Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin

BA Religion

Undergraduate Handbook
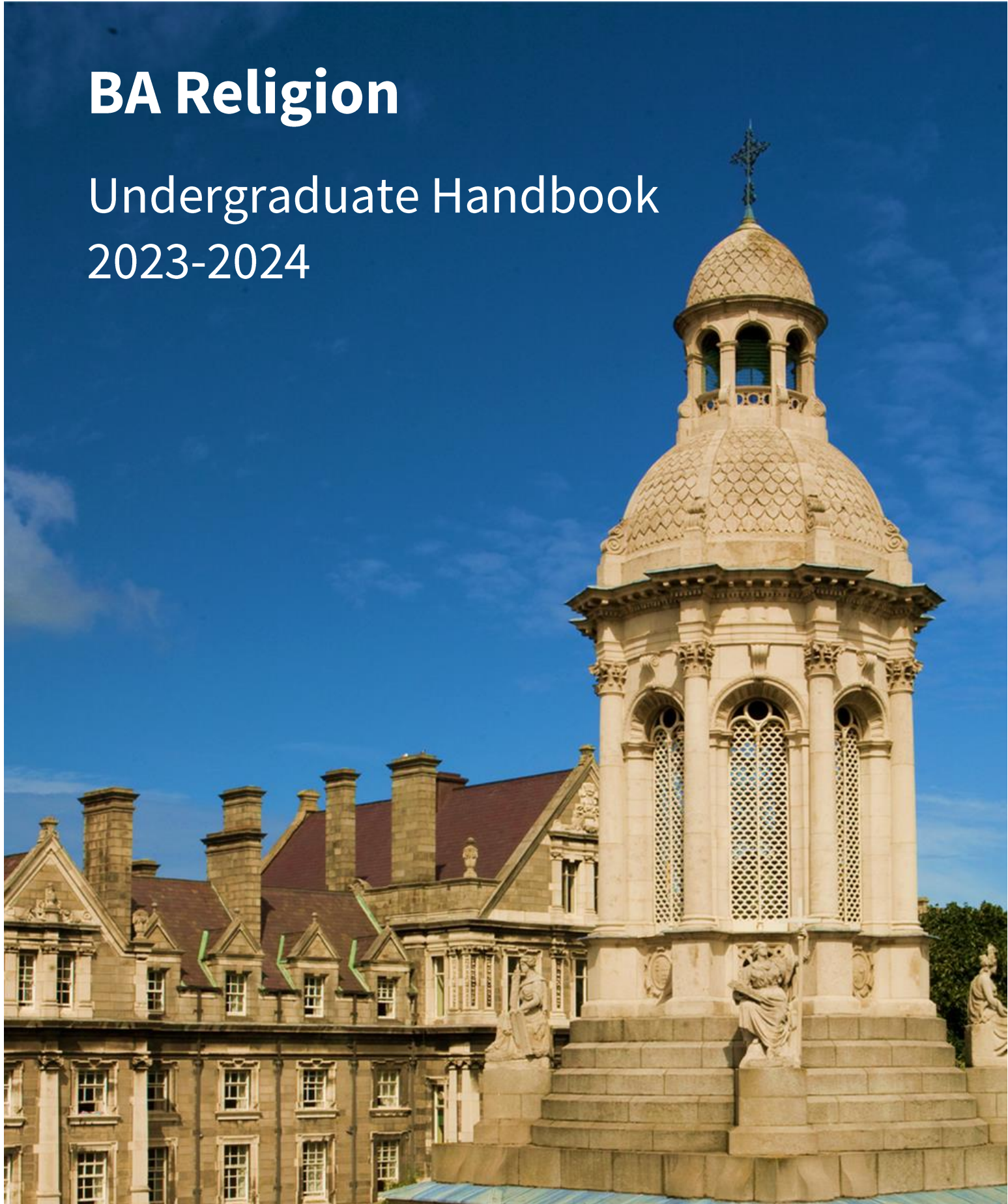## 2023-2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the [School of Religion, Theology, and Peace Studies](#) where we continue a tradition of scholarship that goes back to the very foundation of Trinity College Dublin.

The School of Religion, Theology, and Peace Studies is one of the twelve Schools that comprise Trinity College's Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. It brings together biblical studies, theology, ethics, theory of religion, and international conflict and peace studies as independent but related disciplinary fields.

The School's undergraduate and postgraduate courses explore encounters between religions and cultures from their roots in antiquity to the present day. They investigate the intellectual and institutional resources developed in historical and current interactions and conflicts and apply them to the challenges and the opportunities societies face in an age of globalisation.

The School has a strong commitment to community engagement, has campuses in Belfast and Dublin and is home to the [Loyola Institute](#), the [Trinity Centre for Biblical Studies,](#) and the [Irish School of Ecumenics](#).

The School of Religion, Theology, and Peace Studies is a champion for the Trinity Inclusive Curriculum project which we integrate into our work in the School. Please note the following:

1.1 Statement of Inclusivity

Trinity College, the University of Dublin aims to provide an inclusive environment which promotes equality, and values diversity. The College is committed to maintaining an environment of dignity and respect where all staff and students can develop to their full potential. The concept of equality is central to the College's ethos of academic and service excellence. The School of Religion, Theology, and Peace Studies strives to be an inclusive learning community, respecting those of differing backgrounds and beliefs. As a community, we aim to be respectful to all in this class, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, or sexual orientation.

1.2 Pronouns

Our School affirms people of all gender expressions and gender identities. If you prefer to be called a different name than what is on a class roster, please let teaching staff know. Feel free to correct us on your gender pronoun if you feel comfortable doing so. You may also wish to consult Trinity's Gender Identity and Gender Expression Policy 2019.

This Handbook summarizes and supplements the regulations that are contained in the University Calendar. However, in the event of any conflict or inconsistency between the general regulations, Part II, published in the University Calendar and information contained in programme or local handbooks, the provisions of the General Regulations in the Calendar will prevail. Academic and administrative staff are available to explain most of these requirements, and to answer any queries that you may have about procedures and regulations.

