

From: [Ciregna, Elise M.](#)
To: [Ciregna, Elise M.](#)
Subject: Application to Teach a Junior Tutorial
Date: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 9:26:43 AM
Attachments: [Guidelines for Junior Tutorial Leaders 2021-22.pdf](#)
[2021-22 Application to lead a Junior Tutorial.docx](#)

From the CSR's Director of Undergraduate Studies, Dr. Courtney Lamberth:

~~~~~

Dear Doctoral Student in the Study of Religion,

I write to invite you to apply to lead a Junior Tutorial (Religion 98r) in the coming academic year for one of our undergraduate concentrators or secondary field students in the Comparative Study of Religion.

The Junior Tutorial is an opportunity for students to work closely with an advanced doctoral student on a specific topic of interest to them in their major tradition and/or area of focus in the concentration. The purposes of the tutorial are to teach students: (1) to read primary texts closely and critically, (2) to engage in the rigorous discussion of these texts and the issues they raise, (3) to refine writing skills through drafting and revision, and (4) to explore and research in greater depth a topic they may be considering for their thesis.

For the tutor, leading a tutorial provides valuable teaching experience that is quite distinct from that gained by working as a Teaching Fellow. Tutors independently develop their own syllabus, run the course, and evaluate all student work. Monthly meetings with the Director of Undergraduate Studies and other tutorial leaders focus on leading discussion, grading papers, and talking about how best to help students begin to think about the possibilities for writing a senior thesis.

The pandemic and remote learning have led many of our concentrators to go on leave for one or two terms, and therefore some returning students are off-cycle, while others are not even sure if they will be returning to campus next year. Based on current information, I anticipate that 6 or 7 students will take a junior tutorial in the coming academic year. Their interests vary widely and some students are still unsure what topic they would like to pursue in the tutorial.

If you are interested in applying to lead a Junior Tutorial next year, please complete the attached application and send it to me at [lamberth@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:lamberth@fas.harvard.edu) not later than **Monday, May 10th**. Please list topics you are prepared to teach and/or thematic courses you would like to develop. Tutorial assignments are based on matching tutor expertise with undergraduate interest. I am meeting with students individually, and after reading your applications, I hope to make assignments by late May so that students and tutors can meet over Zoom before summer. I also attach here the *Guidelines* for teaching in the program and would be happy to meet with you over Zoom to discuss course ideas or the program more generally.

With my best wishes,

Courtney Lamberth

-----  
Courtney Bickel Lamberth, PhD  
Lecturer on the Study of Religion

Director of Undergraduate Studies  
Committee on the Study of Religion  
Harvard University

12 Quincy Street, 3rd Floor  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
617-495-2085

[Link to Office Hours](#)