HISTORICAL THEOLOGY, PH.D.

Graduate Student Handbook (http://www.slu.edu/arts-and-sciences/theological-studies/pdfs/theograduastudent-handbook.pdf)

Saint Louis University's doctorate in historical theology offers students advanced training in the discipline of theology with a focused attention on the dialogue and dialectic between theological doctrines and ideas, on the one hand, and historical context, on the other. The program aims to form students as both scholars and teachers, equipping students with the skills to do research that matters in the field of historical theology and preparing students to teach a range of courses at the undergraduate level.

Curriculum Overview

The Doctor of Philosophy in historical theology is based upon the Catholic tradition and approaches theology from a historical perspective. This comprehensive way of examining theological issues takes a double thrust, namely studying the issues within their own context of time and place while also relating them to the broad developments within the tradition of Christian theology from the early church to the present day. The doctoral program has three areas of specialization: early Christianity, medieval Christianity and modern Christianity.

Fieldwork and Research Opportunities

Resources for theology students at SLU include the more than 37,000 microfilms of the Vatican Film Library, the archives of the Institute of Jesuit Sources and more than 150,000 volumes of the Divinity Library in the Pius XII Memorial Library (which contains 1.4 million books, journals and other media). The library also provides access to many key research resources, including the Patrologia Latina, Brepols, Early English Books OnLine, ATLA, Catholic Periodical Index, J-STOR, Index of Christian Art, as well as electronic access to major journals and other indexing tools.

The Center for Digital Theology creates products and tools to support teaching and research in historical theology. Theology faculty and graduate students also contribute to other interdisciplinary centers, such as the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies and the Center for Women’s Studies.

Careers

Graduates have gone on to a wide range of careers in academia, educational administration, museums, libraries, archives, and non-profit agencies. SLU's Department of Theological Studies is committed to the professional preparation of every graduate student.

Admission Requirements

An M.A. degree in Historical Theology or the equivalent is required for admission. Applicants must also have 9 credits of upper-level philosophy courses, 9 credits of upper-level history courses and be proficient in at least one research language besides English. (typically Greek, Latin, Syriac, French, or German).

Application Requirements

- Application form and fee
- Transcript(s)
- Three letters of recommendation
- GRE scores

Requirements for International Students

All admission policies and requirements for domestic students apply to international students along with the following:

- Demonstrate English Language Proficiency (http://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/office-admission/undergraduate/english-language-proficiency)
- Proof of financial support must include:
  - A letter of financial support from the person(s) or sponsoring agency funding the time at Saint Louis University
  - A letter from the sponsor’s bank verifying that the funds are available and will be so for the duration of study at the University
- Academic records, in English translation, of students who have undertaken postsecondary studies outside the United States must include the courses taken and/or lectures attended, practical laboratory work, the maximum and minimum grades attainable, the grades earned or the results of all end-of-term examinations, and any honors or degrees received. WES and ECE transcripts are accepted.

Application Deadline

Interested students should apply by January 1.

Review Process

Applications are reviewed by the department's Graduate Studies Committee.

Scholarships, Assistantships and Financial Aid

For priority consideration for graduate assistantships and tuition scholarships, applicants should complete their applications by the program admission deadlines listed. Fellowships and assistantships provide a stipend and health insurance for the duration of the award.

For more information, visit the student financial services office online at http://www.slu.edu/financial-aid.

Learning Outcomes

1. Graduates will be able to demonstrate advanced knowledge of both the key primary sources and secondary scholarship relevant to their area of concentration.
2. Graduates will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the theories and methods that structure the study of theology and religion and give shape to the history of the discipline.
3. Graduates will be able to design and teach undergraduate courses within the major undergraduate courses in the department and develop into competent teachers.
4. Graduates will be able to communicate their scholarly arguments effectively in both written and oral formats.
5. Graduates will acquire the skills necessary to succeed on the academic job market as well as to flourish as successful academic professionals.
6. Graduates will be able to conduct independent research resulting in an original contribution to knowledge in their area of concentration.
### Requirements

#### Code   Title                  Credits

**Required Courses**

THEO 6010  Methods in Historical Theology  3
THEO 6020  Christianity in Antiquity Survey  3
THEO 6030  Survey of Medieval Christianity  3
THEO 6040  Christian Theology Introduction  3

**Major Area Seminars Concentration**

Select one of the following concentrations:  12

- Early Christianity (p. 2)
- Medieval Christianity (p. 2)
- Modern Christianity (p. 2)

**Minor Area**

Select three credits of seminar in each of the areas not concentrating in:

- Early Christianity (p. 2)
- Medieval Christianity (p. 2)
- Modern Christianity (p. 2)

**Elective Courses**

Select six credits  6

**Dissertation Research**

THEO 6210  Dissertation Prospectus (taken over multiple semesters)  6
THEO 6990  Dissertation Research (taken over multiple semesters)  12

**Total Credits**  54

### Roadmap

**Concentration in Christian Theology**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year One</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christian Theology Introduction</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christian Theology Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective or Christian Tradition I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Credits</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spring</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christian Theology Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Theories and Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christian Theology Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Credits</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Two</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christian Theology Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Credits</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spring</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Christian Theology Seminar</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective or Christian Tradition II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Credits</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Program Notes

- Students are expected to maintain a minimum 3.50 GPA for each semester of coursework.
- Students must acquire competency in French and German, and any other languages relevant to their research interests. Students demonstrate competency in at least one foreign language by passing the relevant language competency exam and must have completed all language.
requirements and demonstrated competency in each of their research languages.

All doctoral students must take 4 written examinations: the first at the end of the fall semester of year 1, the second at the end of the spring semester of year 1, the third at the end of the fall semester of year 2, and the fourth at the end of the spring semester of year 2.