An electronic copy of this Handbook will be available on the School of Religion, Theology, and Peace Studies website, Current Students page and via Blackboard. The following link will also be helpful re the College Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) and Guides and Support for Blackboard and Related Learning Technologies . A hard copy of this Handbook in large print is available in the School Undergraduate Administration office. Alternative formats of the Handbook can be provided on request. There may be some modification during the year to the procedures and regulations outlined below; these will be brought to your attention as they arise.

Please note:

- Familiarise yourself with College's regulations for undergraduate students. These are available in the Calendar, Undergraduate Studies, Part II.

- Your *@tcd.ie* email account is the **only** e-mail address used for official College business. Consult this email account regularly.

- Your personal data is kept in accordance with the Student Data Policy.

- College regulations require that you remain resident in the Republic of Ireland during your studies. Absence for a substantial period in either of the teaching terms is not permitted. Research abroad is permitted only with the approval of your Course Coordinator.

2. GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

2.1 About the School

Our School is in the Religion, Theology, and Peace Studies (RTPS) Building (Old Physiology Building), Trinity East campus. All academic staff have their offices in the building, and the School Undergraduate Administration Office is also located there on the Ground Floor, Room G0.03. [Find us on the map](#).

2.2 Contact Details

The coordinator of the Religion programme (Single Honours and Joint Honours) is Prof. Zohar Hadromi-Allouche. She can be contacted at the School of Religion, Theology, and Peace Studies, Room 2.19, and/or by email at hadromiz@tcd.ie.

The Undergraduate Programmes in the School of Religion, Theology, and Peace Studies are administered by Ms. Débora Lima, the Undergraduate Executive Officer, who can be contacted at the School's Undergraduate Office: Room G0.03, RTPS Building and/or by e-mail at srundergrad@tcd.ie.

2.2.1 Staff

Staff Name	Role/Title	Contacts
Wylie, Dr Gillian	Head of School; Associate Professor in International Peace Studies	wylieg@tcd.ie +353 (0)1 896 4788
Humphreys, Mr. Martin	School Manager	srschmgr@tcd.ie +353 (0)1 896 4778
Lima, Ms Débora	Undergraduate Executive Officer	srundergrad@tcd.ie +353 (0)1 896 4789
Kirwan, Dr Michael	Director of Undergraduate Teaching and Learning (Sem 1); Director of the Loyola Institute; Assistant Professor in Catholic Theology	kirwanm6@tcd.ie +353 (0)1 896 4792
Erickson, Dr Jacob	Director of Undergraduate Teaching and Learning (Sem 2); Assistant Professor in Theological Ethics	ericksoj@tcd.ie +353 (0)1 896 4797

Staff Name	Role/Title	Contacts
Hadromi-Allouche, Dr Zohar	BA in Religion Programme Coordinator; Assistant Professor in Classical Islamic Religious Thought and Dialogue	hadromiz@tcd.ie +353 (0)1 896 4790
Chauhan, Dr Seema	Assistant Professor in Asian Religions	chauhase@tcd.ie +353 (0)1 896 1297
Garrigan, Dr Siobhán	Professor of Catholic Theology	garrigs@tcd.ie +353 (0)1 896 4794
Grieser, Dr Alexandra	Assistant Professor in the Theory of Religion	griesera@tcd.ie +353 (0)1 896 4714
Hogan, Dr Linda	Head of Discipline Religious Studies; Professor of Ecumenics	lhogan2@tcd.ie +353 (0)1 896 4787
Pevarello, Dr Daniele	Assistant Professor in Early Christianity	pevareld@tcd.ie +353 (0)1 896 4773
Pierce, Dr Andrew	Assistant Professor in Ecumenics	piercean@tcd.ie +353 (0)1 896 4782
Russell, Dr Cathriona	Chair of the School Research Ethics Committee; Assistant Professor in Theology and Ethics	russelc@tcd.ie +353 (0)1 896 4776
Ryan, Dr Fáinche	Assistant Professor in Systematic Theology	faryan@tcd.ie +353 (0) 1 896 4791
Wold, Dr Benjamin	Director of Research; Director of the Trinity Centre for Biblical Studies; Associate Professor in Ancient Judaism and Christianity	woldb@tcd.ie +353 (0)1 896 1375
Hargaden, Dr Kevin	Adjunct Assistant Professor	hargadek@tcd.ie
McGlynn, Dr Ciarán	Adjunct Assistant Professor	cmcglyn@tcd.ie
Morrison, Dr Neil	Adjunct Assistant Professor	nmorriso@tcd.ie
Nicoll, Dr David	Adjunct Assistant Professor	dnicoll@tcd.ie
Scally, Dr John	Adjunct Assistant Professor	jscally@tcd.ie
Staunton, Alyson	Adjunct Assistant Professor	srundergrad@tcd.ie
Thiessen, Dr Gesa	Adjunct Assistant Professor	thiesseg@tcd.ie
Wall, Dr Patrick	Adjunct Assistant Professor	pj.wall@tcd.ie

Please note that some Professors may not available due to Research Leave.

2.2.2 How to contact the School

Staff will communicate with you via your Trinity email address. You are expected to check this regularly and to read and act promptly upon all messages sent to you.

Academic Staff usually post 'Office Hours' on their door when they are available for consultation. The lecturers in the department are all approachable people who welcome the opportunity to meet their students. Simply make an appointment with the lecturer via e-mail or in case of emergency contact the Administration Office where a member of the Admin Team will be able to help.

Do not allow problems with a course or with your studies in general to build up. Meet with your College Tutor. Remember too that confidential help with personal problems is available for all students through the Student Counselling Service.

Please consult the Undergraduate Student Resources Handbook for more details of the supports that are available to you. Full details of all Student Support Services are available at the TCD Current Students website (link).

School and Programme notices will be posted in the Current Students page on the website, on specific modules in Blackboard and via your MyZone email account.

2.2.3 Opening Hours

RTPS Building: Access will be swiping card only and will be restricted to normal office hours i.e., standard 9.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m. Monday to Friday working day. The School will remain open on Monday, and Thursday evenings until 9.30 p.m. to accommodate the delivery of the School's Dublin based Evening Postgraduate programmes. Any changes to the opening and closing times will be notified by e-mail.

