Master's in Theology and Religious Studies

Religious Diversity in Europe

uva.nl/ma-religious-diversity
Europe’s history is characterised by religious exchange, adaptations and conflict within a global context. Its multiple religiosities, spiritualities and secularities pose a substantial challenge to the study of religion today. This programme focuses on skills, methods and theories that will enable you to explore present and historical religious diversities within and beyond their European contexts. To that end, the religious field is studied from a historical, as well as a social scientific, perspective, taking the present-day situation as a point of departure for reflecting on religion’s multiple entanglements in history, culture, society and the individual.

After completing the degree, you will have gained insight into a wide variety of religious phenomena from different time periods within Europe and have acquired the ability and skills to analyse them.
Career prospects

The programme will prepare you for a broad range of career opportunities, including jobs in education, journalism, scientific research, cultural management and leadership positions that require expertise in the field of religious diversity.
If you wish to pursue a PhD position in the field of Religious Studies, you can also opt to continue your studies in the Research Master's programme Religious Studies.

Spotlight on a course

Religion, Violence and Conflict Resolution
Many recent violent conflicts have a religious dimension, such as the current conflict in Syria. This course focuses upon the role of religion in intergroup conflicts such as the Balkan Wars. It will start with a discussion of central concepts such as religion, violence and identity and continue with theories about the origin and course of violent conflicts. A crucial question is under which conditions religion frames, legitimates or even inspires violence, leading to the escalation of conflicts. The final sessions of the course deal with conflict resolution.
Entry requirements
The Master's in Religious Diversity in Europe is open to all students holding a university Bachelor’s degree in:
• Religious studies
• Theology
• Humanities*
• Law or Social Sciences*
* provided that you have obtained at least 24 ECTS in Religious Studies. You will be considered for admission to this Master’s if you have a Bachelor’s degree in one of the aforementioned fields of study and can demonstrate relevant knowledge, insight and skills.

> Application and admission