

THE COMPARATIVE STUDY OF RELIGION
Harvard University

THE SENIOR HONORS THESIS

Table of Contents

I.	Introduction	1
II.	2009-2010 Calendar of Deadlines and Events	2
III.	Prospectus Guidelines	3
IV.	Prospectus Committee Meeting Guidelines	4
V.	Prospectus Guidelines for Joint Concentrators with Religion as a Secondary Field	4
VI.	Preliminary Outline or Primary Source Analysis Guidelines	5
VII.	Chapter Guidelines	6
VIII.	Content and Style Guidelines	7
IX.	Format and Submission Guidelines	9
X.	Evaluation	12
XI.	Advising Resources	13
XII.	Contact Information	15

THE COMPARATIVE STUDY OF RELIGION
Harvard University

THE SENIOR HONORS THESIS

I. Introduction

The thesis is an essay that deals in a sustained way with a topic that is of particular interest to the student and that raises broader questions for the study of religion. In selecting a topic students should keep in mind both of these criteria as well as the fact that the paper should be an example of what the word *essay* means: a careful effort to develop and test the writer's analytical and interpretative powers. The honors thesis is not to be a small-scale Ph.D. dissertation. An exhaustive command of the topic is not required. Ideally the project should address a significant question that has a future, i.e., that is capable of sustaining interest and generating dialogue among scholars over an extended period of time. An effective thesis, however, will address such a question by focusing on a specific, manageable aspect of it. Students are strongly encouraged to build on projects they have already explored in a junior tutorial or other coursework. The senior thesis is the capstone of the undergraduate curriculum in the Study of Religion, and has the potential to be a significant experience of intellectual and personal growth.

The subject matter of the theses will naturally vary widely, by virtue of the nature of the field of religion. In every case, the subject should be specific enough to allow for depth of treatment. At the same time, however, it should not be so narrowly and technically construed as to allow the writer to lose sight of its relations to broader issues in the study of religion. Approval of the topic will be based upon its cogency and its suitability as subject matter for a senior honors thesis in the Comparative Study of Religion.

The thesis will also vary according to a student's overall plan of study within the concentration. Students pursuing a plan of study in Two Major Traditions (Option A) will craft theses that involve the two traditions they have examined during the course of their undergraduate work. Thesis-writers following One Major Tradition (Option B) will focus their theses primarily upon the tradition they have examined during the course of their undergraduate work. Students who are pursuing degrees in Religion and an Allied Field (Option C), are required to center their theses on the tradition they have studied within the Comparative Study of Religion, while also engaging the allied field. Finally, joint concentrators for whom the Comparative Study of Religion is the secondary field (Option D) will follow the thesis guidelines set by their primary concentration, but will also explore a topic that relates to the tradition they have studied within the Study of Religion. In all cases, students may center their work within one or more traditions, but deal with an issue that involves the comparative study of phenomena from other religious traditions as well.

All concentrators are expected to designate the area or the general topic of the thesis in May of their Junior year. A prospectus approved and signed by the senior thesis advisor is due in September of the Senior year. Primary concentrators will also submit a summary of the thesis, including a detailed chapter outline in October and a draft of one chapter of the thesis in November in order to receive a "Satisfactory" for Religion 99. A draft of a second chapter is due in December. The completed thesis is due in April of the Senior Year. Unless otherwise indicated, drafts are due in email-form to the Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies, and in hard-copy form to both the graduate student and faculty advisors.

THE SENIOR HONORS THESIS

II. Calendar of Deadlines and Events for 2009-2010

September 23rd (Wednesday), by 5 p.m.:

A 1-2 page prospectus of the thesis, approved and signed by both the graduate student and faculty thesis advisors, along with a bibliography and tentative title.

October 2nd (Friday), 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.:

A 10-15 minute individual meeting with members of the Faculty to discuss and review the prospectus.

October 23rd (Friday), by 5 p.m.:

A 6 page detailed overview or outline of each chapter.

November 20th (Friday), by 5 p.m.:

A 12-15 page draft of one chapter of the thesis.

December 11th (Friday), by 5 p.m.:

A 12-15 page draft of a second chapter of the thesis.

February 5th (Friday), by 5 p.m.:

A 12-15 page draft of a third chapter of the thesis.

March 8th (Monday), by 5 p.m.

A fully revised draft of all chapters of the thesis, including introduction and conclusion.

