

UNIVERSITY OF DALLAS



Theology Department

Theology is “faith in search of understanding,” a faithful listening to and a systematic, methodical articulation of the message of the Word of God revealed by deeds and words first in Israel, culminating in Jesus Christ, himself both the mediator and sum total of Revelation and transmitted in the living tradition of the church. The University of Dallas Theology Department’s mission is recovery and renewal of the Catholic theological tradition in harmony with the Magisterium and in dialogue with contemporary thought.

The Major Program

The department offers a program for the major consisting of an intellectually rigorous, coordinated sequence of advanced courses in Scripture, systematic and moral theology, and the history of

Christian doctrine. The purpose of the major is to give the student a comprehensive grasp of the fundamental disciplines of theological science with attention to issues affecting contemporary Christian life. A balanced combination of required and elective courses is maintained, providing you with sufficient flexibility to select courses according to your interests. Some knowledge of Latin and Greek is recommended, though not required, for a major in theology. French or German is recommended for those who wish to pursue graduate study. Spanish is recommended if you plan to pursue some form of ministry. Biblical Hebrew is recommended for those who are serious students of Scripture.

Senior Thesis

In the fall of the senior year, theology majors must submit a **senior thesis** developed on a topic selected in consultation with a professor. It must be satisfactorily completed for graduation.

Theology Four-Year Plan:

Freshman Year

Math or Elective	3	Math or Elective	3
English 1301	3	English 1302	3
History 1311	3	History 1312	3
Language 1301 (or 2311)	3	Language 1302 (or 2312)	3
Philosophy 1301	3	Theology 1310	3
Fall Semester Credits	15	Spring Semester Credits	15

Junior Year

Theology 3331	3	Theology 3332	3
Theology 3341	3	Theology Elective	3
Theology Elective	3	Theology Elective	3
Philosophy 3311	3	Politics 1311	3
Science	3	Science	4
Fall Semester Credits	15	Spring Semester Credits	16

Sophomore Year (Actual schedule depends on when you go to Rome.)

English 2311 and 2312	6
History 2301 and 2302	6
Philosophy 2323	3
Theology 2311	3
Economics 1311	3
Art 2311	3
Language or Elective	6
Total Sophomore Year Credits	30

Senior Year

Theology 4348	3	Theology Elective	3
Theology Elective	3	Theology Elective	3
Philosophy Elective	3	Electives	9
Electives	6		
Fall Semester Credits	15	Spring Semester Credits	15

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Comprehensive Examination

Theology majors must also complete a comprehensive examination, to be taken in February of senior year. The exam covers substantial topics of the courses the student has taken for the major.

Electives and Concentrations

Theology majors have the opportunity to pursue areas of interest in greater depth through theology electives such as Christology, Apologetics and Judaism.

The Christian Contemplative Tradition concentration consists of four courses approved by the director of the Center for Contemplative Studies. Of these, two must belong to the cycle of courses dealing with the history of spirituality. No more than two courses may count toward both the concentration and the major.

The Jewish Studies concentration focuses on theological, philosophical and historical aspects of Jewish thought and tradition. The concentration consists of six courses, of which no more than two courses may count as requirements toward a major.

Through-Plan for Undergraduates

You may take up to two graduate classes during your senior year. If these classes are beyond the credit requirements in theology for the B.A. degree, they will count toward the M.A. or M.Th. degree; if these same classes are beyond the undergraduate theology requirements but are needed to count toward credit for graduation with the B.A. degree, the credits may be “waived” for purposes of the M.Th. program (not the M.A.).

Action Items for Theology Majors:

- Join campus clubs and organizations that support your interests, like the **Aspiring Theologian Society** and the **Society of St. Vincent de Paul**. Explore what various organizations have to offer and what skills you can offer in return.
- **Explore electives beyond your theology coursework.** Courses from other departments, such as business, art or philosophy, could benefit you in the future.
- Work with your academic adviser and the Office of Personal Career Development to explore **internships and volunteer opportunities** that will complement your study of theology.

- **Present your thesis** to the wider community. Work with your academic adviser to find opportunities to present at an academic conference or other appropriate venue.

Applying your interests, skills and values in changing world

Recent theology major internships have included:

Intern, Good Shepherd Catholic Community
Middle School After-School Care Intern, Uplift Education
Marketing Intern, Heroic Media

Professional destinations of recent theology major graduates have included:

Coordinator of Youth Formation, St. Patrick Catholic Church
Teacher, St. Mary's Catholic School
Teacher, 5th Grade Language Arts, Saints Peter & Paul Catholic School
Missionary, Salesian Lay Mission Program
MissionCorps Member, Maggie's Place
Religion Teacher & Baseball Coach, St. Joseph's Catholic High School
Religion Teacher, Mt. Carmel Academy
Theology Teacher, John Paul II High School
Latin Teacher, Trivium Prep, Great Hearts Academies

Examples of institutions where recent theology major graduates have pursued graduate-level degrees include:

University of St. Thomas
St. Mary's University
Ava Maria University
Catholic University of America
University of Notre Dame