

Academic Regulations for the 60 and 30 Credit Modules in Scientific Study of Religion

Preamble

Based on Section 14, par. 1 no. 2 of the Partial Basic Regulations (Teilgrundordnung) (trial model [Erprobungsmodell]) of the Freie Universität dated 28 October 1998 (FU announcement 24/1998), the faculty council of the Faculty of History and Cultural Studies issued the following academic regulations for the 60 and 30 credit module degrees in the Scientific Study of Religion on XX XX 200X:

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§ 1 Area of Applicability

These regulations govern the goals, content and structure of the 60 and 30 credit module degrees in the Scientific Study of Religion, based on the examination regulations dated XX.XX.200X.

§ 2 Type of Instruction

(1) Lectures and introductions either give an overview of the subject area of the department and its methodological or theoretical basis or address a specific subject matter and its research problems. They will be taught predominantly in the form of lectures given by the instructors.

(2) Seminars serve primarily to discuss subject areas and to hone students' skills in independent academic work. Course work consists primarily of seminar discussions based on class material, readings of primary and secondary literature, essays or oral presentations and group work.

(3) Training serves to teach techniques in the humanities as well as to expand and deepen basic knowledge and methodological skills. Course work consists primarily of class discussions, lectures and textual interpretations.

§ 3 Module

(1) The successive courses offered here are arranged in units (modules) determined by their content, and as a rule comprise two types of instruction closely related to each other.

(2) Information on courses and qualification goals, types of instruction, the amount of time necessary to accomplish the course work, expected active participation, length, frequency of courses offered can be found in module descriptions in Appendix 1.

(3) For the recommended progress of the degree, please consult the study plan in Appendix 2.

Section 2: 60 Credit Module Degree in the Scientific Study of Religion

§ 4 Degree Objectives and Subjects

(1) The 60 credit module degree in the Scientific Study of Religion is meant to teach students the fundamental principals of the Scientific Study of Religion. The focus here is on the history of religions in the European, predominantly ancient Greek and Roman tradition, although other cultural traditions and non-European, non-scriptural and scripture-based religions will also be included. The institute's focus in the scientific study

of religion is based on academic reflection as well as a historical-anthropological and material-hermeneutic approach. In this context, students will critically deliberate the basic concepts, theories and methods, analyze and compare specific religious and cultural-historical developments and explore the trans-historical processes of transfer and transformation, especially in the cultural context of religious concepts and practices derived from antiquity. This includes mastering academic research methods, skills in critically analyzing original sources and research results, as well as the ability to present academic results objectively and in the appropriate academic style.

Students are to demonstrate the knowledge and abilities which qualify them for a job in various areas or for a continuation of their studies in the Master's program. Prospective areas of employment can be found in adult education, journalism, cultural management and academic administration, publishing, information brokering, work in museums and research institutes.

(2) Subjects and qualification goals of the module degree are:

- detailed knowledge on religious and cultural history of Graeco-roman antiquity and reception of antiquity, and/or of non-European regions, taking into account above all historical, but also geographical and thematic considerations ;
- comprehensive knowledge of religious and cultural history of monotheistic traditions and modernity, taking into account above all historical, but also geographical and thematic considerations;
- comprehensive knowledge of the relationship of religion to other areas, especially art and the media, culture and society;
- ability to reflect and analyze research positions considered to be relevant to the field
- further knowledge of the fundamental texts in the criticism of religion;
- ability to reflect and analyze the historical transfer and transformation processes in religion and culture, including the relations between religion and philosophy;
- thorough familiarity with areas of specialization in the scientific study of religion;
- methodological competence in the relevant historical academic developments in the research area

§ 5 Structure and Organization

A 60 degree module degree in the Scientific Study of Religion requires the successful completion of the following modules:

1. Introduction to the Scientific Study of Religion
2. Historical Module I
3. Historical Module II
4. Analytical Module
5. Historical-Analytical Module
6. Area of specialization and history of the subject

Section 3: 30 Credit Module Degree in the Scientific Study of Religion

§ 6 Degree Objectives and Subjects

(1) The 30 credit module degree in the Scientific Study of Religion is meant to teach students the fundamental principals in the scientific study of religion. The focus here is on the history of religions in the European, predominantly ancient Greek and Roman tradition, although other cultural traditions and non-European, non-scriptural and scripture-based religions will also be included. The institute's focus in the scientific study of religion is based on academic reflection as well as a historical-anthropological and material-hermeneutic approach. In this context, students will critically deliberate the basic concepts, theories and methods, analyze and compare specific religious and cultural-historical developments and explore the trans-historical processes of transfer and transformation, especially in the cultural context of religious concepts and practices derived from antiquity. This includes mastering academic research methods, skills in critically analyzing original sources and research results, as well as the ability to present academic results objectively and in the appropriate academic style.

Students are to demonstrate the knowledge and abilities which qualify them for a job in various areas or for a continuation of their studies in the Master's program. Prospective areas of employment can be found in adult education, journalism, cultural management and academic administration, publishing, information brokering, work in museums and research institutes.

(2) Subjects and qualification goals of the module degree are:

- exemplary knowledge on religious and cultural history of Graeco-roman antiquity and/or reception of antiquity, and of non-European regions, taking into account above all historical, but also geographical and thematic considerations ;
- exemplary knowledge of religious and cultural history of monotheistic traditions and modernity, taking into account above all historical, but also geographical and thematic considerations;
- exemplary knowledge of the relationship of religion to other areas, especially art and the media, culture and society;
- ability to reflect and analyze research positions considered to be relevant to the field
- further knowledge of the fundamental texts in the criticism of religion;
- ability to reflect and analyze the historical transfer and transformation processes in religion and culture, including the relations between religion and philosophy;
- thorough familiarity with areas of specialization in the scientific study of religion;
- methodological competence in the relevant historical academic developments in the research area

§ 7 Structure and Organization

(1) A 30 degree module degree in the Scientific Study of Religion requires the successful completion of the following modules:

1. Introduction to the Scientific Study of Religion
2. Historical Module I
3. Historical Module II
4. Analytical Module
5. Historical-Analytical Module
6. Area of specialization and history of the subject

Section 4: Final Provisions

§ 8 Coming into Effect of the Regulations and Transitional Regulations

(1) The regulations go into effect on 1 October 2009. At this time, the Academic Regulations for the 30 credit module degree in the Scientific Study of Religion dated 31 October 2007 (FU announcement 79/2007) will go out of force.

(2) Students who registered for the 30 credit module degree in the Scientific Study of Religion before the 2009/2010 winter semester will continue their studies according to the Examination and Academic Regulations for the 30 credit module degree of 31 October 2007, unless they apply to continue their studies based on the present Academic and Examination Regulations. This request can be made at the appropriate examination board. Based on the number of modules begun or completed at the time the application is made, the examination board will calculate these into the student's overall grade. This will proceed in accordance with the study regulations and the requirements set out by the protection of confidence and the non-discrimination precept. Transferring regulations is not reversible.

(3) It will be possible to complete the degree based on the Examination and Study Regulations of October 2007 for the 30 credit module in the Scientific Study of Religion until the end of the 2012/2013 winter semester.

For details contained in the appendices regarding module descriptions and an example of study plan, please consult the German version by clicking [here](#).