Please note students are not permitted to remain in the building outside normal office hours unless attending a lecture, seminar or event which has been scheduled by a staff member. Students who wish to avail of working in the school outside of Office Hours **must** request permission via their lecturer.

2.2.4 Use of School Spaces

Meeting Room (G0.15): This room is always kept locked. Pre-booking is mandatory in case students wish to use it for small group meetings. Please contact the Undergraduate officer at srundergrad@tcd.ie to book this room.

Reading Room: Students can avail the School Reading Room which is located on the first floor. Please note that the Reading Room is a **QUIET SPACE** for reading and studying. There are no pre-booked tables and use of same is on a 'first come, first served' basis. Only students from the RTPS programmes can use this room (BA Religion, Single / Joint Hons, Postgraduate).

School Classrooms: These must only to be used for classes and pre-booked events. Students are not allowed to use the classrooms to study / for meetings, unless previously authorised by the School Manager, Course Coordinator, or the DUTL.

2.2.5 Programme-Specific Reference / Sources - Locations

[School of Religion, Theology, and Peace Studies website – 'Current Student' page](#)

[Interactive College Map](#)

[Blackboard](#)

[Academic Registry](#)

2.3 Key Dates

The academic year is divided into two semesters. Each semester is of 12 weeks duration. Week 9 and Week 28 are designated as a Study/Review Week. Please note that in Michaelmas term 23-24 Junior Fresh (1st Year) students will begin term with Orientation in week 18–22 September 2023. Please refer to the current [Academic Year Structure](#).

Michaelmas Term (Semester 1): Teaching begins Monday 11 September (2nd to 4th Year Students) / 25 September 2023 (1st Year Students) and ends Friday 1st December 2023. Study/Review Week begins Monday 23 October 2023. Revision Week begins Monday 4 December 2023. Exams Period begin Monday 11 December 2024.

Hilary Term (Semester 2): Teaching begins Monday 22 January 2024 and ends Friday 12 April 2024. Study/Review Week begins Monday 4 March 2024. Revision Week begins Monday 15 April 2024. Exams Period begin Monday 29 April 2024.

2.4 Timetable

Your timetable will be available in your student portal at My TCD. You can also access it in the Current Students page on the School website.

2.5 Study Abroad/ERASMUS

2.5.1 Trinity Students Abroad: International Exchanges

Students can apply for the international exchanges that Trinity offers on a competitive basis to spend their JS year at a University in Canada, US, Australia, or Asia. Students undertaking an approved exchange are normally expected to achieve a minimum grade of second class (first division) in the Senior Fresh annual examination for a Junior Sophister exchange. Students who are required to take supplemental assessments may participate in the exchange at the discretion of the School.

2.5.2 Trinity Students Abroad: Erasmus

Under this scheme undergraduate students can spend their Junior Sophister Year (or part of it) studying at European universities outside Ireland with financial support from European funds. Students who expect to finish their Senior Fresh year with an II.1 mark are encouraged to apply. The Erasmus and international exchanges coordinator for outgoing students is Professor Zohar Hadromi-Allouche, hadromiz@tcd.ie.

Within the BA Honours in Religion (Single and Joint Honours) funded exchanges with European universities are:

The Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium

Our School has established both a student exchange and a teaching exchange with the Faculty of Theology and Religious Studies in Leuven. This represents a genuine opportunity for our students. It allows students to travel to the Continent and experience a different climate of studying theology without having to master a foreign language—the

lectures are conducted in English. Moreover, the Faculty of Theology in Leuven has a long-established, worldwide reputation. Major theologians from Erasmus to Gutiérrez have studied or worked there. The international English-language programmes of Theology attract students from all over the world. The Faculty employs almost 40 full-time members of staff, covering all major aspects of the theological and exegetical fields. The theology library is one of the finest in Europe, subscribing to more than 1,000 journals, with more than one million books on theology. Leuven itself is a beautiful medieval town in the heart of Europe.

University of Münster, Germany

[The Faculty of Protestant Theology at the University of Münster](#) is among the largest schools of its kind in Germany. It is currently comprised of twenty-eight academic degree programmes with five core disciplines: the Institute for New Testament Textual Research, the Institute for Ethics and Associated Social Sciences, the Delitz Institute for Jewish Studies, the Ecumenical Institute, the Seminar for Reformed Theology, and the Seminar for Religious Studies and Intercultural Theology. There are many opportunities in Münster to select your own unique academic focus (including antique cultures and Mediterranean studies). Visiting Students will enjoy a historic university city rich in historical and cultural importance.

> **Please Note: we are actively expanding our Erasmus links. Please contact Prof. Hadromi-Allouche about additional links that may be available later in the 2023-24 academic year.**

2.6   Scholarships and Prizes

2.6.1   Foundation Scholarships

Scholars are elected annually in various subjects on the result of an examination held in January. In one of the most colorful events of the academic year, the names of those elected are formally announced by the Provost from the steps of the Examination Hall on the Monday of Trinity Week.

Scholars are entitled to free Commons (meals in the Dining Hall) and free rooms in College. They also receive an allowance and are exempt from paying fees.

Candidates must give notice of their intention to take the scholarship examination on the prescribed form. For specific dates and information please visit the Foundation and Non-Foundation Scholarship page ([link](#)).

The traditional time to sit the scholarship examination is in the Senior Fresh Year. The objective of the Foundation Scholarship examinations is to identify students who, at a level of evaluation appropriate to the Senior Fresh year, can consistently demonstrate exceptional knowledge and understanding of their subjects. The examination requires candidates to demonstrate skill in synthesising and integrating knowledge across the full range of the set examination materials; to demonstrate rigorous and informed critical thought; and, in appropriate disciplines, to demonstrate an advanced ability to solve problems and apply knowledge. As such, the types of questions found in the scholarship examination differ from those found in the annual examinations. The format of the exams is available from the Calendar and further information is available from the course coordinator. A meeting for SF students interested is usually called at the beginning of Michaelmas Term.

