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Sections are the most inclusive units of the AAR Program, encompassing various research projects within a broadly defined, enduring field. The purpose of Sections is twofold: to provide a forum for dialogue and exchange among differing approaches and projects in the field and to provide opportunities for the discussion of work that does not fall within the agendas that find other expressions in the Annual Meeting program. The Section structure is intended to provide significant time for presenting research in the major subfields of religion. Sections are evaluated every five years. Sections meet for three, four, or five two-and-one-half-hour sessions, as determined by the Program Committee for each term.

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