



DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN APPLIED THEOLOGY/DOCTOR IN APPLIED THEOLOGY

The Doctor of Philosophy in Applied Theology and Doctor in Applied Theology programs, in continuity with the goal of the MA program, are aimed particularly at training persons who, as professional theologians, would provide expertise in theological matters and leadership in theological issues in their own contexts. The difference between the two degrees lies in the more specific area of endeavor that graduates would be engaged in after their studies.

The Doctor of Philosophy in Applied Theology is geared towards the ministry of applied theological education and research. Hence, the course of studies would tend towards the more strictly theological. Candidates for the Ph.D. degree are required to write a dissertation.

The Doctor in Applied Theology (A.Th.D.) is intended for those who will continue as Christian reflective practitioners in a secular field of endeavor or in the ministry of their choice. The course of studies would be inclined towards the more interdisciplinary character of the program. Candidates for the Doctor degree are required to produce a practical dissertation with a strong theoretical (theological) framework.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Basic Courses	12 units
Language Requirement	
Major Courses	15 units
Required Seminars	12 units
Elective Courses	9 units
Dissertation	12 units
Total	60 units

BASIC COURSES

Foundations of Applied Theology II: Inculturation (REV960P)

3 units

Building on Foundations of Applied Theology I, this course deals specifically with the question, approach and methodology in doing theology in cultural context, and use of cultural resources for theological interpretation.

Pre-requisite: Foundations of Applied Theology I

Methods of Interpreting the Bible

3 units

An exposition, illustration and critical analysis of the various exegetical methods used in interpreting the Bible today.

Workshop on Writing the Doctoral Dissertation

3 units

This course presents the various theories, methods and techniques for research on a topic for a doctoral dissertation, and provides the practical exercises illustrating the theories, methods and techniques.

Structural Principles in Theological Formulations of the Christian Faith

3 units

Any formulation of the Christian Faith is necessarily constituted by indispensable theological elements. This synthesis course presents these elements, show how they are linked to one another and illustrate an integrated articulation of the Faith.

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

Biblical Greek (REV917P)

3 units

A basic introduction to the grammar and vocabulary of the Greek New Testament.

Ecclesiastical Latin (REV682P)

3 units

A basic introduction to ecclesiastical Latin grammar and vocabulary.



MAJOR COURSES

Selected courses in a specific area of study.

APPLIED HERMENEUTICS

Narrative Theology and the Craft of Storytelling: Theory and Practice (REV943P)

3 units

This course studies the way of theologizing through stories and provides basic training in the telling of stories for proclaiming the Gospel.

Liturgical Dance: Theory and Practice (REV718P)

3 units

A study of the importance and role of dance in the context of worship with practical dance exercises.

Formative Counseling/Spiritual Direction (REV601P)

3 units

This course will stress formative spirituality; the blending of psychology, cultures, theology, and mysticism. It will emphasize the blending of formative counseling/spiritual direction and can be helpful for religious educators, guidance counselors, and formation personnel in Religious Life and seminaries.

Proclamation of the Word: Theory and Practice

3 units

The laity, together with the clergy, shares the responsibility for preaching the Gospel. This is a course on the theology of the “Word” and on techniques for preaching the Word. It includes a practicum in actual preaching.

Communicating the Gospel Through Media: Theory and Practice

3 units

A skills training course which familiarizes students about the different media available to communicate the Gospel and which provides practical exercises as to the uses of such media.

Bible and Theater

3 units

A course aimed at the use of theater to communicate biblical themes. After an introduction to the craft of theater and explanation of the basic skills necessary for presentations, participants will utilize their knowledge to put up a showcase as a culminating activity.

Celebrating the Sacraments

3 units

A study of the significance of ritualization of human experience and rituals in human life in connection with the sacramental system of the Church and with an eye to the inculturation of the sacraments.

Inculturation of the Liturgy

3 units

A course exploring the inculturation of the Church’s worship from its cultural roots in Judaism to the period after Vatican II, with discussion of methodology and contemporary theology.

Evangelization and Information Technology

3 units

An introduction to the importance and the character of technology in the context of communication, particularly evangelization, by familiarizing students with the uses of the latest communication media available in explaining the Christian Faith.

