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
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.

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.
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.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. General Introduction to Religion</td>
<td>a. 1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Introduction to World Religions</td>
<td>b. 1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Introduction to Sacred Texts</td>
<td>c. 1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Introduction to Eastern Religions</td>
<td>d. 1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Introduction to Western Religions</td>
<td>e. 1</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. General Introduction to Religion</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Introduction to Western Religions</td>
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</table>

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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Yes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Introduction to Western Religions</td>
<td>e. 1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Introductory Courses**
- a. General Introduction to Religion
- b. Introduction to World Religions
- c. Introduction to Sacred Texts
- d. Introduction to Eastern Religions
- e. Introduction to Western Religions

**Traditions Courses**
- g. Old Testament
- h. New Testament
- i. Historical
- j. Theological
- k. Christian Ethics
- l. Cultural
- m. Buddhism
- n. Confucianism/Taoism
- o. Hinduism/Jainism/Sikhism
- p. Indigenous Religions
- q. Islam
- r. Judaism
- s. Comparative (two or more religions)

**Topics Courses**
- t. American Religion
- u. Arts, Literature and Religion
- v. Ethics
- w. Gender & Sexuality
- x. New Religious Movements
- y. Philosophy of Religion
- z. Racial and Ethnic Studies in Religion
- aa. Ritual and Performance Studies
- bb. Social Scientific Study of Religion
- cc. Women's Studies
- dd. Other (describe)

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>g. Old Testament</td>
<td>g. 1</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>h. New Testament</td>
<td>h. 1</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>i. Historical</td>
<td>i. 1</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>j. Theological</td>
<td>j. 1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k. Christian Ethics</td>
<td>k. 1</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>l. Cultural</td>
<td>l. 1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m. Buddhism</td>
<td>m. 1</td>
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<tr>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>o. Hinduism/Jainism/Sikhism</td>
<td>o. 1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>p. Indigenous Religions</td>
<td>p. 1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>q. Islam</td>
<td>q. 1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>r. Judaism</td>
<td>r. 1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>s. Comparative (two or more religions)</td>
<td>s. 1</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>s. Comparative (two or more religions)</td>
<td>s. 1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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”.)

Total enrollment in undergraduate courses
a. __________ in 1999-2000
b. __________ 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.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>Not Applicable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Comprehensive examination</td>
<td>1 □ 2 □ 3 □</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Thesis paper</td>
<td>1 □ 2 □ 3 □</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Senior seminar or “capstone course”</td>
<td>1 □ 2 □ 3 □</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Student portfolio</td>
<td>1 □ 2 □ 3 □</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. Other (describe)</td>
<td>1 □ 2 □ 3 □</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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”.)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>D1. Number of men</th>
<th>D2. Number of women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Full-time positions**
- 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”.)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>D5. Number of men</th>
<th>D6. Number of women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
- 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”.)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>D10. Number of men</th>
<th>D11. Number of women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
- 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”.)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>D12. Number of men</th>
<th>D13. Number of women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
- Full-time positions
  - 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)  
e. □ Research funds  
f. □ Support for travel  
g. □ 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 60th Street  
Chicago, IL 60637
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department or Program</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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<th>State/Province</th>
<th>Postal Code</th>
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<th>PROGRAM WEB SITE ADDRESS</th>
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<tbody>
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