April 5th (Monday), by 5 p.m.:

Three bound copies of the thesis. Thesis length: 50-80 pages (double-spaced 12-point type).

April 26th (Monday) - May 7th (Friday):

A 1½ hour oral examination of the thesis with members of the thesis evaluation committee.

Please note:

- *These dates apply for June degree candidates only.*
- *All drafts are due in hard copy to the graduate student and faculty advisors, and as email attachments to the Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies.*
- *Extensions will be granted only by written appeal to the Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies.*
- *There are no extensions for the April 5th deadline.*

THE SENIOR HONORS THESIS

III. Prospectus Guidelines

Due September 23rd (Wednesday), by 5 p.m.

Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary defines a prospectus as “something (as a statement or situation) that forecasts the course or nature of something not yet existent or developed.” As you begin to draft your prospectus, keep in mind that the purpose of this document is to provide yourself, your advisors, and the prospectus committee with a statement of your intentions for your thesis – a kind of road-map or blueprint for your project. It is very important to talk with your advisors and listen to their guidance at this point because it is difficult to know how much you can accomplish in a year. A prospectus is, by definition, a forecasting tool for a work in progress – it is neither final nor immutable.

Your senior thesis prospectus should include the following elements:

1. a tentative thesis title
2. a 1-2 page statement of the thesis topic, argument, and methodology
3. a preliminary bibliography of 2-3 pages
4. a signature of approval by both your graduate student and faculty thesis advisors

Your prospectus should introduce the topic of your thesis and explain why the subject you have chosen is significant. A helpful way to begin thinking about your thesis, as well as to begin your thesis prospectus, is to formulate a question with which you plan to grapple in your thesis. Instead of beginning: “My thesis will examine the *vrata* tradition in India and its significance for Hindu women,” try beginning: “What are *vrata* rites? What role do they play in the Hindu religious tradition? What significance do they have for Hindu women in particular?”

Formulating your topic as a question, or series of questions also sets you up to discuss how you propose to go about researching and answering these queries. Although it is likely that you do not have a fully formulated thesis statement at this stage of the process, you should indicate how you intend to undertake the research that will help you to make an argument about the issues you have raised. What methodologies, or approaches will you use in your research? Will your project be based upon close, textual analysis? Will you be conducting ethnographic interviews? Will you be observing rituals? Comparing various historical phenomena? These are the kinds of questions you will want to ask yourself as you draft your prospectus.

The prospectus should also indicate how your thesis topic and the questions it generates relate to broader issues in the study of religion. What kind of contribution to the field of religious studies do you hope to make? What conversations within the diverse field of religion will your project participate in? What kind of voice do you want to speak in? What kind of an argument do you hope to make—analytical? theological? ethical? historical? sociological? Please remember that these categories are only suggestions, and certainly not exhaustive or mutually exclusive.

THE SENIOR HONORS THESIS

Additional questions that you may find helpful as you formulate your prospectus include:

Are you beginning with a question that is unresolved? What puzzles you? What do you want to find out?

Do you care about the question? Are you clear about what you are asking? What observations have led you to ask this question? What hunches do you have about possible answers?

Is the topic interesting? What interests you about it? Can it be made interesting to others?

Can the topic be researched? How can it be researched? What kinds of information are needed to answer the questions posed?

Does the topic present problems that can be explored or solved with analysis? Does it provide you with an opportunity to do some creative or original thinking?

Examples of prospectuses from previous years may be found at the back of this booklet.

IV. Prospectus Committee Meeting Guidelines

After the prospectus has been submitted, it will be copied and distributed to members of the prospectus committee. This committee is composed of the Director of Undergraduate Studies, the Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies, and two or three members of the Faculty. The purpose of the prospectus committee meeting is to provide you with comments on your prospectus. You should come prepared to answer questions from members of the committee regarding the suitability of your topic, the viability of your research plan, and the opportunities your project presents for addressing broader issues within the study of religion. Your prospectus committee meeting will be individually-scheduled, and should take approximately 10 to 15 minutes.

The prospectus committee may request you to rewrite or append your prospectus in response to any concerns that are raised regarding your thesis project.

