



BA (Hons) Moral and Philosophical Studies

with Religious Education

Frequently Asked Questions

- **Do I have to be religious to study for this degree?**

This course is open to people of all beliefs and none. You will encounter religious beliefs during the course, so you need to be open and willing to try to understand other people's perspectives, and this is an attribute of a good RMPS teacher. While there are no prerequisites for the first-year modules, it would be beneficial for you to engage with some learning about the Christian Bible and the first-year topics in Christianity before commencing the programme. Supporting materials are available on request and will be issued to candidates once their places on the programme are confirmed.

- **What is the difference between RE, RME and RMPS?**

Religious Education is the name of the teaching qualification category that you receive from the General Teaching Council of Scotland (GTCS) if you successfully pass the degree and its professional practice components. Religious and Moral Education is the name of the curricular area that has Experiences and Outcomes for pupils to learn in schools. Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies is the subject area in which pupils sit examinations and earn qualifications.

- **Do I have to be based in Scotland for this course?**

Yes, you need to be resident in Scotland to do this degree, and your school placements will be in Scottish schools.

- **Where do I study?**

A few students choose to come to the campus in Inverness, however the degree is designed so that you can undertake it from your home, wherever that is in Scotland. There may be some limitations about the availability of school placements, which could create the need for you to travel or for you to relocate temporarily in order to gain the practical experience required for the course. This would be assessed based on your own personal circumstances and would depend on where you are based. Wherever you are, you will require a strong enough Internet connection to be able to join in with live video-conferenced classes.

- **Do I have to do a one-year teaching qualification after this degree?**

No, this degree is designed to combine your undergraduate study in the subject content of Theology, Philosophy, Anthropology, and Religious Studies, with a teaching qualification, meaning that if you pass all relevant components successfully, you achieve the teaching qualification within the four years of the degree, rather than taking five years to do a four-year degree and a one-year postgraduate diploma in Education. A non-teaching pathway is available for those who do not wish to become a teacher.