ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND INSPIRATIONAL TEACHING

Kent is one of the UK’s leading universities, ranked 23rd in The Guardian University Guide 2017. In the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014, Kent is ranked 17th* for research intensity, outperforming 11 of the 24 Russell Group universities.

Taught within the School of European Culture and Languages (SECL), one of the largest schools in the University, Religious Studies at Kent has an excellent reputation: it is ranked 14th in the UK in The Guardian University Guide 2017.

World-leading research

In the REF 2014, theology and religious studies at Kent was ranked 7th in the UK for research quality. We were also in the top 20 for research intensity and research output. Of the research submitted, 98% was judged to be of international quality.

Our academics are engaged with research at the forefront of their fields, and their research interests cover a wide range of areas, from new understandings of Buddhist culture to religion and film, and the sociology of the sacred.

Inspirational teaching

We have high standards in teaching and support, and our research informs our teaching so that you are learning at the cutting edge of the discipline. We tackle Religious Studies from a range of perspectives, and encourage you to think independently about important philosophical and social questions. This is one of the reasons why we welcome students from a diversity of subject backgrounds; an A level in Religious Studies is not necessary.

Religious Studies involves investigating and discussing religious ideas, experiences, practices and institutions. Like any other academic subject, Religious Studies looks at matters objectively and critically, but with respect for the beliefs and traditions of others. It is not necessary to be ‘religious’ to study religion.

Wide-ranging programme

We offer a flexible programme of study, covering both traditional and contemporary issues. Our degree reflects the central place of religion in human life and thought – some modules provide introductions to major world religions; some investigate philosophical and comparative themes within religious studies; and others explore connections between religion and particular aspects of 122 universities, not including specialist institutions.
of human culture – psychology, science, ethics, literature and film. Religious Studies, being itself multidisciplinary, also makes for ideal combinations with other subjects. See p19 for joint honours degrees on offer.

Supportive community
For the most part, you are taught in small groups, which gives everyone the opportunity to contribute. We welcome student feedback on the development of the Department and its programmes. Kent also has a number of student societies that may be of particular interest to students of Religious Studies, including Christian, Hindu, Islamic, Jewish and Humanist groups. All of these societies put on a variety of events for members.

Within SECL we have a dedicated student support team, who are able to provide pastoral care and help you with your academic needs. The University also offers a variety of support services; for details, see: www.kent.ac.uk/studentwellbeing or www.kent.ac.uk/studentsupport

Excellent location
The campus is located in Canterbury, a city steeped in history and of significance to Christians since the arrival of St Augustine as a missionary in 597 AD. Canterbury Cathedral is part of a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site and is valued for its architecture and its artefacts, as well as its religious history.

A global outlook
According to the Times Higher Education (THE), Kent is ranked in the top 10% of the world’s universities for international outlook. We are known as the UK’s European university due to our proximity to the European mainland and our links with many top-ranking European institutions. Kent encourages students to place their studies in an international context: 37% of our academics are from overseas and there are students from 148 nationalities represented on campus. This gives you plenty of opportunities to discuss issues with people from different backgrounds and cultures.

A successful future
As well as providing a first-rate academic experience, we want you to be in a good position to face the demands of a competitive job market. As part of your studies at Kent, we help you to acquire key transferable skills, which are considered essential for a successful graduate career. The University’s award-winning Careers and Employability Service offers help and advice on the options open to you. For more information, see p8 or go to www.kent.ac.uk/employability
SUPERB STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Our Canterbury campus provides a stunning location for your studies and offers first-class academic and leisure facilities. The campus is within easy reach of London and mainland Europe.

Excellent study resources

The newly extended and refurbished Templeman Library provides a wealth of resources and services to support your study and research across all subject areas. Its extensive print and electronic collections are aimed at supporting the courses and subject areas taught at Kent. There is a substantial range of electronic resources including e-journals, e-books, databases, reference resources and newspaper archives. Integrated search and study tools, including the Library catalogue, reading lists and virtual learning environment help you discover and access the best resources for your studies.

Kent’s Student Learning Advisory Service provides information and advice on all aspects of effective learning and study skills, and is available to all students from the time they arrive at the University. See www.kent.ac.uk/learning for more information.