V. Prospectus Guidelines For Joint Concentrators with Religion as a Secondary Field

Joint concentrators for whom The Comparative Study of Religion is the secondary field are required to submit a copy of their senior thesis prospectus to the Director of Undergraduate Studies for the Study of Religion by the deadline set for other concentrators. Final approval of the prospectus will be at the discretion of the Director of Undergraduate Studies and the Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies. If the prospectus is not approved, the student will be asked to rewrite and resubmit the prospectus. In the event that the prospectus remains unapproved, the student will not be allowed to continue to pursue a joint concentration with religion as a secondary field.

THE SENIOR HONORS THESIS

VI. Preliminary Outline

Due October 23rd (Friday), by 5 p.m.

This assignment differs from the thesis prospectus in several ways. First, it is assumed that you have undertaken a significant amount of research since writing the prospectus. This assignment provides you with an opportunity to begin to think through (in written form) how you will use the data you are collecting in your research to support, and perhaps to reformulate, the argument of your thesis. Second, this assignment should include preliminary, yet detailed overviews or outlines of each chapter that you envision. The goal of this requirement is to help you to begin the process of organizing your research in a coherent manner.

You may structure this 6-page assignment in the format that seems most suitable to you. You may wish to submit an alpha-numeric outline; or, you may choose to submit a narrative overview; or, you may submit a graphically-structured flow chart! In any case, your submission must include detailed, thoughtful content that helps you and your advisors to begin to envision the thesis in its final form. While the purpose of this assignment is to encourage you to begin thinking systematically about your data and your argument, we do not expect or require that the final draft of your thesis conform to this preliminary outline.

THE SENIOR HONORS THESIS

VII. Chapter Guidelines

- **First Chapter Draft due November 20th (Friday), by 5 p.m.**
- **Second Chapter Draft due December 11th (Friday), by 5 p.m.**
- **Third Chapter Draft due February 5th (Friday), by 5 p.m.**
- **Revised Draft of all Chapters due March 8th (Monday), by 5 p.m.**

Each chapter draft must present a coherent, focused, and structured argument that is supported by appropriate citations and analysis. Your submissions should represent carefully considered and researched drafts of the more polished arguments that you will produce in the final thesis. Free-writing, though very helpful in the process of producing these assignments, is not appropriate in this context.

Please remember, however, that a *draft* is, by definition, preliminary. We do not expect these submissions to be in their final form, and assume that you will revise your work multiple times throughout the thesis-writing process. Additionally, these drafts need not follow a rigid chapter-by-chapter progression. For example, you may choose to submit a draft of what will ultimately become your third chapter at the first deadline.

Each chapter draft should be roughly 12-15 pages, although you may submit longer drafts if you desire. It is essential to stick to the deadlines so that your advisors have time to give you comments, and so that you have time for revisions. *Extensions will be granted only by written appeal to the Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies.*

THE SENIOR HONORS THESIS

VIII. Content and Style Guidelines

- Format The thesis has three parts: *preliminaries*, *text*, and *back matter*. The *title page*, a *table of contents*, and a very brief *preface* (or simply *acknowledgments*) are ordinarily the only necessary *preliminaries*. The *text* is the thesis itself. The *back matter* comprises: (1) the *bibliography*, which is always necessary; and (2) *appendices* (including *glossaries*, *charts*, *indices*, *maps*, etc.) when they are needed. The bibliography may take one of several appropriate forms, but it should always include full bibliographic information on every important source used in the preparation of the thesis. Whenever you make use of a book or other source—not simply when quoting directly from a text—you should include it in the bibliography.
- Style Good theses not only present illuminating and original arguments, but do so in lucid language and polished prose. Attention to the quality of your prose style should not be reserved for the final stages of editing the thesis; be sure to take into account issues of style as you are drafting and revising your essay, as well. Since you are devoting the better part of a year to examining and writing about a specific area of interest, you owe it to yourself to employ language that reflects your understanding of and enthusiasm for your topic. Please recognize, however, that you are addressing an audience that may not share your degree of expertise on your topic; be careful to avoid jargon and to define clearly any technical terms that you feel are crucial to your argument.
- In the final stages of editing, be particularly attuned to misspellings, typographical and grammatical errors, and insufficient or inaccurate documentation. Errors of this kind, while they do not necessarily reflect the amount of work that has gone into the thesis, will distract your reader from the substance of your argument and suggest that the argument is as sloppy as the prose in which it is conveyed.
- Style
Manuals: Several publications offer help in matters of form and style. With regard to the details of style and presentation of the thesis, one approved manual should be chosen and used consistently in determining the format of citations, bibliography, and other stylistic elements. *The Elements of Style*, by William Strunk, Jr., and E. B. White (4th edition, 2000) is a useful starting point. *The Chicago Manual of Style* is the most common citation and style guide in publications concerning religion. Unless another style is preferred in your sub-field, it should serve as the basic reference for your citation system and basic questions of form. A shorter work based on the Chicago manual and available in paperback is *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, by Kate L. Turabian. Again, whatever style you choose to employ, use it consistently throughout the thesis.

