MASTER OF THEOLOGY (TH.M.)

Purpose
The Master of Theology degree program will provide additional training beyond the Master of Divinity degree in preparation for full-time Christian service. Through course work, scholarly research, and logical and critical writing, the Th.M. will provide advanced preparation for those called to service in theological education or those planning to pursue degree programs at the doctoral level.

Program Learning Outcomes
The student will be able to:
1. Select and design a scholarly research project.
2. Assess alternative views of Scripture and theology.
3. Synthesize a personal and biblical systematic theology.
4. Defend Christian theology from a biblical perspective.

Program Specific Admission Requirements
In addition to the general admission procedures, the following requirements will govern admission into the Master of Theology program:
1. The applicant must have earned a Master of Divinity or its equivalent from an approved institution.
2. The applicant must have attained a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or above (on a 4.00 scale) in the Master of Divinity program. Applicants who do not meet this criterion may be considered for admission on Academic Caution.
3. Contact information for one Pastoral Recommendation.
4. School of Divinity Questionnaire/Personal Statement
5. TOEFL Scores for students who speak English as a second language (score of 600 paper-based test; 250 computer-based test, 80 internet-based test).

Thesis Requirements for Th.M. Degree
With the approval of the student's advisor and the mentor, a student may write a thesis of 10,000 words (minimum) that follows the latest edition of Kate L. Turabian's *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations*. The project must meet all designated deadlines and receive a minimum grade of B. A graduate faculty member selected in consultation with both student and advisor will function as a mentor of the thesis and will monitor the progress during the various stages of writing (from the selection of a topic to the final draft). Both the mentor and a second reader must approve the thesis. Two copies of the approved final draft thesis must be submitted electronically to the Integrated Learning Resources Center. Three semester hours credit will be given for the thesis. The student opting to write a thesis must also include a course in research methods in the overall program.

Master's Thesis Schedule
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>October 1</td>
<td>Approval of thesis topic by Thesis Committee.</td>
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Programs of Study

Delivery Format: Residential and Online
- Theology (Th.M.) - Biblical Studies (Non-Thesis)
- Theology (Th.M.) - Christian Apologetics (Non-Thesis)
- Theology (Th.M.) - Church History (Non-Thesis)
- Theology (Th.M.) - Global Studies (Non-Thesis)
- Theology (Th.M.) - Homiletics (Non-Thesis)
- Theology (Th.M.) - Theology (Non-Thesis)

Delivery Format: Residential Only
- Theology (Th.M.) - Biblical Studies (Thesis)
- Theology (Th.M.) - Christian Apologetics (Thesis)
- Theology (Th.M.) - Church History (Thesis)
- Theology (Th.M.) - Global Studies (Thesis)
- Theology (Th.M.) - Homiletics (Thesis)
- Theology (Th.M.) - Theology (Thesis)

Career Opportunities
- Bible instructor
- Chaplain
- Educator
- Family Pastor
- Ministry worker
- Missionary
- Pastor
- Professor
- Senior pastor
- Teaching pastor
Courses

THEO 510 Survey of Theology 3 Credit Hour(s)
A foundational study of the basic disciplines of theology. The following theological disciplines will be examined: biblical, systematic, historical, dogmatic, and contemporary theologies.
Offered: Resident

THEO 525 Systematic Theology I 3 Credit Hour(s)
A course beginning the study of systematic theology with special attention given to prolegomena the doctrines of Scripture, God, angels, humanity and sin.
Offered: Resident and Online

THEO 530 Systematic Theology II 3 Credit Hour(s)
A course completing the study of systematic theology with special attention given to the doctrines of the person and work of Christ, the Holy Spirit, salvation, the church, and last things. Such issues as nature and extent of salvation, the origin, nature and future of the church, and the eternal state are explored.
Offered: Resident and Online

THEO 601 Patristic and Medieval Christian Thought 3 Credit Hour(s)
Prerequisite: THEO 525 or THEO 530
A study of the early development of Christian ideas from their background in the Greco-Roman world, Judaism, and the Scriptures, through the apostolic fathers, the apologists, and the early struggles toward doctrinal clarity and purity. In the latter half of the course, attention will be given to the establishment of papal supremacy, the rise and subsequent decline of the scholastic Christianity, and the conceptual factors leading toward the Renaissance and Reformation. (Formerly THEO 501)

THEO 602 Renaissance and Reformation Christian Thought 3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: THEO 525 or THEO 530
A study of the renewal of cultural and intellectual activity in Europe from the later Middle Ages through the Renaissance, Protestant Reformation, Roman Catholic Counter Reformation, rise of capitalism, scientific revolution, and the Enlightenment. (Formerly THEO 502)
Offered: Online

