

CONSTITUTION OF

Alpha Gamma Zeta Chapter
Theta Alpha Kappa
The National Honor Society for
Religious Studies

Adopted Sept., 1996
Revised Jan., 2002

ARTICLE I
NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Alpha Gamma Zeta chapter (AGZ) of Theta Alpha Kappa, the National Honor Society for Religious Studies.

ARTICLE II
PURPOSE

The Chapter's purposes, like those of Theta Alpha Kappa, are to encourage and recognize excellence in the academic study of religion at the University of Alabama.

ARTICLE III
MEMBERS

- Section 1. Membership in AGZ, which is simultaneously membership in Theta Alpha Kappa, shall be open to student and honorary members as defined below.
- A. Undergraduate students are eligible for membership if they have a) completed a minimum of twelve hours in religious studies courses and attained at least a 3.5 GPA therein, b) attained at least a 3.0 GPA in their total academic program to date, and c) been ranked in at least the upper 35% of their class in general scholarship at the time of their induction. Graduate students matriculated in degree programs in Religion or Theology are eligible if they have a) completed at least one half the residency requirements of their current degree program, and b) have attained at least a 3.5 GPA in this course work.

All inductees shall be considered active members upon annual payment of the \$25 national honor society induction and membership fees, and shall

thereafter be permanent lifetime members. Active membership requires yearly payment of \$20 for national membership fees.

B. Honorary membership is constituted by two groups as indicated below:

1. Individuals holding faculty rank in one of these disciplines are eligible for membership if they have completed at one semester at that appointment.
2. Other individuals who have clearly established a record of excellence in their own right, and shown consistent support and encouragement of these academic disciplines.

At least 50% plus one of the membership should be active University of Alabama students.

ARTICLE IV OFFICES

- Section 1. The officers of AGZ shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. These officers shall comprise the executive committee.
- Section 2. Officers shall be elected at the first meeting in September each year from the pool of nominations. Active members seeking office may be nominated by other members or by themselves.
- Section 3. Election shall be by secret ballot. Candidates receiving one vote more than 50% of the total number of votes cast shall be named to their respective offices.
- Section 4. Officers shall be elected to serve for one year, beginning at the close of the meeting at which they are elected. Vacancies in offices shall be filled by nomination and voting by a quorum of active members.
- Section 5. The President is responsible for presiding over all meetings and determining meeting times, as well as communications with other organizations and administrations within the University of Alabama and within the national office of Theta Alpha Kappa.
- Section 6. The Vice President is responsible for communications with outside parties (those not affiliated with Theta Alpha Kappa or the University of Alabama) for the purpose of planning events and activities.
- Section 7. The Secretary is responsible for taking minutes of the meetings, and recording activity dates. Those records must be open to all members.
- Section 8. The treasurer is responsible for collection of membership fees, dispensing of funds for activities and events, and communication concerning monetary issues with the national office of Theta Alpha Kappa.

ARTICLE V
MEETINGS

- Section 1. The regular meeting times of AGZ shall be determined by the President. Meeting times may change in order to allow for fuller participation from members. Meetings shall be held at least once every semester.
- Section 2. Special meetings may be called by the President or Executive Committee and shall be called upon the written request of at least ten members. The purpose of the meeting shall be stated in the notice, and three days' notice shall be given except in the case of emergencies.
- Section 3. All members present at a meeting shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VI
RELATIONSHIPS

AGZ shall be affiliated with, and be bound by the constitution of the national office of Theta Alpha Kappa.

ARTICLE VII
COMMITTEES

- Section 1. The Executive Committee shall include the officers of the association. They shall supervise affairs of the association between its business meetings, make recommendations to the association and perform other duties as specified in this constitution. The Executive Committee shall be subject to the orders of the association, and none of its acts shall conflict with actions taken by the association.
- Section 2. Other committees, standing or special, shall be appointed by the President as the association deems necessary to carry on the work of the association.

ARTICLE VIII
ADVISOR

One or more advisors shall be elected each year in the same manner as the association's officers. Responsibilities shall be those assigned by the University of Alabama Student Handbook. The advisor must be a full-time faculty, staff, or a full-time employee of the University of Alabama.

ARTICLE IX
PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised Edition shall govern the association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these by-laws and special rules of order the association may adopt.

ARTICLE X
AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the association by two-thirds vote, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting, and that the Executive Committee has made reasonable effort to inform all members of the pending vote.

ARTICLE XI
BY-LAWS

By-laws to this constitution may be added at any regular meeting of the association by two-thirds vote, provided the by-law has been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting.