

Internet resources for

religion and theology



intute : arts & humanities

www.intute.ac.uk/artsandhumanities/

The best of the Web

Welcome to this guide to the best of the Web for Religion and Theology.

In these pages you will find a selection of some of the most useful websites for students, lecturers and researchers of Religion and Theology.

The selection is by no means exhaustive, but it should give you a flavour of the range of resources available on the Internet for education and research.

Supporting your Internet research

For those interested in exploring the wider Web, we offer free Internet search and training services for further and higher education via *Intute* – details of these can be found at the end of the guide.

Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| Subject gateways | 1 |
| Sacred texts | 2 |
| Other primary resources | 4 |
| Secondary resources | 6 |
| Bibliographic resources | 8 |
| Teaching and learning | 9 |
| Discussion lists and information sharing | 10 |
| Religious organisations and scholarly associations | 11 |

Cover images

© Rob Corbett,

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/bobs-piccies/>
and <http://www.istockphoto.com/>.

Intute

This booklet is brought to you by *Intute*, a free Internet service providing you with access to the very best Web resources for education and research, selected and evaluated by a network of subject specialists.

www.intute.ac.uk

Expert advice

Intute services are developed in collaboration with staff from over seventy universities, colleges and research institutions across the UK – pooling expertise to share nationally.

Your guide for this booklet is:

intute: arts and humanities

– based at the University of Oxford and Manchester Metropolitan University.

Intute is funded by the Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC) with support from the ESRC and the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC).

Contact:

www.intute.ac.uk/feedback.html

Note: Intute was formerly known as the Resource Discovery Network (RDN).

Intute: Arts and Humanities comprises the former RDN hubs, Artifact and Humbl.

Subject gateways

Gateways provide subject-specific lists of links to websites, and can be an excellent way to find out about online resources in a given field.

Intute: Arts and Humanities

<http://www.intute.ac.uk/artsandhumanities/>

Intute: Arts and Humanities is an extensive database of websites of use to scholars, including those working in religious studies and theology. Sites included are selected and described by academic subject specialists.

Virtual Religion Index

<http://virtualreligion.net/vri/>

The VRI is an extensive and well-organised site giving access to an enormous amount of information on world religions, plus related fields such as anthropology, archaeology, and psychology of religion.

Links to Multifaith and Religion Sites

<http://www.conjure.com/religion.html>

This site is particularly useful for those needing information on indigenous religions, paganism, and interfaith movements.

Resource Pages for Biblical Studies

<http://www.torreys.org/bible/>

An extensive gateway, focusing on the early Christians' writings and on social aspects of the Greco-Roman world. It includes a section devoted to Philo of Alexandria.

New Testament Gateway

<http://www.ntgateway.com/>

Mark Goodacre's New Testament Gateway provides an excellent collection of links to sites on specific New Testament books, plus resources on textual criticism, women and gender, Judaica, and New Testament Greek.

Unicode Fonts for Windows Computers

<http://www.alanwood.net/unicode/fonts.html>

Part of Alan Wood's Unicode Resources website, this page gives details of available Unicode fonts, including Greek, Hebrew, Arabic, and others of interest to theologians. Links are provided to sites offering free downloads.

Sacred texts

The scriptures of a wide variety of religious traditions are now available online.

Collections

Internet Sacred Text Archive

<http://www.sacred-texts.com/>

This site offers an impressive collection of religious material from many different traditions, including classical mythological works and selected non-scriptural religious writings. Texts are primarily in English, though some also appear in their original language.

Bibliotheca Religiosa IntraText

<http://www.intratext.com/BRI/>

Part of the IntraText Digital Library, this site offers Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, and Islamic texts. Statistical information is provided for each work, and users can view a concordance-style list of all instances of key words in context.

Indology: Virtual e-Text Archive of Indic Texts

<http://indology.info/etexts/>

The Indology e-Text Archive provides access to a useful collection of Sanskrit and other Indic texts, including Buddhist and Hindu scriptures. The site hosts a substantial number of works itself, and also functions as a gateway to resources elsewhere on the Web.

