A Dynamic Program with Dedicated Faculty

The **Doctoral Program in Religion** at Baylor University, now more than 50 years old, has made major strides in the past two decades. It has benefitted from an extended commitment to improve graduate education at Baylor, and the program now ranks high in national assessments, especially in the research productivity of its faculty and its graduate students. Baylor’s Doctoral Program in Religion offers competitive stipends and full tuition scholarships.

Program Options

The Department of Religion provides the context for a flourishing doctoral program with concentrations offered in Old Testament, New Testament, Historical Studies, and Theological Studies.

- **New Testament** and **Old Testament** scholars produce significant research and provide extensive mentoring in Biblical Studies.
- **Historical Studies** faculty focus upon significant figures, institutions, and movements in the history of the church, especially from the Reformation forward.
- **Theological Studies** faculty reflect upon the Christian tradition, with emphases in Early Christianity, contemporary theology, and theological ethics.

Outstanding Faculty

Baylor’s Graduate Faculty forms a distinctive community among American graduate education in Religion. Our faculty extends the Baylor tradition of great teaching and includes scholars listed among the nation’s top researchers. The faculty produces scholarship that helps the Department and the University garner recognition among the top universities in the land while maintaining and deepening our faith commitment to the church.

*See back for list of faculty*

Program Strengths

- Full tuition and stipend available
- Broad based teaching opportunities
- Support from the Department and the Graduate School for publication and presentation of research
- Faculty who take seriously the need to engage the academy and the church
- Faculty who publish in their discipline
- Small seminars
- Hands-on faculty interested in mentoring students
- Teaching colloquy in which doctoral students gain experience in teaching and instructional pedagogy

Contact

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RELIGION GRADUATE FACULTY & RESEARCH EXPERTISE

Old Testament

W.H. BELLINGER, JR.
Department Chair
PhD, University of Cambridge
Old Testament worship texts including Psalms, Leviticus, and prophetic texts as well as Old Testament Theology

JOEL BURNETT
PhD, Johns Hopkins University
Ancient Near East; history of Israelite religion; the book of Psalms; biblical Elohim; the history and religion of Iron Age Transjordan; divine presence and absence in the Hebrew Bible

DEIRDRÉ FULTON
PhD, Pennsylvania State University
Exilic and Post-Exilic literature, specifically Chronicles, Ezra, and Nehemiah; Levantine archaeology, specifically issues connected to diet, economy, and sacrifice (Zooarchaeology)

JAMES NOGALSKI
Director of Graduate Studies
ThD, University of Zürich
Book of the Twelve (Minor Prophets); prophetic books; exegetical methodology (especially redaction criticism and form criticism)

New Testament

BEVERLY ROBERTS GAVENTA
PhD, Duke University

KELLY IVERSON
PhD, The Catholic University of America
Dynamics of biblical interpretation, including narrative and performance criticisms; orality studies; Gospels of Matthew and Mark

BRUCE LONGENECKER
PhD, University of Durham, England
Jesus-devotion in the Vesuvian towns (Pompeii and Herculaneum); Early Christianity in its Greco-Roman context; Pauline theology and chronology; early Christian care for the needy; the first urban Christians

LIDIJA NOVAKOVIC
PhD, Princeton Theological Seminary
Gospels of Matthew and John; the Old Testament in the New; the Dead Sea Scrolls and other Jewish writings from the Second Temple period; resurrection belief in Judaism and Christianity

MIKEAL PARSONS
PhD, Southern Seminary
New Testament Gospels and Acts; ancient rhetoric and literary criticism

Historical Studies

WILLIAM L. PITS, JR.
PhD, Vanderbilt University
The history of American Christianity; Social Gospel; Seventeenth Century English Religious Dissent

DOUG WEAVER
Director of Undergraduate Studies
PhD, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
Baptist History; Pentecostalism

David Whitford
PhD, Boston University
The social, cultural, and political impact of the European Reformation of the sixteenth century; history of the Bible and its interpretation

Theological Studies

NATALIE CARNES
PhD, Duke University
Systematic, feminist, and patristic theology; Christology; theological anthropology, knowledge, and aesthetics; images; iconoclasm; childhood

BARRY HARVEY
PhD, Duke University
Systematic, philosophical, ecumenical, and ressourcement theology; Dietrich Bonhoeffer; Herbert McCabe

PAUL MARTENS
PhD, University of Notre Dame
Christian ethics; Søren Kierkegaard; Anabaptist theology and ethics; issues surrounding Christian articulations of pacifism and just war

JONATHAN TRAN
PhD, Duke University
Theological ethics; linguistic philosophy; political, race, and critical theory; bioethics

D.H. WILLIAMS
PhD, University of Toronto
Early Christian literature; ancient Greek and Roman religions; fourth century Trinitarian controversies; tradition and scripture in the Church’s history; orthodoxy and heresy in Christian antiquity; beginning of Syriac Christianity (“Nestorianism”)

RALPH WOOD
PhD, University of Chicago
Theology and literature, mainly 19th and 20th centuries, especially Karl Barth, Henri de Lubac, Flannery O’Connor, J.R.R. Tolkien, G. K. Chesterton, C.S. Lewis, and Walker Percy