Kent Extra

Kent Extra is an excellent way to get more from your time at university. It provides opportunities to enhance your knowledge, learn new skills and improve your CV. You can do this in many ways, for example, by attending one of our summer schools; by volunteering; or by taking a Study Plus course in an area that interests you. For details, see www.kent.ac.uk/kentextra

Beautiful green campus

Our campus has plenty of green and tranquil spaces, both lawns and wooded areas, and is set on a hill with a view of the city and Canterbury Cathedral. For entertainment, the campus has its own cinema, theatre, concert hall and student nightclub. It has a reputation for being a very friendly university with a cosmopolitan environment. There are many restaurants, cafés and bars on campus and there is a sports centre and gym. Everything you need on campus is within walking distance including a general store, a bookshop, banks, a medical centre and a pharmacy. From campus, it’s a 25-minute walk or a short bus-ride into Canterbury.

Attractive location

Canterbury is a lovely city with medieval buildings, lively bars and atmospheric pubs, as well as a wide range of shops. The attractive coastal town of Whitstable is close by and there are sandy beaches further down the coast. London is under an hour away by high-speed train.

DID YOU KNOW?

In the National Student Survey 2015, Kent gained the 5th highest score in the UK for student satisfaction.
Rianna Carr is in her final year of a Religious Studies degree.

Why did you choose to take Religious Studies at Kent?
Growing up in a multicultural area, religion is something I’ve always been interested in. In order to understand society, it’s important to understand the beliefs and systems that shape it. I chose Kent because although the campus is quite large, it has a nice community feel. Music is a big part of my life and the University’s excellent provision in this area has enabled me to continue to develop my music alongside my studies. It’s been the perfect choice for me.

How did you settle in?
I found the settling in period a lot easier than I thought it would be. You always worry that you will not make any friends, but of course you do. In terms of the coursework, it’s very different to school. But everyone is so friendly and helpful, you quickly get to grips with what you are doing – you are not afraid to say, ‘I don’t understand that’ or ‘what does this mean?’.

How would you describe your course?
It has been 100% the right degree for me. The course has become more interesting as I’ve progressed and there is so much you can study. In the second and third years, you can specialise a lot more. Before coming to university, I had never studied Hinduism before. Now it’s become the focus of my modules and dissertation. That’s down to the lecturers – they inspire you to go in a completely different direction with your studies.

How do you find the support at Kent?
I couldn't ask for more. Every step of the way, there is someone here to help you and ensure you get to where you need to be. The lecturers are completely at the top of their game, but are happy to explain and simplify things for you. At the beginning of every module, you are informed of their office hours, so you know where to go. They are very open to helping you.

What about your fellow students?
The Religious Studies course is comparatively small in size so you really get to know your coursemates. Everyone is so friendly and we share ideas with each other. The mix of students on the course is really diverse, too, which makes seminars far more engaging. Having people from different backgrounds really adds to the conversation and gives you lots of differing viewpoints.

What about the facilities?
It’s great to have everything in one place, almost like living in a little town. Socially, there is no shortage of places to go. I loved living on campus in the first year, it was just so convenient. I got on well with my housemates, too, and still live with some of them now. The library is currently being extended and refurbished, and will look amazing when it’s finished.

What do you do in your spare time at Kent?
I am a music scholar, so have been heavily involved in music-making at the University since I arrived. I play the clarinet in the orchestra as well as in a couple of ensembles. I am also a student ambassador, helping to promote Kent to the local community. The number of opportunities the ambassador scheme has afforded me, from tutoring to presentation work, has really helped me to grow in confidence and has prepared me well for my future career.

What's next for you?
I have secured a place on the Havering Teacher Training programme, so I plan to qualify as a secondary school teacher in religious studies. Our communities are becoming ever more diverse and this needs to be reflected in our education. When I was at school, everyone hated RE so I would like to help transform the teaching of the subject and to make it more engaging for students.

Any advice for someone who is considering coming to Kent?
Regardless of what you might be worried about before starting university, be assured that you’ll be fine. Kent provides an amazing experience where you will gain your independence, learn new skills and really develop as a person. I can’t recommend it enough!
A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE

Kent equips you with essential skills to give you a competitive advantage when it comes to getting a job.

Good career prospects
According to employment statistics, Kent graduates are doing better than ever in the changeable job market. More than 95% of Kent students who graduated in 2015 found a job or further study opportunity within six months.

Religious Studies graduates move into a variety of careers: law, travel, advertising, human resources, diplomacy, publishing, journalism, the media and teaching. Many go on to postgraduate study or professional training, sometimes after a period of employment. Employers value the independent and critical thinking demonstrated by Religious Studies graduates, along with the insights into human ideals and motivations they have acquired.

