Master Program for Chinese Religious Studies in English

Fudan University (Shanghai, China)

I. Overview

In recent decades, discussion in public sphere and academic research about Chinese religions is becoming a cross-cultural phenomenon, in the tide of globalization and revitalization of faith. For the purpose of training experts in the future and promising young scholars in the field of Chinese religions, the School of Philosophy Fudan University resolves to launch a master program for Chinese religious studies in English, starting in fall semester 2015, which is open for global application. The School of Philosophy Fudan University has long-term corporation and friendship with all religious communities in Shanghai as well as in Mainland China. This program plans to organize regular visits for all students, and provides field research possibilities, so that students are able to have direct encounter with living Chinese religions, besides understanding the theory and classical texts.

II. Years of study

M.A. Program: This is a two-year degree program.
Visiting Student Program: This is a one-year non-degree program.
Audit Program: This program is based upon individual courses.

III. Curriculum for Master’s Degree Program

All courses are delivered in English

1. Courses of Chinese language: 6 credits (2X3 courses, compulsory);
2. Practical courses (field research and visit): 4 credits (2X2 courses, compulsory);
3. Major courses: 20 credits (6-7 courses, elective).
4. Thesis

IV. Requirements of granting degree:

1. Get the prescribed credit (normally within two years);
2. Write an academic thesis under the supervision of a professor, and pass the oral defense.

V. Courses

The courses are divided into three levels, namely basic, intermediate and advanced, so that student can choose different ones according to his/her own pre-knowledge in the area (see the diagram below, incomplete, for your reference only).

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<tr>
<td>Intermediate</td>
<td>Selected reading of Buddhist Sutras</td>
<td>Topics of Chinese Christianity</td>
<td>Selected reading of Taoist and popular religious texts</td>
<td>Topics of Chinese Islam (I)</td>
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<td>Advanced</td>
<td>Topics of Chinese Buddhism</td>
<td>Sino-Christian theology; Chinese Translation of Bible</td>
<td>Intensive reading of Chinese traditional religious texts</td>
<td>Topics of Chinese Islam (II)</td>
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<th>Confucianism, Taoism and popular religion</th>
<th>Islam</th>
<th>Methodology</th>
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<tr>
<td>Introduction of Chinese traditional religion</td>
<td>Introduction of Chinese Islam</td>
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Application and Admission

Number of global enrollment (fall semester, 2016): 20 students.

Basic requirement: applicants must have an acknowledged bachelor degree.

Application documents:
[Please visit the official website of international student’s office of Fudan University: http://admission.iso.fudan.edu.cn/]

1. Copy of passport (required by international student office)
2. Application form (required by international student office)
3. CV
4. Copy of diploma
5. Notarized copy of academic records
6. Two letters of recommendation (sealed with signature)
7. Personal statement (1000 words)
8. Research project (10-12 pages, double space, 12#)
9. Non-native speakers of English must provide an English level certificate (TOEFL, GRE, IELTS)
10. Application fee: 800 RMB (non-refundable!)

**Deadline:**
The priority deadline is April 30 of the same year as that of enrollment (Follow the requirements by ISO of Fudan)

**Tuition and Scholarship:**
The tuition fee is 50,000 RMB/year.
If student is not able to obtain the credits or pass the thesis-defense within two years, he/she CAN postpone graduation. But one must pay 25,000 RMB fee for every extended term.

**Terms:**
First term: September–January
Second term: February–July

**Contact Information:**
For more information about these programs, please write to BOTH Mr. YU,