

Religion & Global Futures

Universität Bayreuth
Master of Arts



General

Exploring Religion's Impact on Global Challenges

Are you interested in learning about contemporary religion from a global perspective? Are you looking for a programme that will help you to understand important issues concerning our shared futures? Our Master's programme in Religion and Global Futures equips you with the skills to engage with these matters in an international and supportive learning environment.

Essentials at a glance

Faculty: Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences

Final degree: Master of Arts (M.A.)

Start of Studies: Winter semester

Standard period of study: 4 semesters

Language of instruction: English

Admission Requirements: Language proficiency: English B2, German A1



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Contact

General questions about the programme

Mail: religion.futures@uni-bayreuth.de

Programme Coordinators:

[Prof. Dr. Benjamin Kirby](#)

[Prof. Dr. Paula Schrode](#)

[Prof. Dr. Eva Spies](#)

Content

Profile and Content of the Study Programme

The Master of Arts programme "Religion and Global Futures" will equip you with knowledge and skills that enable you to understand contemporary and emerging forms of religion, both from a global perspective and in relation to questions of global futures. You will receive support in cultivating research and critical thinking skills. These skills are essential for understanding some of the most prominent global issues of our time concerning our shared futures. The programme explores how religion is implicated in issues of climate change, resource scarcity, pandemics, social discrimination and inequality, international conflict and terrorism, neo-imperialism, poverty, (ethno)nationalism, migration and social cohesion.

As a graduate of this programme, you will be equipped with the knowledge and skills to work in various fields which address these and similar challenges. In addition to drawing on valuable insights and skills offered by the Study of Religion, the programme also allows you to develop interdisciplinary knowledge by engaging with other fields of research at University of Bayreuth, including sustainability, political science, economic history, global nutrition and public health, anthropology, sociology, Islamic studies, and African studies. Our programme is informed by innovative research in the Study of Religion and adjacent fields which foregrounds dynamics of plurality and relationality. You will not only have opportunities to develop basic knowledge of specific religious traditions and geographic regions, but also to examine translocal movements, encounters, and interdependencies between different religious groups and traditions.

Prospects

Career prospects

This programme will equip you with specialised knowledge and transferrable skills that are attractive to a wide range of employers in various professional sectors. Examples include:

- Transnational institutions in sectors that have a distinctively global focus (e.g., international development, diplomacy and international relations, global security and intelligence, international media)
- Societies or institutions that engage with religiously diverse clients and communities (e.g., charities and NGOs, marketing and public relations, market research, leisure and travel, civil service and public sector, social advocacy and political lobbying, health and social care, teaching and education)
- Companies and organisations that generate output which is directly concerned with religious matters (e.g., public policy, media and journalism, security and intelligence, culture and heritage)

Application

Notes on application and enrollment

Application period

for German and EU citizens:

1 March to 15 October for winter semester

for non EU citizens:

1 March to 15 July for winter semester

Application guide

Individual information on the application process (documents, deadlines, link to the application portal)

[click here for German version](#)

Admission requirements

Qualification: A bachelor's degree programme with a total of 180 ECTS points in Study of Religion and/or other cultural and/or social sciences (e.g. Islamic Studies, African Studies, Social and Cultural Anthropology, Sociology, History, Political Science) with a total of at least 30 ECTS points in Study of Religion and/or Cultural and/or Social Sciences, or an equivalent degree with a minimum of 2.5 (or better) on the German grading scale or the international equivalent.

Admission Restrictions /Application: All applicants must submit a cover letter comprising a maximum of 2 pages where they explain why they consider themselves well-suited for the M. A. programme Religion and Global Futures. For example, previous main areas of study, experience abroad, internships, etc. can be mentioned here, as well as reasonable interest in the methodological and theoretical approaches of social/cultural studies of religion. Furthermore, initial ideas for an own research project can be outlined here, which is to be realised during the the Master's programme.

Language proficiency: [English B2](#), [German A1](#)

Kulturwissenschaften

Theologie