THE SENIOR HONORS THESIS

Notes and Citations

A footnote or endnote supplies the reader with a reference to the source(s) of factual information, specific ideas, or direct quotations used in the text of the thesis. A note may also provide supplemental information that is relevant but tangential to your argument. The tendency of many writers is to use the first kind of note too sparingly, and the latter kind too much. The rule for the former is simple: any passage or idea that is not your own should be credited to its source. To do otherwise is to plagiarize. As to the use of notes for supplemental information, the discretion of the writer must suffice. Note, however, that the value of a piece of scholarship is not judged by the length and abundance of its notes. And recall that discursive endnotes are difficult to follow while reading the main text. If particular information is necessary to the argument, incorporate it into the main text. For guidelines on notation, see the manuals described above.

Direct Quotation

Direct citations from other sources must be treated with the utmost care and precision. To misquote someone else is a serious fault in any kind of writing. Every direct quotation must be reproduced exactly as it stands in the original. Except where integration of a quotation in your own sentence structure requires a change of type-case or end punctuation, the capitalization and punctuation in the quoted passage must be carefully reproduced. Italics in the original must be retained in your quotation. When using ellipsis to eliminate unneeded words or phrases from a quoted passage, be sure not to change or misrepresent the original author's intention and meaning. Any addition to a quoted passage must be enclosed in brackets (not parentheses).

Foreign Words and Phrases

Foreign words and phrases should be underlined or italicized. Passages in foreign languages should be given in English translation when used in the text. If the translation is not your own, the translator must be acknowledged. When it is important to do so, the text in its original language and wording should be given in a note either in transliteration or in the appropriate script.

Illustrations and Photographs

Illustrations in a thesis may include graphs, charts, maps, line drawings, or photographs. These illustrations are normally placed on separate pages, with their legend typed either beneath the figure or on the front or back of the preceding page. Pages of illustrations and figures should be interleaved with the text of the thesis. If illustrations, as in the case of photographs, need to be mounted on the page, a good quality commercial paste or dry-mounting adhesive should be used. Like citations from other sources, illustrations must be credited to the appropriate sources.

THE SENIOR HONORS THESIS

IX. Format and Submission Guidelines

- Length The minimum length is 50 pages (in double-spaced, 12 point type). The maximum length is 80 pages (in double-spaced, 12 point type). Theses should be produced on a laser printer or an inkjet printer with a print quality of at least 600 dpi (i.e., letter-quality). The font used should produce between 9 and 12 characters per inch. These limits refer to the preliminaries and main text of the thesis, excluding endnotes and back matter such as appendices and bibliography. Within these limits, the length of the thesis should be determined by the demands of the particular topic. No thesis may fall outside of these limits without prior written permission from the Director of Undergraduate Studies, on or before February 4, 2010.
- Copies Three typescript copies on 8 1/2 inch by 11 inch paper are required. One must be the “ribbon copy” (the original), on 20 lb. (or higher), acid-neutral, 25% rag (or higher), non-corrasable bond paper (the University Archives recommends Howard Permalife or Crane’s Thesis Paper). The other copies may be clear photocopies on 20 lb. (or higher), non-corrasable bond paper. All copies must be submitted in either a spring binder or a clamp binder (no ring binders are acceptable.) Paper and binders are available at Bob Slate Stationers and Staples. The title of the thesis and name of the author should appear on a label firmly fixed to the front cover and the spine of each binder (adhesive labels are preferable). The writer should retain a copy of the thesis for him- or herself. All theses that received grades of *magna* or *summa* will be placed in the University Archives. The Committee on the Study of Religion will keep one copy of every thesis, regardless of the grade received. If the thesis is to be entered in competition for a prize, additional copies should be prepared.
- Format The thesis should be typed on one side of the page, double-spaced (except for indented quotation and foot- or endnotes) with margins of 1 inch at the top, bottom, and on the right hand side, and 1 1/2 inch on the left hand side. Notes should be placed either at the bottom of the page (footnotes) or altogether at the end of the essay (endnotes). All pages should be numbered: preliminary matter with Roman numerals, and the remainder of the thesis, beginning with the first page of the Introduction and continuing to the last page of the bibliography, with Arabic numerals. The title page should conform exactly to the model on the following page.
- Submission Three bound copies of the thesis are due **Monday, April 5th, by 5 p.m.** Theses must be submitted to the Study of Religion main office before the 5 p.m. deadline in order to receive full credit.