Social Analysis

3 units

A study of historical and structural analysis and its particular relevance to theology. Its uses in theological reflection will be illustrated from the writings of particular theologians.



Dialogue with Other Faiths

3 units

This course examines the identity and mission of the Church in the context of religious pluralism and its challenges, and proposes a theology of religious dialogue as well as theological principles to be taken into consideration in inter-religious dialogue.

Trends in Religious Education

3 units

Modern biblical exegesis, especially text-, source-, form-, and redaction-criticism, major trends in interdisciplinary hermeneutics, including religious appreciation of the text in its symbolic depths.

Brain Studies and the Dynamics of Learning

3 units

Findings from brain research can enhance the process of learning and the development of educational strategies. This course is a presentation of these insights and a critical analysis of how these are useful in the educational process.

Statistics and Interpretation

3 units

A study of the fundamentals of behavioral research, research design, types of research, analysis and interpretation.

Lay Leadership of Prayer

3 units

The theology of lay leadership in communal prayer together with a practicum in the leadership of the community's prayer such as penance services, services of the Word and communion, ministry to the sick and wake and grave-side services.

MORAL THEOLOGY

Divorce and Remarriage (REV683P)

3 units

An investigation of and critical reflection the phenomenon and issue of divorce and remarriage from the theological perspective of the Judaeo-Christian tradition, as well as from the viewpoint of the situation of those who undergo such process and of those who minister to those whose marriages have failed.

Global Economic Justice and the Church

3 units

A discussion of the interrelationships between an ethic of economic life, an ethic of political life and an ethic of communication. A Christian ethic must test its claim to normativity by the difference it makes for these interrelationships.

Medical Ethics

3 units

A study of the relation of general ethical principles and methods to the concerns of the medical profession. Among topics treated are experimentation with human subjects, organ transplantation, genetic engineering, in vitro fertilization, access to health care and the interrelationships between the rights of patients, doctors and society.

Sexual Ethics for the Christian

3 units

A study of sexuality and sexual behavior, especially in unmarried Christians. It investigates the moral tradition, the elements which form a contemporary Christian vision of sexuality and how these relate to sexual conduct.

Political Ethics

3 units

An exploration of the relation of Christian life to political life, particularly the relationship of conscience to the historical realities of community and traditions and the need for integrity.

Strange Virtues: Ethics in a Cross-Cultural Context

3 units

This course critically considers ethics across cultures, addressing the ethical import of other religions and gender relations, exploring how Faith and culture interact to produce ethical stances, and examining such particular case studies as bribery.



Death and Dying

3 units

A psychological and theological examination of finitude as a human problem, attachment as a human necessity and grief as the inevitable response to a variety of loss experiences throughout life to help deal with the dying and the grieving.

Independent Study in Moral Theology (tutorial distance-education)

3 units

Content and structure by arrangement with individual professor.

SCRIPTURE

Old Testament Studies 1 - Pentateuch

3 units

A study of the literary origins and development of the traditions and themes of the Pentateuch in the light of their importance for ancient Israel's theology. Attention is given to questions of interpretation.

Old Testament Studies 2 - Prophets

3 units

A study of selected texts from the prophets of Israel. Emphasis is on the prophet's call and the relationship of prophecy to ancient Israel's religious traditions and social institutions.

Old Testament Studies 3 - Wisdom Literature

3 units

A study of wisdom theology with its emphasis on human behavior. Primary focus is on the themes of creation, suffering, birth and death, retribution and immortality as found with the wisdom literature.

The Gospel According to Matthew

3 units

A study of the context, structure and major motifs of the Gospel of Matthew. Particular attention is given to the evangelist's role as an interpreter of tradition and history for a community in transition.

The Gospel According to Mark

3 units

A study of the gospel of Mark with attention to its structure, major themes and key theological motifs, especially the link between the Passion of Jesus and Christian discipleship.

New Testament Studies 1 - Pauline Theology and Writings

3 units

The life and thought of Paul in his cultural and theological setting examined in selected letters, with a view to their message for the contemporary church.