Specific traditions

All-in-One: Bible Versions and Translations

<http://www.ntgateway.com/multibib2.htm>

The All-in-One Bible Versions and Translations page is an excellent research portal, providing a convenient way of searching several major online Bible sites, including the Hebrew and Greek texts, the Vulgate, and many English translations. Affiliated pages permit searching of related secondary sources.

Bible Gateway

<http://www.biblegateway.com/>

The Bible Gateway provides access to Bible versions in over thirty languages, including twenty in English. Texts can be browsed or searched, and a topical index allows side-by-side comparison of parallel passages.

Navigating the Bible II

<http://bible.ort.org/>

Primarily intended as an online bar/bat mitzvah tutor, Navigating the Bible II is also a valuable site for Torah studies. The complete Pentateuch and selections from the prophetic books are provided in Hebrew, alongside an English translation, a transliteration, and audio recordings of the passages.

Multilingual Quran

<http://al-islam.org/quran/>

Part of the Ahlul Bayt Digital Islamic Library Project, the Multilingual Quran provides the Arabic text along with three English translations (those of Shakir, Abdullah Yusuf Ali, and Pickthall) and the Pooya/Ali English commentary.

Digital Shikshapatri

<http://www.shikshapatri.org.uk/>

An online digitised version of a Sanskrit manuscript held by the Bodleian Library in Oxford. The site also includes a range of resources intended to help set this treasure of British Hindu cultural heritage in context.

Access to Insight: Readings in Theravada Buddhism

<http://www.accesstoinsight.org/>

Modern English translations of over a thousand important suttas from the Pali Canon, fully indexed, and accompanied by commentaries and other relevant secondary works.

Sri Granth

<http://www.srigranth.org/>

A resource for studying the Sikh holy book, the Guru Granth Sahib. Fully searchable, the site allows viewing of parallel passages in Gurmukhi, Hindi, Punjabi, and English, plus a transliteration and a Punjabi commentary.

Avesta - Zoroastrian Archives

<http://www.avesta.org/>

This website offers the complete Avesta, the most ancient scriptures of Zoroastrianism, in both English and the original Avestan language, plus an assortment of the religion's middle-Persian/Pahlavi scriptures. There is also a selection of modern secondary material.

Other primary resources

The Internet offers many repositories of electronic texts, including commentaries, manuscript images, and other religious works.

Noncanonical Literature

http://wesley.nnu.edu/biblical_studies/noncanon/

The Wesley Center for Applied Theology's Noncanonical Literature home page offers translations of Old and New Testament apocrypha and pseudepigrapha, as well as non-canonical early Christian literature.

Christian Classics Ethereal Library (CCEL)

<http://www.ccel.org/>

An extremely valuable resource containing numerous classical Christian texts, including the entire Church Fathers series, plus works by Boethius, Augustine, Calvin, Teresa of Avila, Milton, and a host of others.

New Advent

<http://www.newadvent.org/>

New Advent is an extensive site offering selections from the works of the church fathers, the complete Summa Theologica of Thomas Aquinas, and the Douay-Rheims translation of the Bible.

Alexander Street Press: Religion and Social Thought

<http://www.alexanderstreetpress.com/products/religionandsoth.htm>

The Alexander Street Press Religion and Social Thought catalogue provides details of several subscription-only primary source text collections, including the Digital Library of Classic Protestant Texts and the Digital Library of the Catholic Reformation, which offer many hundreds of 16th and 17th century theological writings. Information is also available about the Digital Karl Barth Library, currently still in its early stages.

Hill Museum and Manuscripts Library (HMML)

<http://www.hmml.org/>

The HMML is home to the world's largest collection of manuscript images. The library includes both western (mostly pre-1550) and eastern Christian works. Digitised items available online also include rare books and artwork.

USC-MSA Compendium of Muslim Texts

<http://www.usc.edu/dept/MSA/>

The USC-MSA Compendium offers translations of the Qur'an and the Hadith (narrations about the life of the prophet Muhammad), plus a substantial collection of Islamic writings, including contemporary essays.

Early Jewish Writings

<http://www.earlyjewishwritings.com/>

In addition to information about on- and offline resources for the Tanakh (Hebrew Bible) and Jewish deuterocanonical works and pseudepigrapha, this site offers substantial sections of the works of Philo of Alexandria and Flavius Josephus.

Gnostic Society Library Dead Sea Scrolls Collection

<http://www.gnosis.org/library/dss/dss.htm>

The Gnostic Society Library offers an introduction to the Dead Sea Scrolls, plus translations of selected extracts. Also provided is a useful guide to reproductions, transcripts, and translations of Scroll texts available elsewhere online.

Duke Papyrus Archive

<http://scriptorium.lib.duke.edu/papyrus/>

The Duke Papyrus Archive offers detailed information about and digital images of almost 1,400 papyri from ancient Egypt, dating mostly from between 400 BC and 700 AD. Several dozen papyri with religious significance are included.

Internet History Sourcebooks Project

<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/>

For those interested in historical theology, the Internet History Sourcebook Project provides a mine of useful information. The medieval, Islamic, Jewish, and Indian Sourcebooks may be of particular use to those working in these areas. Work to update and improve this site began in 2006.

Index of Christian Art

<http://ica.princeton.edu/>

The Index of Christian Art, hosted by Princeton University, is the largest electronic database of Christian artwork currently available. Subscribers can access tens of thousands of digital images of works dating from apostolic times to 1400 AD.

Other Women's Voices: Translations of Women's Writing Before 1700

<http://home.infionline.net/~ddisse/>

Dorothy Disse's Other Women's Voices website offers a wealth of material by and about over a hundred women writers. Dating from c. 2200 BC to 1700 AD, many of the texts have religious themes. Extracts from each writer's work are given, along with links to online editions and secondary sources.

Secondary resources

This section gives a sample of the secondary source material available on the Internet, including scholarly journals.

JSTOR

<http://www.jstor.ac.uk/>

JSTOR is a subscription-only service providing access to back issues of online journals. Over two dozen theological titles are offered, including the Journal of Biblical Literature, the Journal of the American Academy of Religion, and Church History. Members of subscribing institutions can access JSTOR with an Athens username.

Project Muse

<http://muse.jhu.edu/>

Project Muse also offers a selection of scholarly publications to subscribing institutions. Theological titles include the Catholic Historical Review, the Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion, and Modern Judaism.

Directory of Open Access Journals

<http://www.doaj.org/>

The DOAJ religion page provides a list of links to free, full-text, online theology journals.

Internet Theology Resources: Online Theology-Related Periodicals

<http://www.users.csbsju.edu/~eknuth/itr/jour.html>

A broader selection of links to online journals, including some that only offer tables of contents and abstracts to non-subscribers.

BBC Religion and Ethics

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/>

The BBC's Religion and Ethics website provides a concise introduction to a wide range of world religions, plus discussion of key ethical questions. Articles are supplemented with links to relevant news items and BBC programmes.

Adherents.com

<http://www.adherents.com/>

Adherents.com offers statistical information on religions both past and present. Data is provided for over four thousand religions, churches, and faith groups.

Religious Tolerance.org

<http://www.religioustolerance.org/>

The Religious Tolerance website provides descriptive information about historical and contemporary faith groups, plus a range of articles giving religious perspectives on ethical issues such as abortion and homosexuality.

Al-Islam.org: Ahlul Bayt Digital Islamic Library Project

<http://al-islam.org/alpha.php>

The Al-Islam.org digital library comprises over four thousand items, including books, journal articles, and audio recordings. Other sections of the site provide an introduction to Islam, and information on the Shi'a and Sunni traditions.

Virtually Islamic

<http://www.virtuallyislamic.com/>

The Virtually Islamic website focuses on research into Islam and cyberspace. Perhaps of most use to scholars is the Pathways section, an extensive annotated gateway to relevant Web resources. Other sections include news feeds and a blog.

Dinur Center for Research in Jewish History

<http://www.dinur.org/>

The Dinur Center's Jewish History Resource Center is a selective gateway providing over four thousand links. Coverage includes biblical history, the Second Temple and Talmudic era, medieval Judaism, the Holocaust, and the modern period.

The Virtual Office of William Lane Craig

<http://www.leaderu.com/offices/billcraig/>

The home page of the eminent philosopher of religion William Lane Craig offers articles and transcripts of debates on questions such as the existence of God, divine eternity and omniscience, and the historical Jesus.

Journal of Religion and Popular Culture

<http://www.usask.ca/relst/jrpc/>

The Journal of Religion and Popular Culture is a peer-reviewed electronic publication dedicated to the academic consideration of the relationship between religion and popular literature, film, music, and other media.

Catholic Encyclopedia

<http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/>

Part of the New Advent site, the online Catholic Encyclopedia, based on the 1913 edition, comprises over eleven thousand entries on church history, notable theologians, and doctrine.

Encyclopedia Mythica

<http://www.pantheon.org/>

The Encyclopedia Mythica deals with mythology, folklore, and legends. It contains definitions for over five thousand deities.

Bibliographic resources

A large number of searchable library catalogues and bibliographies are now available on the Internet.

COPAC

<http://copac.ac.uk/>

COPAC provides free access to the merged catalogues of twenty-four key academic libraries in Britain. The texts themselves are not available online, but some libraries will permit inter-library loans.

British Library

<http://www.bl.uk/>

The British Library's catalogues can be searched via their website. Information is also provided about their document supply service, which can (for a fee) send out copies of articles or book chapters by post or e-mail.

ATLA Catalog Page

<http://www.atla.com/products/catalogs.html>

The ATLA Catalog page provides information about a number of useful resources. The most important of these is the subscription-only ATLA Religion Database, which contains over 1.4 million bibliographic records for scholarly articles and book reviews. The Catalog also includes links to three free databases, including APCAT, the ATLA Preservation Program Catalog.

Web of Knowledge

<http://wok.mimas.ac.uk/>

The Web of Knowledge has extensive bibliographic citations for virtually all arts and science disciplines from the 1970s to the present day. This resource requires an institutional subscription.

Religious Studies Web Guide - Bibliographies on the Net

<http://www.acs.ucalgary.ca/~lipton/biblio.html>

This Web page provides an extensive list of categorised links to online bibliographies, and forms part of a more general gateway to religious studies resources.

English Literature and Religion

<http://www.english.umd.edu/englfac/WPeterson/ELR/elr.htm>

A bibliographical database about religious aspects of English literature from the middle ages onwards.

Method and Theory in the Study of Religion Bibliography

<http://eir.library.utoronto.ca/MandT/>

A specialised bibliographical resource for those interested in methodological aspects of the academic study of religion.

Teaching and learning

The Internet offers a huge amount of material to support teachers at all levels, as well as interactive content suitable for use by students.

Higher Education Academy Subject Centre for Philosophical and Religious Studies

<http://www.prs.heacademy.ac.uk/>

The HEA Subject Centre exists to provide resources and support for teaching and learning within the higher education community. The website offers news, bibliographic suggestions, useful links, and articles on the theory and practice of teaching religion, including access to *Discourse*, the Centre's journal.

American Academy of Religion's Teaching and Learning Center

<http://www.aarweb.org/teaching/>

The AAR's Teaching and Learning Center offers a good selection of teaching-related resources. These include the AAR syllabus project, a collection of course syllabi contributed by scholars working within the academic study of religion.

Wabash Center Guide to Internet Resources for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion

<http://www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/Internet/>

The Wabash Center Guide is a selective, annotated, and well-organised gateway to a vast range of websites. For many of the subjects listed, a separate section gives links to course syllabi.

