



Reading and activities list for Theology & Religion

Checklist for Oxbridge preparation (General)

- Read a quality daily newspaper every day such as The Guardian, The Independent or The Daily Telegraph and think about the issues that are raised. Analyse the arguments being advanced.
- When reading books and articles, try to be critical in your analysis at all times. Develop counter-arguments and attempt to justify these with logic and evidence.
- As part of your learning process throughout Oxbridge preparation, create a cumulative list of definitions and key concepts to expand your academic vernacular and knowledge for use in academic conversation.
- Create bullet-point records of your thoughts, observations, learning and list of definitions from your reading and attending subject-related activities (i.e. public talks and lectures) in a pocket-size note-book. This will help you articulate your thoughts in response to answering subject-related questions at future mock interviews.
- Conduct research into Course and College choices using the Course and College Research Booklet to help you.

Theology & Religion Reading List

Oxford does not produce a recommended reading list for theology, and the ones below are from Cambridge sources. However, the Oxford course covers similar ground and students should all show additional reading to their school research, including sources they have taken the trouble to study.

- For details of the Cambridge Theology course see: <http://www.study.cam.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses/theology/>
- For the Oxford Theology course see: <http://www.theology.ox.ac.uk/current-students/undergraduate1.html>
- <http://www.divinity.cam.ac.uk/apply/introductory-reading>
- The Making of Modern Theology
 - Migliore, D. L., *Faith Seeking Understanding: An Introduction to Christian Theology* (1991)
 - Brown, D., *Invitation to Theology* (1989)
 - Young, F., *The Making of the Creeds* (1991)
- Understanding Contemporary Religion
 - Aldridge, A., *Religion in the Contemporary World* (Polity Press, 2000)
 - Barker, E., *The Making of a Moonie: Brainwashing or Choice* (Blackwell, 1984)
 - Bruce, S., *Religion in the Modern World* (OUP, 1996)
 - Davie, G., *Religion in Britain since 1945* (Blackwell, 1994)
 - Davie, G., *Europe: The Exceptional Case* (DLT, 2002)v
 - Hamilton, M. B., *The Sociology of Religion* (Routledge, 2nd Edition, 2001)
- World Religions
 - Neusner, J. & Sonn, T., *Comparing Religions Through Law: Judaism and Islam* (Routledge, 1999)
 - McCutcheon, R. T., *The Insider/Outsider Problem in the Study of Religion: A Reader* (Cassell, 1999)
 - de Lange, N.R.M., *An Introduction to Judaism* (Cambridge, 2000)
 - Waines, D., *An Introduction to Islam* (Cambridge, 1997)
 - Lipner, J. J., *Hindus: Their Religious Beliefs and Practices* (Routledge, 1994)



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- ❑ Philosophy and Ethics
 - Turner, D., *The Darkness of God* (Cambridge, 1998)
 - Burrell, D., *Knowing the Unknowable God: Ibn-Sina, Maimonides and Aquinas* (Notre Dame, 1986)
 - Sokolowski, R., *The God of Faith and Reason* (Washington, 1995)
 - Louth, A., *The Origins of the Christian Mystical Tradition: from Plato to Denys* (Clarendon, 1981)
 - Priest, G., *Beyond the Limits of Thought* (Cambridge, 1995)
 - Macintyre, A., *After Virtue* (London, 1981)
 - Mahoney, J. D., *The Making of Moral Theology* (OUP, 1989)

- ❑ General Books on the Bible and its Interpretation:
 - Alter, R. & Kermode, F., *The Literary Guide to the Bible* (Collins, 1987)
 - Charpentier, E. *How to Read the Bible - The Old and New Testaments; How to Read the Old Testament; and How to Read the New Testament*5253030002563476
 - Grant, R. M. & Tracy, D. A., *Short History of the Interpretation of the Bible* (London: SCM, 1984)
 - Hayes, J. H. & Holladay, C. R., *Biblical Exegesis: A Beginner's Handbook* (London, 1983)
 - Morgan, R., & Barton, J., *Biblical Interpretation* (1988)
 - Rogerson, J.W., *Introduction to the Bible* (1999)
 - Soskice, J.M., *The Sisters of Sinai: How Two Lady Adventurers Found the Hidden Gospels* (London: Chatto & Windus, 2009).