Gain transferable skills
At Kent, we help you to gain key skills that are highly valued by employers. Through your Religious Studies programme, you develop your abilities in many areas – getting to grips with challenging ideas, writing well, gaining confidence and experience in expressing your ideas to others. All of these are important skills and ones that we help you with during your degree.

Classroom modules
We have developed innovative classroom modules that allow you to combine your studies with work experience in a school. The modules count as credit towards your degree and offer an insight into teaching as a career. Even if teaching is not your chosen profession, the module provides a chance to gain work experience in a professional environment – something that will enhance your CV and is likely to appeal to a range of potential employers.

SECL employability
SECL has its own employability programme of events to enhance your job skills and vocational awareness during your studies. A large number of our students develop professional skills and gain hands-on experience through our wide range of paid and voluntary work opportunities. For more information on the employability support available within the School, see www.kent.ac.uk/secl/employability

Careers advice
Kent’s award-winning Careers and Employability Service can give you advice on how to choose your future career, apply for jobs, write a good CV and perform well in interviews and aptitude tests. It also provides up-to-date information on graduate opportunities before and after you graduate. For more information on what the Service offers, go to www.kent.ac.uk/employability

Placement year
Students in Religious Studies have the opportunity to take a placement year as part of their degree. This allows you to spend a year in the workplace, between Stages 2 and 3, giving you the chance to get work experience, acquire new skills and gain insight into your career options. For details, see p17.
What's next for you?
I am looking to start my professional Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD) qualification to further enhance my career. As I’ve already gained a degree, I can skip the Level 3 and 5 qualifications and jump straight to Level 7, which is the equivalent of a Master’s.

Do you have any other happy memories of Kent that you would like to share with us?
Everyone says it, but the final year really is the best year. Despite the deadlines and the scary thought of finally having to face the adult world, you suddenly realise what an amazing part of your life university has been. You become aware of the friends who are going to be your friends for life and you are finally, possibly for the first time, free to do whatever it is that you want to do. In hindsight, some of my best memories are just sitting around with my friends with a cup of tea and a biscuit at 11 o’clock at night. Suddenly, when you are all off around different areas of the UK and with various different commitments, you realise how special that was.

What advice would you give to someone thinking of coming to Kent?
Throw yourself into all areas of university life because it is over so quickly. Go to the extra tutorials, ask for help if you need it, make friends on your course and work hard. I cannot think of a way my university experience could have been better – it was the best time of my life!

Grace McLatchie graduated with a first-class degree in Religious Studies in 2015. She is now working as a human resources (HR) administrator.

Why did you choose Kent?
Religious Studies at Kent offered a wide-ranging choice of modules not offered at other universities, covering some interesting topics. The fact that you could pick and choose what you wanted to learn and completely personalise your degree really attracted me to the course.

At the Open Day, the lecturers seemed so passionate about their field of study, which was refreshing to see. It was nice to know that the teachers were as inspired and engaged in their subject as I was. Everyone at the University seemed so friendly, which contributed to the amazing atmosphere on campus. The fact that there was a lot of support available to ensure you did the best you could was very reassuring.

How would you describe your degree programme?
I couldn’t have been happier with my course at Kent. It kept me completely engaged until my final year and the lecturers were second to none. Their enthusiasm is incredible and they ensure you always know where to go if you need help. They are so knowledgeable about their subjects and this really inspired me to want to know more.

What social activities or extra-curricular activities did you get involved with at Kent?
I got involved in lots of societies, which I think is integral to university life. It helps you make friends who share the same interests as you and pushes you out of your comfort zone. I would also recommend going to extra-curricular activities hosted by your department – this helps you to get to know more people on your course and, in the case of debate nights, can help you find the answers to essay questions.

Could you describe your career path since leaving Kent?
I secured a job straight away in human resources as an executive assistant and was promoted to HR administrator within two months. I currently support the whole HR team in a company of around 1,000 employees. Day-to-day, I deal with general HR queries as well as training requests and assist in grievance and disciplinary cases. It’s a very varied role.

How did your degree lay the foundations for your chosen career path?
It definitely helped me land my current job. I think the skills I gained at Kent have opened up opportunities and made me stand out above other candidates.

GRADUATE PROFILE
CHOOSING YOUR PROGRAMME

Not sure which programme to choose? Here’s a quick guide to the degrees on offer.