For additional information please see [Calendar, Part II, Foundation and Non-Foundation Scholarships.](#)

2.6.2 RTPS Prizes

PRIZE	AWARD YEAR
Carson Biblical Prize	Junior Fresh
Church Formularies Prize and Ryan Prize	Senior Fresh
Bishop Forster's Divinity Premium	Senior Fresh
The 1983 Prize in Biblical Greek	Senior Fresh
George L. Huxley Prize in Patristics	Senior Fresh/ Junior Sophister
John A. Boland Memorial Prize	Junior Sophister
Lambert Prize	Junior Sophister
Newport White Prize	Junior Sophister

Wall Biblical Scholarships	Junior / Senior Sophister
Robert King Memorial Prize in Ecclesiastical History	Senior Sophister
Toplady Memorial Scripture Prize	Senior Sophister

For more details on the School of Religion, Theology, and Peace Studies prizes above, please refer to the Calendar, Part II, Prizes and other Awards (Religion prizes).

3. ACADEMIC WRITING

3.1 Plagiarism

It is clearly understood that all members of the academic community use and build on the work and ideas of others. It is commonly accepted also, however, that we build on the work and ideas of others in an open and explicit manner, and with due acknowledgement. Plagiarism is the act of presenting the work or ideas of others as one's own, without due acknowledgement. Plagiarism can arise from deliberate actions and also through careless thinking and/or methodology. The offence lies not in the attitude or intention of the perpetrator, but in the action and in its consequences. It is the responsibility of the author of any work to ensure that they do not commit plagiarism. Plagiarism is considered to be academically fraudulent, and an offence against academic integrity that is subject to the disciplinary procedures of the University.

Whenever you draw on another person's work, you are required to acknowledge your source. Failure to do so exposes you to the accusation of passing off someone else's work as your own. This is called 'plagiarism.' The University Calendar Part II states that this is "a major offence, and subject to the disciplinary procedures of the University". As your essays count towards your final mark, plagiarism in your essays is considered the equivalent of cheating in an examination, a major offence for which you may be expelled.

Plagiarism results from either deliberately using the work of another without proper acknowledgement, or from lack of care in acknowledgements. All quotations and paraphrases of other people's work must be properly referenced to avoid the charge of plagiarism. This includes the work of other students and internet sites. If you use another student's essay notes without acknowledgement, both you and the author of the notes might be charged with plagiarism. To properly reference material taken from an internet site, you should give the full URL of the page.

To ensure that you have a clear understanding of what plagiarism is, how Trinity deals with cases of plagiarism, and how to avoid it, you will find a repository of information on

the Library website re [Plagiarism](#). It is very important that you familiarise yourself with this information.

Please:

i. Visit the [online resources](#) to inform yourself about how Trinity deals with plagiarism, how you can avoid it, and [consequences](#). You should also familiarize yourself with the 2023-24 Calendar Part II entry on [plagiarism](#) located on this website and the sanctions which are applied.

ii. Complete the ['Ready, Steady, Write' online tutorial on plagiarism](#). **Completing the tutorial is compulsory for all students**.

iii. Contact your Course-Coordinator or your Lecturer if you are unsure about any aspect of plagiarism.

I have read and I understand the plagiarism provisions in the General Regulations of the [University Calendar, Part II](#) for the current year.

3.2 Referencing Guide

Most lecturers expect you to use the Chicago Referencing Style. For more detailed instructions and examples on how to quote, please refer to the [Chicago Manual of Style Citation Quick Guide.](#) For TCD information on referencing, please access the Library guides for Religion & Theology ([link](#)). Also, please discuss with your module coordinators their expectations re referencing.

3.3 Research Ethics

Trinity College Dublin and the School of Religion, Theology, and Peace Studies' research community takes great care to ensure that our research activities follow best ethical practice in their design, content, and conduct. Staff and students are required to follow College policies, maintain appropriate ethical standards in their research, and adhere to current data protection policies such as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Visit [Research Ethics](#) on the School website for details of procedures, forms, and deadlines. To review the College's full "Policy on Good Research Practice," follow [this link](#).

4. TEACHING AND LEARNING

4.1 Your Programme of Study – Programme Architecture

The Honours BA in Religion provides students with a broad introduction to the study of religion and discrete religious traditions in their multiple dimensions and manifestations. The programme is structured to facilitate both a broad-based study of religion **and** theology. Both the Single Honours and Joint Honours programmes support the attainment of the Graduate Attributes.

In each year of study students must complete 60 ECTS (60 credits). For additional information please review the 'Explore your Pathways' information.

There are two courses leading to the degree:

I.   Single Honours (SH) Moderatorship in Religion.

II.   Joint Honours (JH) in Religion combined with another Arts and Humanities Subject.

For **Single Honours students,** the 60 ECTS are made up of modules in Religion as well as Approved / Open modules and Trinity Elective Modules. Through choosing a **Single Honours** subject course, you will focus on one subject throughout your time in College. You will have the option to graduate with one of two awards. A Single Honours Award will allow you to specialise in your subject.
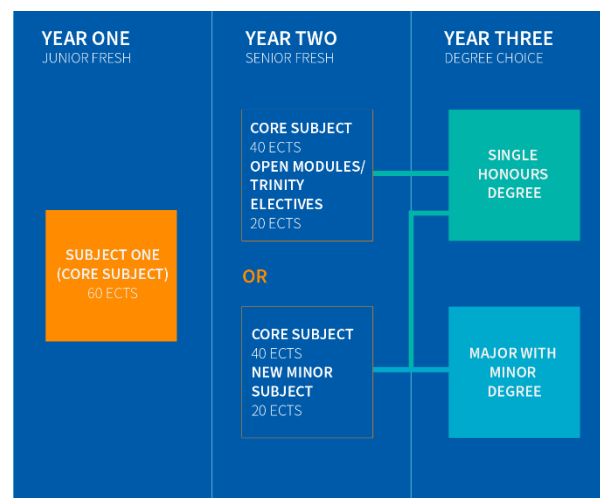
Table 1 - Single Honours

You may also take up a minor as a new subject from 2nd year and continue in both subjects to achieve a Major with Minor award. **See Table 1**.