ATLA Cooperative Digital Resources Initiative

<http://www.atla.com/digitalresources/>

The ATLA CDRI provides a database of digital images related to the study of religion, and is ideal for illustrating lectures or presentations. It features a wide selection of photographs, artwork, woodcuts, papyri, coins, and manuscripts.

Intute Virtual Training Suite: Internet for Religious Studies

<http://www.vts.intute.ac.uk/he/tutorial/religion>

Internet for Religious Studies is an online interactive tutorial designed to help those in the higher education community develop their Internet research skills. The tutorial includes a tour of key sites, a guide to evaluating resources, and a teachers' section.

Discussion lists and information sharing

Discussion lists, wikis, and blogs provide forums for sharing ideas and discussion, and can be useful sources of news relevant to a particular field.

JISCmail

<http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/>

JISCmail is the UK's national academic mailing list service, maintaining hundreds of discussion lists, including those for the study of feminist theology, liturgy, and post-modern religion. Users can browse, search, and join the lists.

H-Net Discussion Networks

<http://www.h-net.org/lists/>

The H-Net Humanities and Social Sciences Online Discussion Networks aim to provide links between students and professional academics, thereby facilitating the exchange of ideas.

Wabash Center's Listserv Discussion Groups page

<http://www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/Internet/listserv.htm>

Part of the Wabash Center's gateway, this page provides links to lists that may be of interest to those working in theology or religious studies.

Errancy Wiki

<http://www.errancywiki.com/>

This is a website for discussion of possible errors in the Bible. Users are invited to contribute arguments for and against claims that passages contain errors of fact or consistency, or that they countenance immorality.

Theopedia

<http://www.theopedia.com/>

Theopedia is a collaborative online project using wiki technology to create an encyclopaedia of Christianity and biblical theology, particularly as these are embodied in the Reformed tradition. User participation is encouraged.

Tabsir

<http://www.tabsir.net/>

This multi-contributor blog offers insight on Islam and the Middle East, and is committed to scholarly assessment of and informed debate about topical issues.

NT Gateway Weblog

<http://www.ntgateway.com/weblog/>

Mark Goodacre's New Testament studies blog is frequently updated with theological discussion, plus posts about the academic world.

PaleoJudaica

<http://paleojudaica.blogspot.com/>

A scholarly blog by James Davila, Lecturer in Early Jewish Studies at St Andrews University. It features news relevant to ancient Judaism and biblical studies more generally.

Theology Blogs

<http://theologyblogs.blogspot.com/>

A meta-blog which exists to bring together details of other blogs, particularly those focusing on systematic theology.

Blogs in Religion and Theology

<http://www.academicblogs.org/wiki/index.php/Religion/Theology>

Part of the Academic Blog Portal, this Web page features a list of blogs that may be of interest to the theologian.

Religious organisations and scholarly associations

Most faith groups, religious denominations, and academic societies now have an online presence. Their websites can be located via a search engine or a subject gateway: this section provides a very small illustrative selection.

Yahoo Directory Religious Organizations page

http://dir.yahoo.com/Society_and_Culture/Religion_and_Spirituality/Organizations/

This Yahoo Directory page provides an extensive categorised list of faith-related organisations. Popular in focus rather than scholarly, this site is nonetheless helpful for those seeking information about more unusual religious groups.

Anglican Communion

<http://www.anglicancommunion.org/>

The official home page of the Anglican Communion, offering resources including archives of Lambeth Conferences, and extensive information about the Windsor Process, the Anglican Communion's enquiry into sexuality.

Holy See

<http://www.vatican.va/>

Scholars interested in Catholicism will find much of value in the official website of the Vatican. It provides access to a range of church documents, including many papal encyclicals.

Movement for Reform Judaism

<http://www.reformjudaism.org.uk/>

The Movement for Reform Judaism website explains and promotes this Jewish denomination. Available on the site are news items, audio files, sermons and articles.

Muslim Council of Britain

<http://www.mcb.org.uk/>

The website of the Muslim Council of Britain offers news reports, press releases, articles, and other resources on issues relevant to the Islamic community in Britain.