THE SENIOR HONORS THESIS

Lateness Policy

Theses submitted after the April 5th, 5 p.m. deadline will receive grade reductions as follows:

If submitted by 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 6th: The evaluation for theses submitted between 5 p.m. April 5th and 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 6th will be lowered by a full grade. For example:

Grades of summa will be lowered to magna
Grades of summa minus will be lowered to magna minus
Grades of magna plus will be lowered to cum plus
Grades of magna will be lowered to cum
Grades of magna minus will be lowered to cum minus
Grades of cum plus, cum, or cum minus will not be recommended for honors

If submitted by 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 7th: The evaluation for theses submitted between 5 p.m. April 6th and 5 p.m. April 7th will be lowered by two full grades. For example:

Grades of summa will be lowered to cum
Grades of summa minus will be lowered to cum minus
Grades of magna plus or below will not be recommended for honors

Any thesis received after 5 p.m. on Wednesday, April 7th will receive a non-honors grade.

[TITLE]

A Thesis Presented

By

[Full name, including middle name, of author]

To

The Committee on the Study of Religion

in partial fulfillment of
the requirements for the degree of
Bachelor of Arts with Honors

[Harvard University]

[month and year of submission of the completed thesis]

X. Evaluation of the Thesis

Thesis Evaluation Committee The thesis evaluation committee consists of the thesis readers. There are usually three readers of the thesis: the faculty thesis advisor, the graduate student thesis advisor, and a scholar not directly involved in the student's sub-discipline. In the case of students in Option C, one of the readers will usually be a faculty member from the Allied Field. Seniors are encouraged to suggest possible readers for their theses. The final choice of readers, however, is subject to approval by the Director of Undergraduate Studies and the Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Evaluation Theses will be read and commented on by faculty members, as well as by the graduate student advisor. Readers' comments will be made available to the student prior to the oral examination. Theses will be graded on a scale of *cum laude* (minus or plus), *magna cum laude* (minus or plus), and *summa cum laude* (minus). The range from *summa cum laude* to *cum laude* minus corresponds to the letter grade range of A plus to B minus (B minus being the lowest honors grade).

A ***summa* essay** (*summa*, *summa* minus) is equivalent to an A plus. It should make a significant contribution to knowledge; whether it presents successful research on a new or little studied problem, or provides an original and perceptive reassessment of familiar questions, it should be a contribution that a scholar in the field would feel compelled to cite in his or her own work. While a *summa* thesis does not necessarily have to be in publishable form in its current state, it should show a thorough command of the literature on the subject, rely on appropriate primary sources, be well-written, provide a concise, well-organized argument, and offer first-rate creative thinking with respect to the problem(s) it addresses. A *summa* essay is expected to include work with texts in the original languages.

A ***magna-range* essay** (*magna* plus, *magna*, *magna* minus) is equivalent to an A or A minus. It is an excellent piece of undergraduate work, showing original research, strong writing skills, a well-crafted argument, incisive and creative thinking, and a good grasp of the issues at stake. A *magna* essay is expected to include work with texts in the original languages.

A ***cum-range* essay** is equivalent to a B (*cum* plus = B plus, *cum* = B, *cum* minus = B minus). A *cum-range* thesis, considered worthy of "honor," must show serious thought and effort.

THE SENIOR HONORS THESIS

XI. Advising Resources

Senior Thesis Advisors

Under normal circumstances, students will meet regularly during the senior year both with a member of the Harvard faculty and with an advanced graduate student to discuss work-in-progress. By the end of the junior year, students should have a general topic for the senior thesis and some idea of who might best guide them in the research and writing of the thesis. We ask students to speak with possible thesis advisors near the end of their junior year and, if possible, to line up a faculty thesis advisor and a graduate student thesis advisor for the senior year. The Director of Undergraduate Studies and Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies will be glad to speak with students regarding possible thesis advisors and to facilitate the matching process.