Single honours
Religious Studies is available as a single honours degree. Our single honours programme is varied and covers religions, including Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam and Judaism. Further modules cover areas such as religion and psychology.

Joint honours
You can also combine Religious Studies with another subject. Joint honours degrees on offer include Religious Studies and...
- Asian Studies
- Classical & Archaeological Studies
- Comparative Literature
- Drama
- English and American Literature
- Film
- French
- German
- Hispanic Studies
- History
- Italian
- Philosophy

For details of UCAS codes and entry requirements, see p19. To download a leaflet in your joint subject area, go to www.kent.ac.uk/courses/leaflets

International students
If you need to extend your existing academic qualifications or ability in English to be able to study at university level, Kent’s one-year International Foundation Programme (IFP) gives you the opportunity to do so. The IFP can provide progression to our degrees in Religious Studies; for details, see www.kent.ac.uk/ifp

Placement year
Students in Religious Studies have the opportunity to take a placement year as part of their degree. It involves a year in the workplace between Stages 2 and 3. For more details, see p17.

Study abroad
Students have the opportunity to spend time abroad as part of their degree. This involves spending a year studying in another country between Stages 2 and 3 (or sometimes a term). Students are based at universities which teach in English, unless they have the skills to study in another language. For details, see p17.

Teaching and assessment
You are taught mostly in small groups with most modules involving either two or three hours per week in class and individual consultations with teachers, as well as sessions on computing and library skills.

Some modules are assessed by 100% coursework, others by a combination of formal examination and coursework. Seminar participation is also taken into account in the assessment of modules.

Further information
If you would like further information about our Religious Studies degree programmes, please email secl@kent.ac.uk
STUDYING AT STAGE 1

Stage 1 represents your first year of full-time study.

Please note that the module lists below are not fixed as new modules are always in development and choices updated yearly. Please see www.kent.ac.uk/ug for the most up-to-date information.

All students take the following module:
• What is Religion?

You then choose at least two modules from the list below:
• From Eden to the End of the World: An Introduction to the Bible
• Gods of the Desert: Judaism and Islam
• Introduction to Asian Traditions*
• Introduction to Christianity
• Introduction to Hinduism and Buddhism*
• Religion in the Contemporary World.

*Introduction to Asian Traditions and Introduction to Hinduism and Buddhism may not be taken together.

You may also choose modules from a wide range available in the Faculty of Humanities.

Joint honours students take at least three modules from the list above, plus the required modules in their other subject. Please see the respective subject leaflet for an indication of the modules available.

Modules: Stage 1

What is Religion?

In this module, you explore the nature of religion and examine some of the theories offered to explain its existence. Is it possible to understand a religion to which you do not belong? Are religious people always biased? Do atheists make good theologians? Can we really be objective and neutral when it comes to religion? How broad are the parameters for defining religion? Could activities such as football, shopping or going to the movies be said to have a religious component to them? Reference is made to the work of a number of thinkers who have offered various, often competing, definitions of religion, including Karl Marx, Sigmund Freud, Carl Jung, Émile Durkheim and Rudolf Otto.

From Eden to the End of the World: An Introduction to the Bible

The Bible is not a single book, but a library; it spans the literatures of 800 years. The subjects covered include not just theological concepts, but politics, philosophy, cultural history and myth. Here, you learn to understand the broader literacy of the Bible, whether you are familiar with its texts through church or have never read it. It gives a basic overview of the story and contexts of the books of the Bible from Genesis to the Apocalypse of John, or from the Garden of Eden to the ‘end of the world’.

Gods of the Desert: Judaism and Islam

Judaism and Islam are two of the most important religions today. In this module, you investigate the
beliefs and practices of Jews and Muslims. Topics in Judaism include the life and work of the Patriarchs, the concept of the ‘chosen people’, the Promised Land, the Torah, synagogue, Jewish festivals and the Jewish home. In the case of Islam, topics include the life of Muhammad, the Five Pillars, the Qur’an and Hadith, Sunni and Shi’ite Muslims, Sufism, the Shariah and Islamic contributions to the arts and sciences.

Introduction to Asian Traditions
This module provides a historical introduction to the philosophical, religious and cultural traditions of South and East Asia. It provides a foundation for understanding the historical development, key concepts and important practices of the major world-views of India, China and Japan, with specific reference to the Hindu, Buddhist, Confucian, Daoist and Shinto traditions.