- ❑ Old Testament: One God?
 - Anderson, B. W., *The Living World of the Old Testament* (Longmans, 3rd ed., 1978)
 - Coggins, R. J., *Introducing the Old Testament* (Oxford, 1990)
 - Friedman, R. E. *Who Wrote the Bible?* (1988)
 - McConville, G., *Teach Yourself the Old Testament* (Hodder & Stoughton, 1996)
 - Niditch, S., *Ancient Israelite Religion* (Oxford, 1997)
 - Rogerson, J. W. & Davies, P., *The Old Testament World* (Cambridge, 1989)
 - Rogerson, J. W. (ed.), *Beginning Old Testament Study* (SPCK, 1983)

- ❑ New Testament: Jesus and the Origins of the Gospels
 - Barrett, C. K., *The New Testament Background: Selected Documents* (SPCK, 1956)
 - Bockmue, M (ed.), *The Cambridge Companion to Jesus* (Cambridge University Press, 2001)
 - Brown, S., *The Origins of Christianity* (1984)
 - Court, J. & K., *The New Testament World* (Cambridge, 1990)
 - Freed, E. D., *The Stories of Jesus' Birth* (2001)
 - Johnson, L. T., *The Writings of the New Testament* (SCM, 1999)
 - Tuckett, C., *Reading the New Testament* (SPCK, 1987)
 - Moule, C. F. D., *The Birth of the New Testament* (A & C Black, 3rd ed., 1981)
 - Sanders E. P. *The Historical Figure of Jesus*, (Allen Lane, 1993)

- ❑ History: Christianity and the Transformation of Culture
 - Bebbington, D.W., *Evangelicalism in Modern Britain* (1989)
 - Cragg, G.R., *The Church and the Age of Reason 1648-1789* (1960; repr. many times)
 - Duffy. E, *The Stripping of the Altars* (2nd edn. Yale, 2005)
 - Grass, T., *Modern Church History* (2008) [1648-present, but thin in places]
 - Hastings, A (ed.), *A World History of Christianity* (1999) [a general overview of the whole field of Christianity]



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- Knight, F., *The Church in the Nineteenth Century* (2008)
 - MacCulloch, D., *A History of Christianity* (2009) [ditto - and a great read]
 - MacCulloch, D., *The Later Reformation in England* (2nd edn. PalgraveMacmillan, 2001)
 - Morris, J., *The Church in the Modern Age* (2007) [C20th only]
 - Rex, R., *Henry VIII and the English Reformation* (2nd edn. PalgraveMacmillan, 2006)
 - Stanley, B., *The Bible and the Flag* (1990)
 - Vidler, A., *The Church in an Age of Revolution* (1961; repr. many times)
- ☐ Who is Jesus Christ?
- Bockemuehl, M., *The Cambridge Companion to Jesus* (Cambridge: CUP, 2001)
 - Ford, D. F., *Theology: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford: OUP, 2000)
 - Ford, D. F. & Higton, Mike, *Jesus* (Oxford: OUP, 2002)
 - McGrath, A. E., *Christian Theology: An Introduction* (Oxford: Blackwells, 2001)
 - Need, S. W., *Truly Human and Truly Divine* (London: SPCK, 2008)
 - Pelikan, J., *Jesus through the Centuries* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1985)
 - Wright, N.T. & Borg, Markus, *The Meaning of Jesus* (London: SPCK, 1999)
- ☐ Hebrew
- Harrison, R. K., *Teach Yourself Hebrew* (1995). (Omit pp 26-45 to begin with, and then refer back to them when required.)
 - Seow, C.L., *Grammar for Biblical Hebrew*, Revised Edition (Nashville: Abingdon, 1995). This can be purchased from Alban books (<http://www.albanbooks.com/>) or at Heffers in Cambridge.
 - Weingreen, J. A., *A Practical Grammar for Classical Hebrew* (2nd Edition, 1959)
- ☐ Greek
- Duff, J., *Elements of New Testament Greek* (3rd edition) (CUP 2005)
- ☐ Sanskrit
- Coulson, M., *Sanskrit: an introduction to the Classical Language* (2nd edn., Hodder & Stoughton, 1992)
- ☐ Arabic
- Haywood, J. A. & Nahmad, H. M. A., *A New Arabic Grammar of the Written Language* (Lund Humphries, 1990)