 represent?

- 1  24% or less
- 2  25-49%
- 3  50%-74%
- 4  75% or greater

**C6.** In addition to coursework, which of the following do undergraduate majors in your department or program complete? (Mark (X) only one for each student work product.)

	Required	Optional	Not Applicable
a. Comprehensive examination	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
b. Thesis paper	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
c. Senior seminar or "capstone course"	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
d. Student portfolio	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>
e. Other (describe)	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>

**C7.** How many undergraduates majored in religion in the 1999-2000 and 1996-1997 academic years? (Write in the numbers. Count all undergraduates at the junior and senior levels who were declared majors in your department or program at the end of the fall term in the 1999-2000 and 1996-1997 academic years.)

a. \_\_\_\_\_ Undergraduates majoring in religion, 1999-2000

b. \_\_\_\_\_ Undergraduates majoring in religion, 1996-1997

**C8.** How many undergraduate majors in your department or program received a bachelor's degree from your institution in the 1999-2000 and 1996-1997 academic years? (Write in the number. If none, enter "0".)

**Majors receiving bachelor's degrees in 1999-2000:**

a. \_\_\_\_\_ Number of men

b. \_\_\_\_\_ Number of women

**Majors receiving bachelor's degrees in 1996-1997:**

c. \_\_\_\_\_ Number of men

d. \_\_\_\_\_ Number of women

## Faculty Profile

**D1-D2.** In the 1999-2000 academic year, how many positions (i.e. salary lines) did your department or program support?

(Write in numbers. If none, enter "0".)

	D1. Number of men	D2. Number of women
<b>Full-time positions</b>		
Tenured positions	a. _____	a. _____
Tenure track positions	b. _____	b. _____
Long-term contract positions	c. _____	c. _____
Terminal contract positions	d. _____	d. _____
Joint appointments	e. _____	e. _____

**Part-time positions** (Include lecturers, adjuncts, etc. Do not include your institution's graduate students or any persons counted on lines a to e.)

f. \_\_\_\_\_ f. \_\_\_\_\_

**D3.** In the 1999-2000 academic year, how many faculty members in your department or program held doctorate degrees?

(Write in number. If none, enter "0".)

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of faculty members in 1999-2000 holding doctorates

**D4.** In the 1999-2000 academic year, how many faculty members in your department or program held doctorates in fields other than religion, theology, Biblical studies or sacred texts?

(Write in number. If none, enter "0".)

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of faculty members in 1999-2000 holding non-religion doctorates

**D5-D6.** During the 1999-2000 academic year, how many full-time faculty members did your department or program have in each of the categories below?

(Write in numbers. If none, enter "0".)

	D5. Number of men	D6. Number of women
Professor	a. _____	a. _____
Associate professor	b. _____	b. _____
Assistant professor	c. _____	c. _____
Instructor/Other	d. _____	d. _____

**D7.** In the 1999-2000 academic year, how many courses were taught by faculty members who were paid at a per-course rate?

(Do not include courses taught by your institution's graduate students.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Write in Number

**D8.** What is the pay per course for part-time faculty?

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Write in Amount

**D9.** Are any of the following used in assessing the teaching performance of faculty at your institution? (Mark (X) for all that apply.)

- a.  Student evaluations
- b.  Student test scores
- c.  Student career placement
- d.  Other measures of student performance
- e.  Department/division chair evaluations
- f.  Dean evaluations
- h.  Peer evaluations
- i.  Self-evaluations

**D10-D11.** Since the 1996-1997 academic year, how many full-time faculty members in your department or program were reviewed for tenure and hired to tenure, to tenure-track, and to non-tenure track? (Write in numbers. If none, enter "0".)

	D10. Number of men	D11. Number of women
Full-time faculty members reviewed for tenure	a. _____	a. _____
Full-time faculty members hired to tenure	b. _____	b. _____
Full-time faculty members hired to tenure track	c. _____	c. _____
Full-time faculty members hired to non-tenure track	d. _____	d. _____

**D12-D13.** In the 1996-1997 academic year, how many positions (i.e. salary lines) did your department or program support?

(Write in numbers. If none, enter "0".)

	D12. Number of men	D13. Number of women
<b>Full-time positions</b>		
Tenured positions	a. _____	a. _____
Tenure track positions	b. _____	b. _____
Long-term contract positions	c. _____	c. _____
Terminal contract positions	d. _____	d. _____
Joint appointments	e. _____	e. _____

**Part-time positions** (Include lecturers, adjuncts, etc. Do not include your institution's graduate students or any persons counted on lines a to e.)

f. \_\_\_\_\_ f. \_\_\_\_\_

## Department/Program Resources

**E1.** In the 1999-2000 academic year, how much money did your institution appropriate to pay for your department's or program's total expenditures? (Mark (X) only one.)

- 1  Less than \$50,000
- 2  \$50,000-\$99,999
- 3  \$100,000-\$249,999
- 4  \$250,000-\$499,999
- 5  \$500,000-\$999,999
- 6  \$1 million-\$2 million
- 7  \$2 million or more

**E2.** Do the total expenditures reported at E1 include funding for any of the following?  
(Mark (X) all that apply.)

- a.  Faculty salaries
- b.  Clerical salaries
- c.  Office space
- d.  Office expenses (copying, telephone, postage)
- d.  Research funds
- e.  Support for travel
- f.  Teaching and research assistants

We'd like to hear your comments about this Census. Please email  
Dr. Edward R. Gray, Director, Academic Relations Program, American Academy of Religion at  
egray@aarweb.org or call 404-727-2270.

Thank you for your participation. Please return your completed questionnaire to:

**National Opinion Research Center**  
1155 East 60<sup>th</sup> Street  
Chicago, IL 60637



**RETURN  
TO**NORC  
1155 East 60<sup>th</sup> Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60637NATIONAL OPINION RESEARCH CENTER  
ACTING AS COLLECTING AGENT FOR  
AMERICAN ACADEMY OF RELIGION

In correspondence pertaining to this survey, please refer to the number at the top left of the address label. (Please correct any error in name, mailing address, and postal code below.)

**INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY**

*Please fill out all information requested.*

Name		Title				
Department or Program		Institution				
<b>OFFICIAL ADDRESS</b>	▶ Number and street or P.O. Box/Route number		City		State/Province	Postal Code
	▶ Area code	Number	Extension	▶ Area code		Number
<b>TELEPHONE</b>	▶		<b>FAX NUMBER</b>		▶	
<b>E-MAIL ADDRESS</b>	▶		<b>PROGRAM WEB SITE ADDRESS</b>		▶	