Introduction to Christianity
Offering a broad overview of 2,000 years of Christian history, the module explores how the cult surrounding an obscure spiritual teacher from first century Nazareth became the world’s largest religion, currently estimated at over two billion adherents. It addresses the early church, Eastern and Western traditions, the medieval church, the Reformation and the relations between Christianity and modernity. It also focuses on contemporary forms of Christianity, and the rapid growth since the 1970s of churches in the global South. By examining key concepts and practices across a range of historical and contemporary settings, you explore how the meaning and significance of these have often been subject to violent contestation, both among Christians and in their encounters with other religions.

Introduction to Hinduism and Buddhism
The Vedas, the scriptures of Hinduism, were composed over 2,000 years ago. This module begins with a study of the most interesting features of the Vedic and post-Vedic tradition: the Upanishads, the Bhagavad Gita and the polytheism of the Mahabharata. You go on to study the contrasting philosophical positions of the Theravada and the Mahayana Buddhist traditions using materials from the Pali canon and several Sanskrit Sutras. You focus particularly on the variety of interpretations of the Buddhist ‘no-self’ doctrine and concept of enlightenment, as well as the meaning and function of the Buddha’s career, and the teachings of Zen.

Religion in the Contemporary World
This module introduces you to a range of key theories and debates in the social and cultural study of contemporary religion, including modernisation, secularisation, individualisation, commodification, occulture, mediatisation, secularism, transnationalism and lived religion. Throughout the module, you are helped to see possible connections between these various theories and debates, as well as think about their relevance to issues and discussions taking place within contemporary society.
STUDYING AT STAGES 2 AND 3

Stages 2 and 3 represent your second and final years of full-time study.

Please note that the module list below is not fixed as new modules are always in development and choices updated yearly. Please see www.kent.ac.uk/ug for the most up-to-date information.

Each year, single honours students take at least three modules and joint honours students take two modules from the following list:

- Christianity and Ethics
- Continental Philosophy of Religion
- Cracking Biblical Codes: Prophecy, Apocalyptic and Wisdom
- Hindu Religious Thought
- Indian Philosophy of Religion
- Mahāyāna Buddhism: The Foundations
- Psychology and Religion
- Religion and Capitalism
- Religion and Film
- Religious Studies and Philosophy in the Classroom (Stage 3 only)
- Religious Studies Dissertation (Stage 3 only)
- Sociology of Religion
- Themes in the Study of Asia (Stage 2 only).

You can also choose modules from a wide range in the Faculty of Humanities.

Those taking joint honours choose modules from those listed above and also take the required modules in their other subject. Please see the respective subject leaflet for an indication of the modules available.

Modules: Stages 2 and 3

Christianity and Ethics

The ethics of religion has become a contentious area for discussion in recent years. This module focuses on the different ways that Augustine, Aquinas and Luther have influenced modern Christian ethics. We look at themes of war and peace, politics and social justice, the environment, and interpersonal relationships, including marriage and homosexuality.

Continental Philosophy of Religion

Introducing continental philosophy, this module offers an examination of the ways in which prominent 20th-century philosophers from this tradition approach fundamental questions related to religion. You look at movements and schools of thought such as phenomenology, hermeneutics, and deconstruction in relation to religion and themes of presence, being, the body, gender, alterity and narrative identity and understanding.

Cracking Biblical Codes: Prophecy, Apocalyptic and Wisdom

How has the Bible been read as a code? Here, you explore different writers who have read the Bible as a temporal or political code. For example, the biblical book of Daniel attempts to decode the book of Jeremiah, which had already become deeply mysterious to ancient readers. At the other end of the time spectrum, we find bestsellers like Michael Drosnin’s *The Bible Code* (1997), which attempts to find secret messages within the Hebrew Torah. Or, indeed there have been recent readings of the book of Ezekiel as prophecies...
about UFOs. You undertake an in-depth reading of such prophecies and explore the contexts that produced these attempts to decipher the Bible over time.

**Hindu Religious Thought**

In this module, you evaluate the competing doctrines of salvation and paths to spiritual emancipation that have shaped the development of the Hindu religious tradition. You discuss a range of topics, including: the relationship between mysticism and philosophy, mythology, magic and devotion; action and devotion as paths to salvation; types of contemplative practice; the role of the body in spiritual life; asceticism and pleasure as vehicles for spiritual liberation; and the role of the guru and the nature of spiritual transmission.