During the senior year, students are encouraged to meet at least once a month with their faculty advisors. The faculty advisor often assumes the role of “expert in the field,” helping the student to determine how his or her thesis contributes to current scholarship and identifying relevant secondary literature with which the student ought to be familiar. Students should take the initiative in scheduling appointments with faculty advisors.

Students are expected to meet with their graduate student advisor for one hour a week. The graduate student advisor often serves as a conversation partner who helps the student to focus and communicate her or his arguments through these weekly meetings and through comments on written drafts.

At least twice a year, students are expected to schedule a joint meeting with both of their thesis advisors. These meetings usually take place in October and February.

Senior Seminar: Religion 99

The Senior Seminar is a year-long course, graded Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory, which culminates in the completion and submission of the senior honors thesis. In order to receive a “satisfactory” in Religion 99 for the fall term, a student must submit a thesis prospectus, a preliminary outline or a 6-8 page primary source analysis, as well as one chapter of the senior thesis to the Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies by the stipulated due dates. Submission and acceptance of the senior thesis in April fulfills the Religion 99 requirement for the spring term.

The Senior Seminar is designed as a forum for discussing the thesis-writing process and as a workshop for developing research and writing skills. The syllabus for the Senior Seminar will be made available at the beginning of the semester. **Regular attendance at the Senior Seminar is required to receive a grade of Satisfactory.**

Other Professors

Students may also find it helpful to discuss their thesis topics and progress with other professors in related fields of study. Although Harvard faculty are quite busy, undergraduate education is the core of the activity of the University. Don't hesitate to make an appointment with a faculty member to discuss your ideas or to ask for reading recommendations.

THE SENIOR HONORS THESIS

Director of Undergraduate Studies and Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies

As always, the Director of Undergraduate Studies and the Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies are willing to discuss any general questions or problems related to the creation of a senior thesis. Even if you are very unsure of your direction, it is better to communicate with one of us than to isolate yourself, which may tend to exacerbate the problem. Let us help you in whatever way we can! Just start by asking!

Libraries and Reference Librarians

Harvard Libraries offer a wealth of print and electronic resources. The Widener and Andover-Harvard libraries are the primary locations for materials related to the Study of Religion, but you will probably use other libraries as well. Depending on your topic, you may want to consult ethnographic material in the Tozzer Library, material related to human rights in the Law School Library, or Buddhist texts in the Harvard-Yenching Library, just for example. Whatever library you visit, Reference staff will be happy to help you understand the library's collections and to suggest approaches to your research.

In addition, you may find it helpful to consult with the librarian who serves as Harvard College Library liaison to Study of Religion students:

Pam Matz, Reference Librarian, Widener Library
pmatz@fas.harvard.edu, 617-495-8713

She will suggest print and electronic resources relevant to your topic, seek out additional resources, and refer you to other librarians who are knowledgeable in the field you are investigating.

The Writing Center

The Writing Center offers individual consultations to senior thesis writers on an occasional or regular basis. The Writing Center advisors address the research and (especially) writing needs of thesis writers. Although they are not experts in your specific field, they offer invaluable advice on writing strategies. Check out their website: <http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~wricntr/> or contact them directly: (617) 495-1655.

Bureau of Study Counsel

“How do you do some original thinking on a topic like the impact of Newtonian synthesis...” “How can I learn if I'm not motivated?” “I'd like to change my habit of procrastination.” “I need to read more quickly.” “I'm feeling really stressed.” These are only a few of the hundreds of issues that the counselors at the Bureau of Study Counsel deal with. Feel free to approach anyone at the Bureau with any question of concern. You may initially want to speak with Sheila Reindl, who has worked with several of us in The Study of Religion (both students and faculty members). The Bureau has a large staff of counselors who deal with a broad range of issues. The website for the Bureau is: <http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~bsc/>, or call: (617) 495-2581.

XII. Contact Information

Taylor G. Petrey
Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies
Barker Center 406
617-448-5421
tpetrey@hds.harvard.edu

Tamsin Jones
Director of Undergraduate Studies and Lecturer on Religion
Barker Center 308
617-496-1018
tamsin_jones@harvard.edu