New Testament Studies 2 - Luke - Acts

3 units

A study of Luke's gospel and its major theological themes. Particular focus on Luke's Christology and portrayal of discipleship for women and men followed of "the Way". It also discusses the missionary expansion of early Christianity as depicted in Luke's second volume with a view to its implication for contemporary evangelization.

New Testament Studies 3 - The Gospel According to John

3 units

A study of the John's gospel with attention to its distinctive style and theology, its overall structure and content. Key sections are used to highlight such major Johannine motifs as religious symbolism, sacraments, community and spirituality.

The Book of Revelation and Letters of John

3 units

Thematic and exegetical study of the Revelation (Apocalypse) and the Letters of John from the perspectives of history, culture, understanding of Church, apocalyptic and epistolary genres and contemporary interpretation.



Parables

3 units

A study of the dynamics of the gospel parables as stories challenging the hearer to conversion. Includes various methods of parable interpretation.

Passion Narratives

3 units

A comparative study of the Passion Narratives of the four gospels, demonstrating various approaches to biblical interpretation.

Synoptic Gospels

3 units

A critical comparative study of the general intent, structure and themes of the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke taking into account their respective contexts.

The Use of the Bible in Theology

3 units

A descriptive and critical study of the uses of scripture in theological reflection, particularly pinpointing cultural and methodological presuppositions operative in interpretations.

Independent Study in Scripture (tutorial distance-education)

3 units

Content and structure by arrangement with individual professor.

SPIRITUALITY

Foundations for the Study of Spirituality

3 units

This course defines spirituality as a field of study, explores the relationship between spiritual praxis and research in spirituality, surveys research methods, evaluates the notion of a “spiritual classic” and examines issues in the historical study of spirituality.

Education and Spirituality

3 units

The service teachers render leads them to focus on aspects of the Christian faith relevant to the teaching profession. After an examination of the challenges educators face in their ministry, the course will correlate these with the Judaeo-Christian tradition of faith and spell out its implications for Christian educators.

Discernment: Classical Traditions, Contemporary Dilemmas

3 units

This course initiates a dialogue between the study of major historical texts on Christian discernment and the exploration of concrete cases and issues that Christians in various ministries encounter in today’s world.

The Mystical Tradition in Christianity

3 units

An introduction to the mystical tradition in Christianity by an exploration of its origins and development, an examination of selected classic spiritual writings of particular mystics, and a presentation of the elements of a theology of Christian mysticism relevant to today’s world.

Women and Spirituality

3 units

Being woman is a particular way of being human in society. How can women be fully dedicated to the Kingdom of God in a manner respectful of their being women in history? The course will tackle gender issues alive in society today, examine them critically and discuss how spiritualities followed by women, past and present, respond to these concerns of women.

Religious Experience and the Life Cycle

3 units

An examination of the nature of religious experience and its occurrence within the life cycle of a human being. The course will also indicate why and how an insight to religious experiences within the life cycle is important in “doing theology”



Spiritual Classics of the Early Church

3 units

A thematic study, consisting of an analytic reading and theological evaluation, of key spiritual writings in the Early Church, especially those of the “Fathers of the Church” -

Theories of Psycho-Spiritual Development

3 units

From a theological basis, students engage in an examination and critique of several of the leading models of psychospiritual development.

Global Spirituality

3 units

The mature forms of spirituality in all religions have common practical, experiential and mystical elements. This course explores these, and seeks to formulate what this emerging movement means for the fixture of religions.

Independent Study in Spirituality (tutorial distance-education)

3 units

Content and structure by arrangement with individual professor.

SYSTEMATIC AND HISTORICAL THEOLOGY

Grace and Sin (REV716P)

3 units

A contextual and critical examination of the various views on the theology of grace and sin in the Christian tradition in view of inculturation today.

Models of Contextual Theology

3 units

An analytic and evaluative examination of the various models of doing theology in context with illustrations from the work of various theologians.

Doing Local Theology

3 units

Communities today are encouraged to do theology rather than just learn it. This course specifies what such communities need to know by way of purpose, method and resources in order to formulate on their own an understanding of the Christian Faith in their locality.

Appropriating Philosophy for Applied Theology

3 units

The systematized knowledge of a people known as philosophy has traditionally been utilized in theology. What is the relation between culture and philosophy? How important is cultural analysis and how should it be done? What are the dynamics involved between philosophy and theology? What needs to be taken into account by practitioners of theology when using philosophical presuppositions, concepts and vocabulary?

