**Prof. Abdulkader Tayob**  
**Islamic Studies, Religion and Public Life**  
Abdulkader Tayob is the current Head of the department and holds the NRF chair in Islam, African Publics and Religious Values. He is an internationally recognized scholar in the study of modern Islam in general, and Islam in Africa in particular. His research focus has been on Islamic revival, religious institutions and modern intellectual trends. He has carried out his research in South Africa, and in classical and modern textual traditions. Currently he is also focussing on East Africa and Egypt, examining biographical self-reflections of Islamists and other religious leaders. Prof. Tayob has a number of PG student scholarships available with his NRF chair. For this contact nabowayah.kafaar@uct.ac.za  
Email: Abdulkader.Tayob@uct.ac.za

**Assoc. Prof. Chuck Wanamaker**  
**Christian Studies**  
Chuck Wanamaker (Ph.D. University of Durham) specializes in New Testament and Early Christianity studies, with a special interest in the application of socio-rhetorical analysis to the study of the writings of the Apostle Paul. He is currently working on a socio-rhetorical commentary on 1 Corinthians in the Rhetoric of Religious Antiquity series.  
Email: Chuck.Wanamaker@uct.ac.za

**Dr. Asonzeh Ukah**  
**Christianity in Africa, African Religions**  
Asonzeh Ukah areas of interests are in religion and globalisation; transnational religion; media and material culture of Pentecostalism; Pentecostal advertising: faith and films; urbanism and sacred space. Dr Ukah will join us in the later part of 2013 at which time we will have information pertaining to his area of speciality and his contact details.

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**POSTGRADUATE STUDIES IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

An **Honours programme** takes one year. Students complete four semester courses and write a short dissertation (15,000 words)

These **Honours courses** will be offered in 2014:  
- Critical Terms for Religious Studies (compulsory)  
- Phenomenology of Religion (not offered in 2014)  
- Buddhism (not offered in 2014)  
- Critical Theory (not offered in 2014)  
- Islamic Studies: Intro to PG Studies  
- African Religion and Philosophy  
- Readings in Religious Studies

The department offers two types of **Masters degrees**.  
1) A **Masters by coursework** takes two years. Students take four courses and write a 25,000 word dissertation.

These Masters courses will be offered in 2014:  
- Studies in Paul  
- Religion and Gender  
- Philosophers on Religion  
- African Religious Heritage  
- Reading Religious Texts

2) A **Masters by research** does not involve coursework. Students write a substantial 50,000 word dissertation

**Phd:** The PhD is by dissertation only, and involves original research. The thesis should be in the region of 80,000 words and takes at least 3 years to complete.
If you are interested in a research masters or PhD, it would be best to contact one of the staff below to discuss possible thesis topic and supervision.

**Due Dates for applications:**

Application for Honours and Masters by coursework
- 31 October 2013

Applications for Masters by research and PhD,
- March 2014

Registration for Honours and Masters by coursework at the Graduate School of Humanities: 10-14 February 2014

For application procedure speak to Tasneem Wise
Tasneem.Wise@uct.ac.za

**Staff research areas and possibilities available for postgraduate research:**

**Dr Louis Blond**
**Jewish Thought**
Louis Blond focuses on meaning in contemporary philosophy and philosophy's relationship with politics, critical theory and religious discourse, particularly Jewish Thought. Previously he has explored responses to nihilism and homelessness in the work of thinkers such Franz Rosenzweig, Emmanuel Levinas and Martin Heidegger. His current research includes a re-examination of the philosophical descriptions of otherness, *devekut*, and the relationship between natural law and religion and politics.
Email: Louis.Blond@uct.ac.za

**Dr. Andrea Brigaglia**
**Islamic Studies, African Studies**
Andrea Brigaglia has combined the study of Arabic and Hausa languages with Islamic and African history. His previous work examined the history of the discipline of Qur’anic exegesis in Hausa-speaking Northern Nigeria in the twentieth century, exploring it as an arena for the interaction of religious scholars and society, and for the articulation of intellectual and cultural transformation.
Email: Andrea.Brigaglia@uct.ac.za

**Prof. David Chidester**
**Comparative Religion**
David Chidester is an internationally acclaimed scholar in the field of comparative religion. His interests lie in the relationships between religion and globalization, religion and popular culture, religion in society and the problems of social cohesion. He has written extensively on religion in South Africa, North America, as well as religion and education.
Email: David.Chidester@uct.ac.za

**Dr. Annie Leatt**
**Buddhist Studies, Religion and Society**
Annie Leatt lectures on Asian religions in the department, particularly Buddhism, Hinduism and Chinese religious traditions. Her research is on early Buddhist texts in Pali and the social context of the historical Buddha. Her interests extend to modern forms of politics and its relationship to and transformations of religious traditions and institutions. She completed her doctorate on secularism and the South African constitution.
Email: Annie.Leatt@uct.ac.za

**Assoc. Prof. Sa’diyya Shaikh**
**Islamic Studies, Feminist Theory**
Sa’diyya Shaikh’s research is in the area of Islamic Studies with a focus on gender, feminism and Islamic mysticism. Her research interests include theoretical developments in Islamic feminism, critical scholarship on gender violence and religion, and feminist readings of pre-modern Islamic texts, with a particular interest in the writings of the Sufi thinker Ibn Arabi. In addition, one of her current studies focuses on South African Muslim women in terms of marriage, sexuality and HIV/Aids.
Email: Sadiyya.shaikh@uct.ac.za