

Application to the MA and PhD Programs

PhD-Th Course Work: The PhD-Th program requires at least four semesters of course work in which the student must complete successfully sixteen (16) doctoral level courses belonging to the following categories: [a] Philosophical Theology (9 units): Three courses chosen from the pool of Philosophical Theology courses offered during the school year. [b] Concentration (30 units): Ten courses or seminars in the student's area of concentration, two of which must be reading courses that are specifically geared toward the topic of his/her dissertation. [c] Electives (9 units): Three courses chosen from outside the student's area of concentration.

Probation Period: Before successfully completing eighteen (18) units of course work, the student is on academic probation status and needs to be approved for definitive acceptance to the PhD-Th program by the Dean upon the recommendation of the Standards and Degrees Committee. The bases for definitive acceptance are the grades, and at least one major research paper written in the doctoral course work.

PhD-Th Comprehensive Examination: After the completion of all course work, the student takes the comprehensive examination.

PhD-Th Dissertation: The doctoral dissertation is expected to manifest the student's firm grasp of theological method and criticism and his/her ability to control and marshal pertinent data around some original specialized topic.

Application Period & Deadlines: Students may apply for admission to any of the civil programs in either semester. Procedures, required documents and deadlines for application are posted on the website of the Loyola School of Theology (www.lst.edu/admission/procedures).

Entrance Tests: All applicants to the civil degree programs are required to take the Ateneo de Manila University Graduate School Entrance Exam and the LST English Proficiency Test. Fees are charged for these exams.

TOEFL: The Test of English as a Foreign Language is required by the Ateneo de Manila Graduate School for international students who come from countries where English is NOT the medium of instruction. It is best that they take the TOEFL in their home countries BEFORE coming to the Philippines. The test result should form part of their application documents to the Ateneo de Manila Graduate School.

Additional Requirements for PhD Applicants: Applicants to the PhD program are required to submit a copy of their master's thesis or its equivalent, on which their capacity to write a dissertation will be evaluated. In addition, they must also submit a 1 to 2-page, double-spaced essay explaining why they are pursuing the doctorate, mentioning the area they wish to pursue in their dissertation.

Screening and Acceptance to the Programs: Applicants are accepted to the programs by the LST Dean upon the recommendation of the Admissions Committee or the Standards and Degrees Committee which evaluates the applicants on the basis of their academic records, entrance test results, essays, bio-data, etc. On the recommendation of the committee, some students may be required to take propaedeutic courses as a condition for their acceptance.

For complete information regarding admission procedures, deadlines, and required documents, visit:
<http://www.lst.edu/admission/procedures>

LST Student Handbook (2007):
<http://www.lst.edu/academics/downloads>

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Civil Degree Programs in Theology

Master of Arts
in Theological Studies

Doctor of Philosophy
in Theology



LST

Loyola School of Theology

Master of Arts in Theological Studies

major in
Biblical Theology
Systematic & Sacramental Theology
Moral Theology
Pastoral Theology

The MA Theological Studies (MA-TS) program has the following purposes: [a] To prepare teachers for college-level theology in the Philippines; [b] To present a sound and serious grounding in the basic theological disciplines relating to both the Christian tradition and to the contemporary life of the Christian community; [c] To foster a capacity for disciplined reflection and effective communication, principally on the college level.

Upon admission into the program, the student may choose his/her area of concentration from any of the following: Biblical Theology, Systematic and

Sacramental Theology, Moral Theology, and Pastoral Theology.

Academic Prerequisite: To get accepted to the MA Theological Studies program, the applicant must have a government-recognized (civil) bachelor's degree with at least 12 units of undergraduate (college) theology courses. Moreover, they must have attained at least a general undergraduate average of B (2.5 or 85).

MA-TS Course Work: This program requires at least three semesters of course work in which the student must complete successfully 10 master's level courses belonging to the following categories:

[a] **Foundation Courses (15 units):** The five core courses are: Revelation-Faith, Christology, Ecclesiology, Fundamental Moral Theology, and Christian Worship. [b] **Concentration (9 units):** Three courses or seminars in the student's area of concentration. [c] **Electives (6 units):** Two elective courses chosen from outside the student's area of concentration. Courses in excess of the minimum requirements of one's field of concentration may count as electives.

Probation Period: Before successfully completing eighteen (18) units of course work, the student is on academic probation status and needs to be approved for definitive acceptance to the MA-TS program by the Dean. The bases for the definitive acceptance are the grades, proficiency in English, and at least one major research paper written in the MA-TS course work.

Students who are not approved for definitive acceptance are automatically dropped from the MA-TS program. However, they may shift to the non-thesis MA program in pastoral ministry.

MA-TS Comprehensive Examination: After completing his/her course work, the student must pass a written comprehensive examination. The two-part examination is given on two successive Saturdays: Part I covers the foundation courses; and Part II covers the courses the student has taken in his/her area of concentration.

MA-TS Research Thesis: The MA-TS program requires a research thesis. With the approval of the Dean, any of the following may be substituted for the thesis. [a] Four Major Papers; [b] Religious Education/Ministry Project; [c] Translation Work.

Doctor of Philosophy in Theology

The PhD in Theology (PhD-Th) program has the following purposes: [a] To help students acquire a high professional and scientific competence in one of the following areas of theology: Biblical Theology, Dogmatic/Systematic Theology, Moral Theology, Religious Education. [b] To help them manifest in a scholarly dissertation the capacity for disciplined research, for clear communication, and for both critical and

creative theological reflection regarding situations and problems facing the Christian community in the Philippines and Asia. [c] To equip men and women who can train students to a level of high qualification in their own disciplines according to Catholic doctrine.

Upon admission to the program, the doctoral student must choose from any of the following areas of concentration: Biblical Theology, Systematic/Dogmatic Theology, Moral Theology, and Religious Education.

Academic Prerequisite: To get accepted to the PhD in Theology program, the applicant must have a government-recognized (civil) Master's degree in Theological Studies with a thesis and a general average of B+ (2.0).

PhD-Th Language Requirements: The PhD-Th program requires a reading knowledge of two modern languages, besides English, in which significant theological writing has been done (e.g., German, French, Spanish, Italian). Latin or Greek may substitute for one of these. The PhD-Th with concentration in Biblical Theology will demand Biblical Hebrew for those specializing in the OT, or Biblical Greek for those specializing in the NT. All these language requirements must be fulfilled before writing the dissertation.