

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION (TUDOR)

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Master of Arts (MA) With a Focus on *Interreligious Dialogue*

Since 1966, Temple University (founded in 1884 by the pastor of the Baptist Temple, Russell Conwell) has been a state-related university of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Temple University Department of Religion (TUDOR) within the College of Liberal Arts is one the very earliest departments of religion (1963) in a public university in North America, indeed, in the world. From its inception, most of the faculty came from a range of religions, and at the same time were critical scholars, including of their own religion. Dialogue—interreligious, intercultural, inter-disciplinary—has characterized both the faculty and student body. Hence, the possibility of a focus on interreligious dialogue was/is a “natural.”

Also since 1966, the premier scholarly periodical in ecumenical/interreligious dialogue, the *Journal of Ecumenical Studies* (founded in 1964 by Arlene and Leonard Swidler) and its outreach arm, the *Dialogue Institute: Interreligious, Intercultural, International* (founded 1978), have been at Temple University.

The following are the *MA requirements*, as well as the graduate seminars which *de facto* constitute an *MA in Religion with a Focus on in Interreligious Dialogue*.

1. Fulfill TUDOR MA requirements (www.cla.temple.edu/religion/graduate/master-of-arts-program/)
2. Complete a total of thirty (30) graduate credits in religion
3. A total of six (6) credits may be transferred from outside of TUDOR
4. Six (6) credits may be a final thesis—on an interreligious dialogue theme
5. Or the final course (3credits) will be a capstone course with summary paper
6. Seminar (3 credits) on introduction to Interreligious Dialogue
7. Advanced seminar (3 credits) on Interreligious Dialogue
8. Foundational seminar in Judaism
9. Foundational seminar in Christianity
10. Foundational seminar in Islam
11. Foundational seminar in Hinduism
12. Foundational seminar in Buddhism
13. Foundational seminar in Chinese Religion (Confucianism & Taoism)
14. Specialized seminars in the above religions, and beyond.
15. The MA minimal requirements are fixed, but the rest of the program is at the choice of the student in consultation with the faculty advisor.
16. Students are invited to be involved in the work and activities of the *Journal of Ecumenical Studies/Dialogue Institute: Interreligious, Intercultural, International*—www.jes/dialogue.org

A PhD in Religion with a Focus on Interreligious Dialogue has requirements and possibilities beyond those above, including: sixty graduate credits in religion, two foreign languages of scholarship, breadth requirements in the study of Eastern and Western religions, comprehensive exams, dissertation, etc. See <http://www.cla.temple.edu/religion/graduate/doctor-of-philosophy/>

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