Buddhist Society UK

<http://www.thebuddhistsociety.org/>

The website of the UK Buddhist Society offers an introductory guide to Buddhism, plus information about the history and current activities of the Society.

Scholarly Societies Project: Religious Studies

http://www.scholarly-societies.org/religion_soc.html

The Religious Studies page of the Scholarly Societies Project offers a list of links to the websites of a selection of relevant academic organisations.

British Association for the Study of Religions (BASR)

<http://basr.open.ac.uk/>

The BASR is one of the major UK scholarly societies for religious studies. The Association aims to promote the academic study of religions through international collaboration.

Society for the Study of Theology (SST)

<http://www.huss.ex.ac.uk/theology/sst/>

The SST aims to promote excellence in Christian theology. The website offers details of the Society's activities, the chief of which is their annual conference.

American Academy of Religion (AAR)

<http://www.aarweb.org/>

The AAR is the world's largest association of academics researching or teaching religious studies. Their extensive site includes online publications, teaching resources, and information about the Academy's meetings.

Discover the best of the Web using Intute

The Internet can be a powerful tool for learning, teaching and research, offering a huge range of information and services. However, finding relevant resources online can be a daunting task, and issues of trust, quality and poor search skills are very real and significant concerns – particularly in education and research contexts.

Intute exists to help students, teachers, researchers and librarians make sense of the Web by providing access to the very best Internet resources for education and research, selected and evaluated by a network of subject specialists.

intute : arts and humanities

- The **Intute: Arts and Humanities database** provides access to thousands of high-quality Internet resources, selected and described by subject specialists, and covers all key areas of arts and humanities.
- The **Virtual Training Suite** offers free Internet training with a set of “teach-yourself” online tutorials, designed to help students develop their Internet research skills.
- Free **support materials** for universities and colleges, such as flyers, posters, leaflets and presentations as well as a range of “best of the Web” subject booklets.
- **Limelight**, a regular feature showcasing individual artists, topical subjects, new and noteworthy websites, or forthcoming events, exhibitions or festivals. Each feature gives information, links to related sites in the Intute: Arts and Humanities database and suggestions for possible searches.
- Search for notable figures in the Arts and Humanities via the **People Index**, including links to relevant resources in the database.
- Quick and easy access to scholarly **electronic journals** in the Arts and Humanities, and to the websites of **AHRC-funded research projects**.



Getting involved with Intute

- Sign up for a personal **MyIntute** account, which provides weekly email updates of recently reviewed websites and allows you to save resources of interest.
- **Working with Intute.** Join our community of users of online resources by suggesting sites for the database or embedding *Intute* services in your own websites and Virtual Learning Environments using our sophisticated **MyIntute Include** services.
<http://www.intute.ac.uk/myintute/>



Subject
Centre for
Philosophical &
Religious Studies

Supporting Philosophy,
Theology, Religious Studies,
History of Science and
Philosophy of Science

Our mission – *To support and promote Philosophical, Theological and Religious Studies higher education in the UK, and to build on its culture of dialogue and reflection.*



- We promote our disciplines in the development of national policies, such as the review of the teaching of Islamic Studies in HE.
- We support effective teaching practice in PRS. Look out for funding opportunities for pedagogical research projects.
- We support and run conferences, colloquia, learning and teaching panels, and workshops in departments on subject specific educational issues.
- We have an expanding range of publications, including a series of Faith Guides, a peer-reviewed journal, *Discourse: Learning and Teaching in Philosophical and Religious Studies*, and an Employability Guide for students.
- Register at our website today to benefit from our many resources: <http://prs.heacademy.ac.uk>

Contact us to talk about what we can do for you:
Subject Centre for Philosophical and Religious Studies
Department of Theology and Religious Studies
University of Leeds, Leeds, LS2 9JT, UK

tel: +44 (0)113 343 4184 fax: +44(0)113 343 3654

email: enquiries@prs.heacademy.ac.uk website: <http://prs.heacademy.ac.uk>



Arts & Humanities
Research Council



JISC