Issues in Hermeneutics

3 units

This course is a basic analytic introduction of the development, of the issues and methods involved in interpretation, especially in relation to theological concerns.

A Survey of Western Theologies

3 units

An overview of the concerns, the themes and methodologies of Western European-North American theologies which are relevant to theological discussions in Asia or which have had a significant influence on Asian theologizing. The study includes reading and analysis of selected theological texts produced in the West.

Life: Theological Origins and Purpose (Creation-Eschatology)

3 units

A theological examination of the relationship between God as Creator and human beings and the world as creature, and how the divine purpose sheds light on creation as a whole and on human life and living in the world in particular. Singular attention will be given to cultural issues and dimensions in understanding creation and eschatology.



Soteriology

3 units

Salvation is at the very heart of the Christian experience and message. This course explores the meaningfulness and content of salvation from the perspective of the Christ Event, and how this can be reformulated in other cultural and religious contexts.

Special Questions in Ecclesiology

3 units

A critical examination of important issues in the theology of the Church today such as sacramentality, the dialogue with the poor, cultures and religions, the renewed understanding of mission and ministry, ecumenism, authority, the role of the laity, base communities and the “domestic Church”.

The Protestant Tradition of Christianity

3 units

A historical and theological presentation for Catholics of the key aspects of the Protestant tradition of Christianity from a Protestant perspective.

Vatican II: History and Theology

3 units

The Second Vatican Council was a theological watershed for Catholicism. This historical and theological exposition of Vatican II will focus on the main theological insights embodied in its sixteen documents and their relevance to contemporary applied theology.

Church and Mission in Asia

3 units

A historical study of evangelization in Asia, its motives, approaches and methods as well as an analytic study of the theological thought of the Federation of Asian Bishops’ Conferences in the context of contemporary issues in Asia.

Women in Church Life and Mission

3 units

An examination of the important role that women have played in the life of the Church and in the proclamation of the Gospel from the inception of Christianity to today. Particular personages will be studied by way of concrete examples.

History of Christianity in the First Millennium

3 units

A presentation of the main developments in the history of Christianity during the first millennium, study of the rise of Christianity in the multicultural and multireligious world of the Roman Empire. North Africa and East Asia, and exploration of the different forms of Christianity.

History of Early Christianity in Asia

3 units

This course investigates earliest contacts of Christians with Asian traditions, distinguishing facts, hypotheses and legends as a framework for assessing the significance of such contacts.

Independent Study in Systematic and Historical Theology (tutorial distance-education)

3 units

Content and structure by arrangement with individual professor.

REQUIRED SEMINARS

Applied Theology Seminar with Interdisciplinary Practicum

3 units

An exercise in doing theology in an interdisciplinary manner centered on an aspect of life in society. Sample themes are: culture and theology, society and theology, nature and theology, politics and theology, wealth and theology, arts and theology, health care and theology, military life and theology, prisons and theology.

Biblical Research Seminar

3 units

This seminar treats questions regarding issues and methods of biblical interpretation and themes in biblical theology, with special attention to inculturation. Personal research and active participation in discussions are required.



De La Salle University

Theological Research Seminar

3 units

This seminar deals either with theological method or a theme in systematic theology such as God, Revelation, Trinity, Christology, Church, Creation, Eschatology, with special attention to inculturation. Personal research and active participation in discussions are required.

Moral Theology Research Seminar

3 units

An exploration of a contemporary issue or question in the area of moral theology such as fundamental option, virtues, conscience, sin, social justice, environmental ethics, globalization, politics, with special attention to inculturation or contextualization. Personal research and active participation in discussions are required.

Liturgical Inculturation Research Seminar

3 units

This seminar will discuss a specific issue or theme in spirituality such as prayer, spiritual accompaniment, discernment, mysticism, and religious movements, with special attention to inculturation. Personal research and active participation in discussions are required.

ELECTIVE COURSES

Selected courses from the different areas of study.

DISSERTATION

Dissertation 1 (REV951P)

6 units

Dissertation 2 (REV952P)

6 units