**Indian Philosophy of Religion**

Here, you explore philosophical debates and texts (in translation) of the main currents of classical Indian philosophy, focusing on Hindu and Buddhist thought but with some reference to traditions such as Jainism. You study classic Indian approaches to key philosophical themes, such as the nature of truth, the relationship of language and reality, cosmology and theories of causality, the nature of perception, karma and rebirth, debates about the self, the relationship of consciousness and the body, the nature of liberation and valid sources of knowledge.

**Mahāyāna Buddhism: The Foundations**

Mahāyāna is one of the main branches of Buddhism. This module explores the central teachings, practices and sacred texts of Mahāyāna Buddhism with a focus on the first 500 years of its history. You examine the rise and development of Mahāyāna Buddhism in India through analysis of its key sacred literature and philosophical schools, as well as its subsequent spread to East and North Asia.

**Psychology and Religion**

You survey 20th-century trends in the dialogue between psychology and religion. We begin by exploring the varieties of religious experience, going on to examine the various contributions of psychoanalysis, Jungian depth-psychology and existentialism to the study of religion. This material provides the basis for discussion of the literature comparing religious altered states of consciousness (mystical, visionary and paranormal experiences) with other altered states of consciousness (madness, drug-induced experiences and so on).
Religion and Capitalism
In this module, you gain an understanding of the interrelations between religion, modernity, capitalism and ideology. You examine classic debates in social theory in relation to Western culture and capitalism, and bring them up to date in relation to contemporary sociological theory and political theology, applying these to examples from Europe, North and Latin America, and Africa. You critically explore both left- and right-wing theological models, and seek to deepen understanding of the relationship between religious and spiritual movements and capitalist economics.

Religion and Film
Do biblical epics paint an accurate picture of the life and teachings of Jesus Christ? Can parallels be found between ‘secular’ film characters and the person of Christ? Are some types of films more successful than others at generating a theological conversation? To what extent do the films of Martin Scorsese wrestle with key religious themes such as redemption, sin and violence? Here, you examine the manner and extent to which film is capable of exploring and reflecting religious values, beliefs and core themes. The films examined may include The Last Temptation of Christ, The Passion of the Christ, The Wizard of Oz, The Shawshank Redemption and Edward Scissorhands.

Religious Studies and Philosophy in the Classroom (Stage 3 only)
Providing you with the opportunity to enter the working world in your final year, as a taster for a teaching career, this module allows you to gain teaching experience in a secondary school classroom. For one term, you spend half a day each week in a local school under the supervision of a teacher who acts as your mentor. Not only does this provide invaluable work experience, but the teaching also informs and shapes your own academic work.

Religious Studies Dissertation (Stage 3 only)
This module is available to Stage 3 single or joint honours students who have achieved a 2.1 or above at Stage 2. It gives you the chance to explore a topic of particular interest in detail – the subject is agreed with the Department and written under the guidance of an academic supervisor. It is particularly recommended for those who wish to pursue postgraduate studies.

Sociology of Religion
In this module, you look at some of the main ideas on religion by some of the founders of sociology, including Marx, Durkheim, Weber and Troeltsch. You study a number of new religious movements in a sociological context and gain a sociological understanding of religious minorities in modern Britain. You go on to discuss the issue of secularisation within the modern world, look at the varieties of religious institutions, and explore the competing views of the future of religion in the modern world.

Themes in the Study of Asia (Stage 2 only)
Here, you explore the cultural specificity and diversity of Asian cultures, traditions, social and political systems, and literature from a variety of disciplinary perspectives. The topic of Asia is approached on a thematic basis but with particular emphasis on an understanding of the historical and interpretive challenges to intercultural understanding between Asia and Europe/ the West.

For details of Kent’s scholarships and bursaries, please visit our website at www.kent.ac.uk/ugfunding
YEAR ABROAD/ PLACEMENT YEAR

At Kent, you have the opportunity to broaden your experience either by studying overseas or through a work placement.

Year abroad
Going abroad as part of your degree is an amazing opportunity and a chance for you to develop academically, personally and professionally.

You gain confidence and independence and further develop many of the transferable skills employers are looking for, such as the ability to communicate effectively and being able to plan and organise your time. You also demonstrate that you are flexible in your outlook and have the enthusiasm and drive to succeed in a new environment.

For many students, their year abroad is a life-changing experience. Having risen to the challenge of living in another country, they have a renewed belief in their ability to succeed.