For **Joint Honours students,** the 60 ECTS are made up from modules in Religion and your other subject, plus Approved / Open and Trinity Elective Modules. **Joint Honours** entry courses provide you with an opportunity to study two subjects to obtain an award in both subjects at graduation. You may also choose to concentrate more of your efforts on one of

the subjects, while continuing to study the second subject to achieve a Major with Minor award or you can specialise in just one of your subjects to obtain a Single Honours Award. **See Table 2**. Available pathways are subject to change and may be dependent to subject capacity.

The four years of the degree programme are known by the following titles:

Table 2 - Joint Honours

Year 1 **Junior Fresh (JF)**   Year 2 **Senior Fresh (SF)**

Year 3 **Junior Sophister (JS)**   Year 4 **Senior Sophister (SS)**

Students in JF (Year 1) of the Religion Programme will be invited during the Trinity term to register their interest for taking up a new subject in SF (Year 2). For additional information please review this link. Students will then be invited at a later date to register for other Year 2 modules, including Trinity Electives and Open Modules.
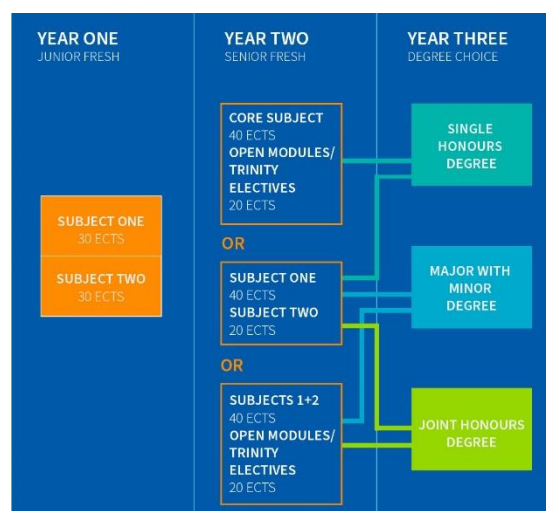
Students will be advised of how they will do this and where they will find relevant module information several weeks before they are invited to register. Timetabling may restrict the availability of modules to individual students.

Both the Single Honours and Joint Honours degree in Religion are recognised by the Department of Education and Science as leading to qualifications for the purpose of admission to the Register for Intermediate (Secondary) School Teachers.

4.1.1 List of Modules available in 2023-2024:

CODE	MODULE TITLE	ECTS
REU12101	Introducing the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible	5
REU12112	Introducing the New Testament: Texts and Contexts	5
REU12301	Introducing Theology: Key Questions	5
REU12312	Introducing Theology: Key Texts and Methods	5
REU12501	Ethics Matters: Global Questions, Ethical Responses	5
REU12522	Love and Justice: Intersections in Theology and Ethics	5

CODE	MODULE TITLE	ECTS
REU12701	Approaches to the Study of Religions	5
REU12712	Introduction to Philosophy	5
REU12724	Introducing Islam	5
REU12731	Jewish Thought and Practice	5
REU12741	Religions in the Ancient Mediterranean	5
REU12772	Introduction to Hinduism and Buddhism	5
REU22111	The Historical Jesus and the Gospels	5
REU22322	Medieval Theology: Women, Learning, Universities	5
REU22331	Christology: Jesus in History, Politics, and Love	5
REU22502	Creaturely Ethics: Humans and Other Animals	5
REU22512	Religion, Gender and Human Rights	5
REU22513	Digital Innovation to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals	5
REU22703	Religion Through Bollywood	5
REU23104	The Qur'an: Scripture, History and Literature	5
REU23122	From Invasion to Exile: The Ancient Histories of Israel and Judah	5
REU23301	Philosophical and Theological Approaches to God	5
REU23302	Cosmology, Religion and Science	5
REU23332	Book of Kells	5
REU23501	Ethics in Sport and Media	5
REU33113	Paul and Palestinian Judaism	5
REU33132	Words to the Wise: Israelite and Jewish Wisdom Literature	5
REU33301	Power and Politics: Liberation, Contextual and Post-Colonial Theologies	5
REU33322	Reformation and Enlightenment	5
REU33332	God and Human Freedom	5
REU33531	Theology and the Climate Crisis	5
REU33704	Christianity in the Cultures of Late Antiquity	5
REU33713	Life of Muhammad: Sources, Methods and Debates	5
REU33722	Religion, Media and the Public Sphere	5
REU33732	Hindu Mythology	5
REU44010	Dissertation	20
REU44124	Friendship in the New Testament	10
REU44501	Ethics and Politics	10
REU44711	Churches in Christianity: Origins, Transformations, and Contemporary Debate	10

CODE	MODULE TITLE	ECTS
REU44722	The Dead Sea Scrolls	10
REU44742	Ancient Indian Religions	10
REU44752	Between the Qur'an and Bible: Biblical Characters in Islamic Contexts	10

The School reserves the right to amend the list of available modules and to withdraw/ add modules. Timetabling may restrict the availability of modules to individual students.

4.2 Module Descriptors & Reading Lists

For the full list of descriptors and reading lists with ECTS weighting, learning outcomes and a clear statement on graduate attributes that are achieved within the programme, please consult the relevant module syllabus on Blackboard or with the module coordinator directly. All registered staff and students automatically have accounts in Blackboard.

The School of Religion, Theology, and Peace Studies reserves the right to alter module descriptors and/or assessments during the academic year.

4.3 Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the programme students should be able to:

- engage the study of religion and theology as fields of academic enquiry with a variety of methodological approaches.

- recognise and critically examine the varieties of religious traditions, and appreciate the internal diversity within those traditions, in their historical and contemporary manifestations.

- engage the various methods required for the study of religion and theology including textual, philological, linguistic, historical, philosophical, social, and cultural analysis.

- read and interpret religious and theological texts in their literary, religious, and socio-historical dimensions and contexts, attending to the complexities of reception and transmission, as well as to principal issues and trends in hermeneutics.

- engage in critical theological reflection on major systematic themes, with attention to historical contexts and denominational traditions.

- explore and analyse the ethical dimensions intrinsic to religion, with attention to resources for ethical discernment, reasoning and argumentation and traditions of moral enquiry.

- analyse some of the central dimensions and claims of a number of the world's major religious traditions.

