

Gurukul Lutheran Theological College and Research Institute, Chennai

MTh Entrance Exam Guidelines and Requirements- 2025

BRANCH – V: RELIGION (Hinduism & Islam)

1. Comprehensive knowledge and perspectives of the following areas:

- Proficiency in the language of the religious tradition
- Various Approaches to the study of religions
- Major beliefs and practices of faith tradition
- Orthodox and heterodox Indian philosophical systems
- Modern Religious and Contemporary Movements in India
- Religious fundamentalism and Inter-religious Relations

(A) Hinduism

- Grammar and Texts in Sanskrit Language
- Historical overview, Scriptures, Religious and Philosophical Teachings, Sects and Contemporary Hinduism.

(B) Islam

- Grammar and Texts in Arabic Language
- Historical overview, Scripture, Tradition, Philosophy, Mysticism, and Sects

2. Book Review of any one of the following:

Selvam Roberson, *Understanding the Role of Religion in Building up Sustainable Existence: Issues and Challenges*, Delhi: Christian World Imprints, 2021.

Samartha, S.J. *One Christ and Many Religions: Towards a Revised Christology*. New York: Orbis, 1991.

3. ‘A Tentative Thesis Proposal’: Send/submit on the day or before the entrance examination.

Suggested Books for Reading

General:

Chatterjee, Satishchandra and Dhirendra Mohan Datta. *An Introduction to Indian Philosophy*. Calcutta: University of Calcutta, 1984.

Daniel, P.S., David C. Scott and G.R. Singh. *Religious Traditions of India*. Delhi: ISPCCK/Senate of Serampore College, 2010 (1988).

Ralte, Rodinmawia and Swami Raju (eds.). *Modern Religious and Secular Movements in India*. Serampore: Senate of Serampore College, 2023

Hinduism:

De, Smet R. and J. Neuner. *Religious Hinduism*. 4th ed. Bombay: St. Paul Publications, 1996.

Farquhar, J.N. *An Outline of the Religious Literature of India*. Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, 1984.

Flood, Gavin. *The Blackwell Companion to Hinduism*, Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2003.

Morgan, Kenneth. *Religion of the Hindus*. Delhi: Motilal Banarsidas, 1996.

Nirvedananda, Swami. *Hinduism at a Glance*. Kolkata: Ramakrishna Mission, 2014.

Robertson, S., *Bhakti Tradition of Vaisnava Alvars and Theology of Religions*. Kolkatta: Punthi Pustak, 2006.

Sarma, D.S. *Hinduism Through the Ages*. Mumbai: Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, 2000.

The Cultural heritage of India Vols. 1, II & IV, Calcutta: Ramakrishna Mission, 2001.

Winternitz, Maurice. *An history of Indian literature*. Vol.1. Part 1. Calcutta: University of Calcutta, 1962; Vol. III. Part II, Delhi: Motilal Banarsidass, 1967.

Islam:

Ahmed Zafar, *Islam and Muslims in South Asia*, New Delhi, 2001.

Engineer, Asghar Ali. *A Modern Approach to Islam*, Bangalore: Dharmaram Publications, 2003.

Martin Lings, *Muhammad: His Life Based on the Earliest Sources*, 1983.

Nasr, Seyyed Hossein, *Islam: Religion, History, Civilization*, San Francisco: Harper, 2003.

Rahman, Fazlur. *Major Themes of the Quran*, Minneapolis and Chicago, Bibliotheca Islamica, 1980.

Rizvi, S.A.A., *A History of Sufism in India*, New Delhi, 1983.