THEO 603 Modern and Contemporary Christian Thought 3 Credit Hour(s)
A study of thought from Enlightenment trends to contemporary theological and philosophical developments. The latter subject includes Nineteenth Century liberalism, Twentieth Century new-orthodoxy, existentialism, and post-existential trends such as secular, liberation, and hope theologies. Attention is also given to recent philosophical movements such as logical positivism, linguistic analysis, and process thought. The course stresses the history of major ideas, the system of formative scholars, and the conservative alternative. (Formerly THEO 503)
Offered: Resident and Online

THEO 610 Biblical Theology 3 Credit Hour(s)
A study of the nature, history and current trends in biblical theology. Each semester there will be a special focus given to specific areas in Old Testament biblical theology or New Testament Biblical theology.
Offered: Resident and Online

THEO 620 Ecclesiology 3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: THEO 530
This course is a study of the origin, nature, purpose, mission, polity, and ministry of the church; a major emphasis will be on Baptist ecclesiology.
Offered: Online

THEO 626 Doctrine of God 3 Credit Hour(s)
Prerequisite: THEO 525
A study of the existence, nature, and attributes of the triune God. Contains a study of such doctrines as the decree of God, Creation, the providence of God, and the doctrine of the Trinity.
Offered: Resident and Online

THEO 630 Eschatology 3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: THEO 530
A study of key issues related to eschatology such as heaven and hell, Israel, the church, the rapture, the tribulation, the millennium, the Book of Revelation, and Dispensationalism.
Offered: Online

THEO 635 Contemporary Theological Issues 3 Credit Hour(s)
Designed to isolate and discuss major theological issues within the various major heads of systematic theology. Specific problems to be discussed will vary with the discretion of the professor, but issues such as free will and determinism, the nature of man, and the rapture of the Church are indicative of the kinds of issues to be discussed.

THEO 641 Advanced Bibliology 3 Credit Hour(s)
Prerequisite: THEO 525
A detailed study of the whole area of Bibliology. Special emphasis will be placed on contemporary conceptions of such doctrines as Revelation and Inspiration. An in-depth analysis of the contemporary debate over the inerrancy and authority of Scripture will be included.
Offered: Resident

THEO 642 Advanced Christology 3 Credit Hour(s)
Prerequisite: THEO 530
A detailed examination of the Person, nature, and works of Jesus Christ. Focus will be not only on traditional issues in Christology, but also on contemporary discussions in the field, both within orthodoxy and outside it.
Offered: Resident

THEO 644 Johannine Theology 3 Credit Hour(s)
A course focusing on the unique contributions of John to each of the major areas of history, symbolism, language and journalistic style of development. From the course, the student will correlate the unique Johannine principles of theologizing and hermeneutics, as well as the particular contributions John makes to New Testament theology.
Note: Offered to M.A. and Th.M. students.

THEO 650 Public Theology 3 Credit Hour(s)
Online Prerequisite: THEO 525 or THEO 530
A study of the role and practice of Christian ministry in responding to ethical challenges presented by cultural developments in the contemporary world.
Offered: Resident and Online

THEO 654 Pneumatology 3 Credit Hour(s)
Prerequisite: THEO 530
A comprehensive study of the Person and work of the Holy Spirit. The activities of the Holy Spirit are traced through the Old and New Testaments, with special attention to His ministry to Christ, to the Church, and to the individual Christian.
Offered: Resident and Online

THEO 678 Western and New Religions 3 Credit Hour(s)
The history, doctrines, and present state of the major cults such as Mormonism, Christian Science, Jehovah's Witnesses and Seventh Day Adventism. The course will also include a study of the Occult Movement. Emphasis is placed on the errors of these groups and on methods and materials for confronting them effectively.
THEO 679 Theology Capstone 3 Credit Hour(s)
**Online Prerequisite:** (THEO 603 or THEO 503) and THEO 610
This theology capstone course is for the Master of Theology student who has completed at least 24 hours toward the degree. This course is to demonstrate scholarship and contribute to the general knowledge in a specified field of theology. The approved topic must be related to the student’s chosen area of study in the Master of Theology program.
**Offered:** Online

THEO 695 Directed Research in Theology 1-3 Credit Hour(s)
Designed for the advanced student in good standing who has demonstrated an ability to work independently. The student will work with the instructor in developing a proposal for guided research in a specified area of theology.
**Offered:** Online

THEO 697 Seminar in Theological Studies 3 Credit Hour(s)
An intensive study in a specific subject of theology. This course allows variation in the approach and content of the regular curriculum and often will be used by visiting professors.
**Offered:** Resident and Online

THEO 698 Thesis Project Proposal and Research 1-3 Credit Hour(s)
THEO 689 - Thesis Project Proposal and Research (3 hours)
**Offered:** Resident