- demonstrate knowledge of how religious and theological traditions correlate to articulations of particular faith communities in their historical, linguistic, cultural, and geographical contexts.

- engage in critical reflection on the history of the interactions of religious traditions in specific cultural contexts, including the role of ecumenical and inter-religious dialogue in these interactions.

- demonstrate knowledge of the fundamental concepts and methods of religious studies, and the study of some of the world's major religions, and

- demonstrate knowledge of aspects of the major religions in the world (Indic Religions, Judaism, Christianity, Islam) in their linguistic, historical, philological, cultural, material, and geographical expressions.

- demonstrate knowledge of the key aspects of theological analysis and reflection, including literary-historical analysis, biblical theology, history of Christianity and church history; systematic and dogmatic theology; theological ethics and pastoral theology and

- assess and critically engage the role of church and community in the articulation and development of theological reflection.

4.4 Coursework Requirements

The School of Religion, Theology, and Peace Studies modules combine continuous assessment with end of semester examinations. Continuous assessment takes many forms, and lecture/ seminar attendance is mandatory. Examinations take place at the end of each Semester.

Submission of Coursework is to be submitted according to the lecturer's requirements, by the date and time stated on the essay assignment. The essay should include detailed references (either in-text, or endnotes, or footnotes) and a bibliography laid out in alphabetical order. Your pages should be A4 size, numbered, and your typing double-

spaced. Correct spelling (consistently either English or American), grammar and clear presentation are essential.

An electronic copy of your essay must be submitted by the deadline through Turnitin via the College VLE (Blackboard) using your Trinity account username and password. If you are unclear as to how to do this, please talk to your lecturer.

4.4.1 Late Submission

If you submit your essay after the due date **without an approved extension**, it will still be accepted up to one week late with a loss of 10 points. It will not be accepted after the lapse of one week. This late submission policy does not apply to deadlines set for Reassessment Sessions. Remember that if you do not hand in your assignments, you also risk being returned as non-satisfactory for courses. If this happens over two terms, the department may ask for you to be barred from taking the examinations/ handing in coursework for Supplemental Session. Also remember that since the essays count towards your final mark your grades will suffer if you fail to submit them.

4.4.2 Extension Policy

If an extension is needed on an assessment during term, students may contact their Module Coordinator to make such a request. Module Coordinators are in their right to refuse such a request in line with policies around deadlines. Ultimately, Module Coordinators will determine the appropriate and reasonable deadline for their own module. In situations where requests for extensions occur near the end of term, Module Coordinators may need to liaise with the Course Coordinator to determine appropriate deadlines for marks entry.

Students seeking an extension or deferral on medical grounds should contact their College Tutor and Course Coordinator. The College Tutor and Course Coordinator will liaise with Module Coordinators to determine appropriate deadlines. A medical certificate will likely be required.

4.4.3 Deferral or Absence from Exams

Students requesting an absence, documenting an absence from, or requesting a deferral of coursework or examinations must do so through their College Tutor and Course Coordinator.

Absences from exam(s) must be appropriately evidenced:

- For illness: medical certificate must be submitted within three working days and specify that the student is unfit to sit exams and must cover the dates of relevant exams.
- For other grave causes: appropriate evidence must be submitted within three working days.

4.5 Capstone Project

The capstone project (Link to Capstone website)— though defined differently by different subjects — is the common element across all degree exit routes and is weighted at 20 ECTS. It requires a significant level of independent research by the student. It should be an integrative exercise that allows students to showcase skills and knowledge which they have developed across a range of subject areas and across their four years of study. It should result in the production of a significant piece of original work by the student. It should provide them with the opportunity to demonstrate their attainment of the four graduate attributes: to think independently, to communicate effectively, to develop continuously and to act responsibly.

All Senior Sophister students (Single Hons, Joint Hons students, and Religion Majors who choose to focus on Religion in their capstone) are required to write a dissertation of **15,000 words** (including footnotes, excluding bibliography). More details on the Capstone Project with the RTPS, please consult the relevant module syllabus on Blackboard.

Students should refer to School and College Policies and Procedures with regards to Research guidelines and ethical practices.

4.6 Marking Scale

All undergraduate programmes will be required to provide clear grade descriptors representing a pass. (Regulation 3: Progression Threshold: [Calendar, Part II, General Regulations and Information, Section II](#)).

Where the Institutional Marking Scale is employed, programmes may refer to the Calendar. Programmes where this scale is not in use, such as a number of those in the Faculty of Health Sciences, must include information on the School/Programme Marking scale.

First Class	I = over 70%
Second Class, First Division	II.1 = 60 - 69%
Second Class, Second Division	II.2 = 50 - 59%
Third Class	III = 40 - 49%
Fail	F1 = 30 - 39% F2 = less than 30%

The characteristics of work achieving these grades are as follows:

4.6.1 First Class (70% and above)

Indicates that the work is of excellent standard. The question/thesis will be addressed fully and clearly in a sustained and coherent argument. The work will show a wide range of relevant sources, which provide relevant support for the argument. The work will also show originality and an ability to integrate a wide range of material.

Overall	exceptionally/highly well-structured and informed; demonstrates striking personal insight and originality.
Understanding	thorough or even authoritative based upon wide reading; comprehensive understanding of relevant material; high degree of precision; independent and critical judgment.
Structure	excellent focus and structure; highly developed presentation and writing style; precision in use of style guidelines; contributes to a highly persuasive line of reasoning.
Sources & Research	extensive use of sources and engaged with high degree of insight; exceptionally effective use of evidence to support argument.

4.6.2   Second Class, First Division (60%-69%)

Indicates a clear understanding of the subject, a clear and relevant answer to the question, and shows a wider range of sources. The argument is coherent and logical, and there will be few, if any errors.

Overall	good understanding providing an answer informed by wide reading; reflects clarity of thought; demonstrates personal insight and originality.
Understanding	evidence of independent and critical judgment; discussion provides original insights; good understanding of relevant material; analytical and not only descriptive.
Structure	well-structured and focused; clear and fluent writing style; compelling argument.
Sources & Research	good range of sources used and applied; effective use of evidence to support argument.