If you take Religious Studies in combination with a non-language subject, you can also apply to spend time studying abroad. For further details of where you can study, please see the A to Z course list at www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad/opportunities.

Placement year
The placement year provides the opportunity for you to gain experience in the workplace as part of your degree. The placement can be either paid work or an internship.

It gives you the opportunity to increase your contacts and networks so that you can hit the ground running when you graduate. If taken, the year is assessed on a pass/fail basis through employer feedback and a written report that you submit.

Tuition fees for the placement year are greatly reduced and employers may offer expenses or a salary.

There are many benefits to taking a placement year: it gives you the chance to gain some knowledge of the work environment, acquire new skills and develop your confidence.

For more information, see www.kent.ac.uk/humanities/studying/placement
VISIT THE UNIVERSITY

Come along for an Open Day or an Applicant Day and see what it is like to be a student at Kent.

Open Days
Kent runs Open Days during the summer and autumn. These provide an excellent opportunity for you to discover what it is like to live and study at the University. You can meet academic staff and current students, find out about our courses and attend subject displays, workshops and informal lectures. We also offer tours around the campus to view our sports facilities, the library and University accommodation. For further information and details of how to book your place, see www.kent.ac.uk/opendays

Applicant Days
If you apply to study at Kent and we offer you a place (or invite you to attend an interview), you will usually be sent an invitation to one of our Applicant Days. You can book to attend through your online Kent Applicant Portal. The Applicant Day includes presentations in your subject area, guided tours of the campus, including University accommodation, and the opportunity to speak with both academic staff and with current students about your chosen subject. For further information, see www.kent.ac.uk/visit

Informal visits
You are also welcome to make an informal visit to our campuses at any time. The University runs tours of the Canterbury campus throughout the year for anyone who is unable to attend an Open Day or Applicant Day. It may also be possible to arrange meetings with academic staff, although we cannot guarantee this. Alternatively, we can provide you with a self-guided tour leaflet, which includes the main points of interest. For details and to book your place, or to download a self-guided tour, go to www.kent.ac.uk/informal

More information
If you would like more information on Kent’s courses, facilities or services, or would like to order another subject leaflet, please contact us.

T: +44 (0)1227 827272
Freephone (UK only): 0800 975 3777
www.kent.ac.uk/ug

We come to you
The University of Kent attends higher education fairs in the UK, mainland Europe and in many countries around the world. At these events, universities and colleges come together to give face-to-face information and guidance to prospective students.

We also have Kent overseas representatives who can give you up-to-date advice on courses, the application process, applying for a visa (if you need one), and details about living and studying in the UK. We can also arrange individual tours of campus.
On the web
For the latest departmental information on studying religious studies at Kent, please see www.kent.ac.uk/secl/thrs

For updates and news stories from the School, please see our website and social media sites:
www.kent.ac.uk/secl
www.facebook.com/unikentsecl
www.twitter.com/unikentsecl
www.youtube.com/unikentsecl

Location
Canterbury

Award
BA (Hons)

Degree programme
Single honours
• Religious Studies (V616)

Joint honours
Religious Studies and…
• Asian Studies (TV46)
• Classical & Archaeological Studies (VQ68)
• Comparative Literature (VQ62)
• Drama (VW64)
• English and American Literature (QV36)
• Film (VW66)
• French (RV16)
• German (RV26)
• Hispanic Studies (RV46)
• History (VV61)
• Italian (RV36)
• Philosophy (VV56)

Offer levels
Single honours: BBB at A level, IB Diploma 34 points or IB Diploma with 15 points at Higher.
Joint honours: ABB/BBB at A level, IB Diploma 34 points or IB Diploma with 15/16 points at Higher. Joint honours subjects may have special requirements.

Year abroad
Students taking a joint honours language degree spend a year abroad between their second and final years of study, studying or working in their chosen language. Other students also have the opportunity to apply to study abroad – see p17 or www.kent.ac.uk/goabroad for details.

Placement year
Students have the opportunity to apply for a placement year in the UK or abroad, working for an organisation or company as part of their studies. The placement year takes place between Stages 2 and 3. For more details, see p17 or www.kent.ac.uk/humanities/studying/placement

Scholarships and bursaries
For details of scholarships and bursaries at Kent, see www.kent.ac.uk/ugfunding

Offer levels and entry requirements are subject to change. For the latest course information, see: www.kent.ac.uk/ug
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www.kent.ac.uk/visit