

Master of Arts, Graduate Department of Religion, Vanderbilt University



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The [Graduate Department of Religion](#) at Vanderbilt University is pleased to invite applications to its Master of Arts program from students interested in the study of Syriac Christianity within the broader contexts of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam in late antiquity and the early middle ages.

Graduate course offerings are focused on the history of Christianity in late antiquity, Aramaic dialects and literature, classical and rabbinic Judaism, history of biblical interpretation, Qur'anic studies and medieval Islam, ancient and medieval archeology, and the application of the digital humanities to these fields through collaborative research projects such as [Syriaca.org](#).

Students in the Historical Studies MA track have access to courses across Vanderbilt University taught by faculty in [Classical and Mediterranean Studies](#), [History](#), [History of Art](#), [Islamic Studies](#), and [Jewish Studies](#). Language instruction is offered on a rotating basis in Biblical Hebrew, Classical Arabic, Classical Greek, Classical Syriac, Imperial Aramaic, and Latin. Vanderbilt also offers coursework on the archeology of the Eastern Mediterranean and Levant, including current excavations at [Caesarea Maritima](#).

Faculty members offering courses in 2019-2020 include [Annalisa Azzoni](#), [Phillip Lieberman](#), [Richard McGregor](#), [David Michelson](#), [Joseph Rife](#), [Betsey Robinson](#), and [Choon-Leong Seow](#), among others.

Admitted students are eligible for two years of funding through the Graduate Department of Religion including full tuition awards and paid research or teaching assistantships.

Graduates of this MA program have successfully gone on to enroll at Ph.D. programs in a variety of fields including Religious Studies, Classics, and Medieval Studies.

Inquiries may be directed to Professor David Michelson, david.a.michelson@vanderbilt.edu. The application deadline is December 15, 2018. Application details are available at <https://www.vanderbilt.edu/gdr/admissions/> under the Historical Studies graduate area.

Vanderbilt University is committed to principles of equal opportunity and affirmative action.