4.6.3   Second Class, Second Division (50%-59%)

Indicates a familiarity with the subject and shows evidence of somewhat wider reading than work awarded a lower grade. There may be some errors in the work, but it presents some relevant ideas and examples.

Overall	Sound understanding; limited analysis.
Understanding	generally sound understanding or relevant material but limited range of depth; more descriptive than analytical.
Structure	generally clear presentation but weak in structure and development of argument.
Sources & Research	limited use of sources; attempts to support argument with relevant literature; occasionally awkward and unconvincing.

4.6.4   Third Class (40%-49%)

Indicates an attempt to answer the question. The work may omit key details, or lack support for the arguments presented, but includes some relevant details. Work awarded this grade typically draws on a narrow range of sources and may be based solely on lecture notes.

Overall	understanding is basic; analysis is limited.

Understanding	reflects a general knowledge but little detail; analytical thought is minimally demonstrated.
Structure	adequate presentation but unclear and disorganised.
Sources & Research	coverage of basic material is sparse; support of argument with relevant evidence is unsuccessful.

4.6.5   Fail 1 (30%- 39%)

Indicates that the work does not answer the question set, and/or contains minimal relevant information. The work may also be unstructured and incoherent.

Overall	incomplete and/or inaccurate work; unsystematic.
Understanding	poor understanding; significant inaccuracies; little to no analysis; lack of clarity.
Structure	argument is disorganized; general lack of coherency; fails to meet length requirement; poor use of style guidelines.
Sources & Research	minimal or inappropriate use of sources; evidence is not provided to support argument.

4.6.6   Fail 2 (0-29%)

Indicates the work has completely misunderstood the question or has made no attempt to use relevant material.

Overall	incomplete and/or inaccurate work; unsystematic.
Understanding	little or no knowledge demonstrated; little or no analysis; inaccurate and/or unclear.
Structure	disorganised and unclear; incoherent answer or non-discernible; unacceptably brief.
Sources & Research	inappropriate and/or inaccurate use of sources/literature; poor or no use of evidence to support argument.

4.7 Attendance Requirements

Attendance is **required** at all lectures, seminars, and tutorials unless you are specifically exempted (off books). If you are unable to attend a lecture for any reason, you must let your lecturer know, either in person or by sending a note or email to the lecturer. Unexplained and/or unwarranted non-attendance at more than six lecture hours per

module in any term will result in your performance being deemed non-satisfactory for that term. Being returned as non-satisfactory for two terms puts you at risk of being barred from exams in accordance with normal university regulations For further information, please refer to the [Calendar, Part II, Part B – General Regulations and Information, Section II](#) for College attendance/ extension regulations.

Where the student misses a considerable number of lectures, seminars, or tutorials, and it is still possible for the student to complete the module, additional reflective work (written, oral, etc.) may be required on the part of the student. Module Coordinators may address significant absences with students in ways unique and appropriate to a particular module.

4.8 Absence from Examinations

Undergraduate students who consider that illness may prevent them from attending an examination (or any part thereof) should consult their medical advisor and request a medical certificate for an appropriate period. If a certificate is granted Medical certificates should be given to the Undergraduate Admin. Officer, who will contact the Course Coordinator, within three days of the beginning of the period of absence from the examination. Such medical certificates must state that the student is unfit to sit examinations. Medical certificates will not be accepted in explanation for poor performance; where an examination has been completed, subsequent withdrawal is not permitted. Further details of procedures after the submission of medical certificates are available from student tutors. For further information please refer to: [Assessment: procedures for the non-submission of coursework and absence from examinations](#).

4.9 External Examiner

Your examinations, essays and dissertation are assessed, first in the School of Religion, Theology, and Peace Studies and then by the university's External Examiners. Assessments *pass* or *fail* on the final judgement of the External Examiners. External Examiners meet in May following the end of the academic year to monitor assessment procedures and outcomes in all modules and for the dissertation. Final marks are confirmed at the Court of Examiners. The internal examiner of your assessment (typically the module coordinator, or

lecturer for the topic) will provide you with a report on your work together with the grade that will be proposed to the Court of Examiners. If your mark is on the threshold between Pass and Fail, or between Distinction and less than 70, then a second internal examiner will mark your assessment. Your assessment report and mark will be distributed to you. All correspondence with External Examiners are compliant with **GDPR**.

External Examiners are Dr Karen O'Donnell, Director of Studies, and Lecturer in Worship & Human Community at Westcott House, University of Cambridge and Dr Meredith Warren, Senior Lecturer in Biblical and Religious Studies, Sheffield Centre for Interdisciplinary Biblical Studies & School of English, University of Sheffield.

4.10 Progression Regulations

In order to pass each year and progress to the following one you will need to pass modules totalling 60 credits (ECTS). In Junior and Senior Fresh years each year will be treated discretely. In the Sophister years (3 and 4) your degree award will be calculated on your final two years' results, weighted at 30% (Year 3) and 70% (year 4) respectively.

Progression will be on an annual basis. Students will be permitted to carry failed modules from semester to semester but not from year to year. Students will receive provisional results after Semester 1 assessment. The same progression regulations, including compensation, apply for assessments relating to Semesters 1 & 2 and to reassessment.

All modules and components of modules are compensatable. 10 ECTS may be accumulated at 'Qualified Pass' (i.e., marks between 35-39%). If a student has achieved both Fail and Qualified Pass grades in modules completed in semester 1 and semester 2, they will be required to present for reassessment in all failed components in all modules for which they obtained either a *fail* grade or Qualified Pass.

The reassessment session usually occurs at the end of August to coincide with the start of Semester 1 of the next academic year. There is an **automatic right** to reassessment for a student who has achieved a *fail* grade in any of their modules and is not eligible for compensation. However, students are not permitted to present for reassessment in any module for which they have achieved a pass grade, in order to improve their academic performance.

Students are not permitted to repeat any academic year more than once and may not repeat more than two academic years within a programme. The maximum number of years to complete an undergraduate degree is 6 years for a 4-year programme. Repetition of a year is in full, i.e., all modules and all assessment components.

Your academic record on your transcript will show clearly the time lost through repetition of a year. There is an option to repeat a year on an 'off-books' basis.

Students wishing to discuss their examination results should consult in the first instance their Course Coordinator.

For further information, please refer to the following links:

[Calendar, Part II, General Regulations & Information](#)

[Calendar, Part II, Part C – Specific Regulations](#)

[National Framework for Qualifications](#)

[Trinity Courses](#)

4.11 Awards

Degree Options available to students on the undergraduate programmes, e.g., Single Honours, Joint Honours, Major with Minor, or Multidisciplinary, where Exit Awards B.A. (Ord.) exists, this information must be included. A statement on the QQI – NFQ Level must be included.

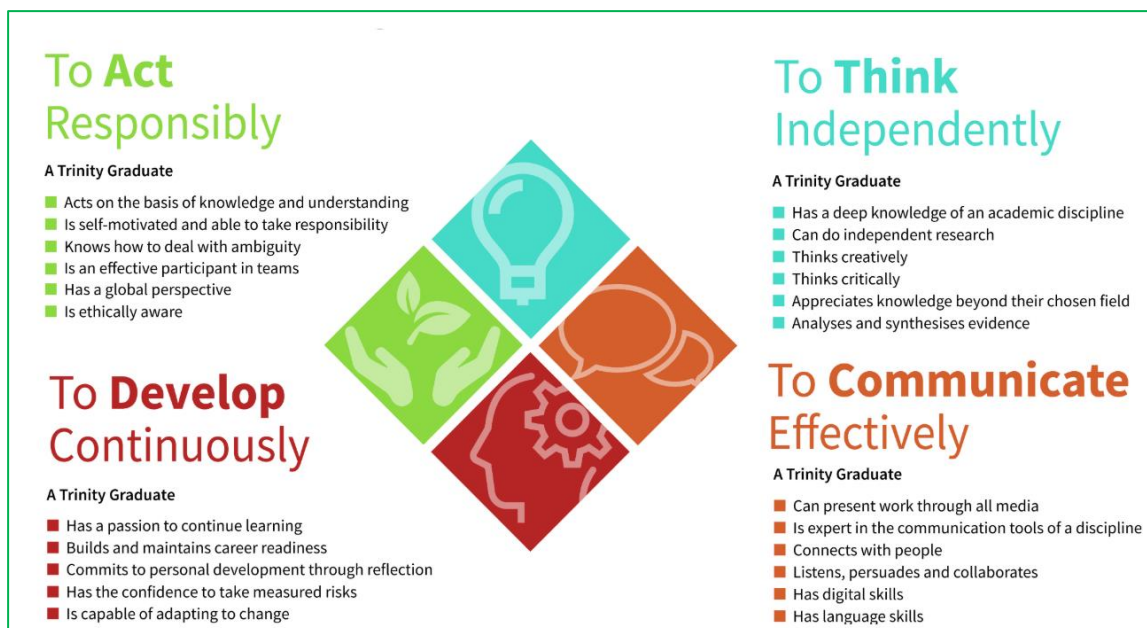**References/Sources:**

[National Framework for Qualifications](#)

[Trinity Pathways](#)

[Trinity Courses](#)

4.12 Graduate Attributes

A clear statement on the graduate attributes that are achieved within the programme / learning outcomes:

To **Act** Responsibly

A Trinity Graduate
- Acts on the basis of knowledge and understanding
- Is self-motivated and able to take responsibility
- Knows how to deal with ambiguity
- Is an effective participant in teams
- Has a global perspective
- Is ethically aware

To **Think** Independently

A Trinity Graduate
- Has a deep knowledge of an academic discipline
- Can do independent research
- Thinks creatively
- Thinks critically
- Appreciates knowledge beyond their chosen field
- Analyses and synthesises evidence

To **Develop** Continuously

A Trinity Graduate
- Has a passion to continue learning
- Builds and maintains career readiness
- Commits to personal development through reflection
- Has the confidence to take measured risks
- Is capable of adapting to change

To **Communicate** Effectively

A Trinity Graduate
- Can present work through all media
- Is expert in the communication tools of a discipline
- Connects with people
- Listens, persuades and collaborates
- Has digital skills
- Has language skills

4.13 Graduation

Following the Court of Examiners, the University's decision to award a degree must be processed and ratified at different committee levels, and you should not expect to be commenced (graduate) within less than two months of a Court decision.

Many students at the School aim to be commenced (attend graduation) in April, or June. The School hosts an alum gathering to coincide with one of the commencement dates, and this is an enjoyable opportunity to reconnect with classmates, teachers, and alumni. All queries about your Commencement, following the Court of Examiners, must be addressed to the Academic Registry. The Academic Registry will email students and contact them through their student portal, inviting you to register for Graduation. Please adhere to the acceptance deadline outlined in the email and respond before this date.

Please note you may not graduate until all outstanding fees and charges (including library charges) have been paid.

4.14 Student Feedback and Evaluation

Much of this Handbook is taken up with rules and procedural requirements. This is unavoidable if we are to ensure that the School of Religion, Theology, and Peace Studies courses are well-structured and that the degree you obtain is of real value. But the

experience of undergraduate study should be richer than the mere passing of assessment requirements and the School of Religion, Theology, and Peace Studies encourages you to participate in our continuing efforts to improve our procedures as the year advances and to make an evaluation of your experience at the end.

Your suggestions on every aspect of the programme will be invited throughout the year. At the end of each semester, you will be asked to complete an assessment of each of the modules that you have undertaken. The information that you supply is **invaluable** to staff in the further development of the School of Religion, Theology, and Peace Studies. You may also be asked to take part in an online survey conducted by the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. Please note that in any official survey you will remain **anonymous**, and your assessment of your experience in the School of Religion, Theology, and Peace Studies – whether positive, negative or both – is fed into a structured assessment of teaching and learning. Of course, you do not have to wait for these formal assessments to take place: staff are available at regular office hours (usually posted on their office doors at the start of the year) and they welcome your concerns and suggestions. Your class will also elect a class representative, who will be able to articulate your concerns through the appropriate channels. For additional information regarding this process, please access the Trinity College Quality Office website.

5. STUDENT SUPPORT & RESOURCES

For information regarding Student Resources, please access the TCD Support & Services page, or the School's UG Student Resources Handbook.