



The (Ph.D.) in Christian Theology degree is designed to function within the biblical and theological context of a Christian seminary situated on the campus of a leading university. The entrance requirements attempt to identify students whose background and academic records indicate the ability to engage in graduate-level study of a theological subject, on the basis of significant previous performance. In particular, this advanced degree program is designed to encourage:

1. Comprehensive knowledge of theological studies;
2. Original research and writing that advance theological understanding for the sake of the church, academy, and society;
3. Excellence in communication and practice of ministry;
4. Professional skills, character, and leadership.

Ph.D.
in Christian Theology
macdiv[™]
LEADERSHIP through UNDERSTANDING



OTHER PROGRAMS:

M.A. The Master of Arts (M.A.) in Christian Studies degree is particularly designed to prepare you for doctoral level studies or to develop advanced competence in theological studies. It comprises two years of full-time study, requiring one year of advanced-level course work and one year for the writing of the thesis in one area of Christian studies.

M.Div. The Master of Divinity degree addresses the development of character and call in preparation for professional Christian ministry. It provides for spiritual, intellectual, and practical formation in terms of biblical, historical, theological, and pastoral competencies, equipping students to be effective leaders in the church and contemporary society.

M.T.S. The Master of Theological Studies degree addresses the development of character and call, with a particular focus on providing a theological foundation for both lay and vocational ministry. It provides for spiritual, intellectual, and practical formation in terms of biblical, historical, theological, and ministry competencies, equipping students to be effective leaders in the church and contemporary society.

Dip.Min. The Diploma in Ministry is a non-degree program which is virtually identical in its style, approach, and content to the M.Div. degree. Individuals who wish to be admitted to this program must meet the following standards:

1. be over the age of 35
2. have written endorsement from his/her denomination or ecclesiastical body
3. have no undergraduate degree but have experienced a call to ministry.

Cert.C.S. The Cert. C.S. is a non-degree program that allows for one or more of the following:

1. people over the age of 23 to take 10 courses as an introduction to theological studies
2. people without undergraduate degrees to take some basic first courses in the areas of theological study
3. people who already have their first theological degree to do up to 10 courses of continuing education for academic credit.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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www.macdiv.ca



Advanced Degrees

Ph.D.
in Christian Theology



Biblical Studies | Theological Studies | Ministry Studies

- Educational preparation for the teaching profession
- Enhanced proficiency in theological disciplines
- Development of reflective practitioners

Important reasons why this program may be for you!



Canada's Evangelical
University-based Seminary

Description

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Christian Theology is particularly designed to prepare you for the teaching, writing and leadership ministries of the church. It builds upon previous foundational theological study and encourages the development of valuable ministerial and teaching experience. This degree is usually completed in four years, with the first two years devoted to coursework and comprehensive exams and two years to writing the dissertation. Students may take up to six years to complete the program. Students are required to gain competence in research methods and specialize in one or more examination areas. The program also requires competency in teaching methods and vocational development. These examination areas are:

- Biblical Studies (Old Testament or New Testament)
- Theological Studies
- Ministry Studies

Admission Requirements

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited university or its educational equivalent, normally with at least a B+ average
- Master's level degree from an accredited university or its educational equivalent, normally with at least a B+ average (students emphasizing Ministry Studies will normally have a M.Div. degree)
- At least 10 term-long courses in the examination area selected for study, or related areas, with at least a B+ average in these courses
- A major piece of written academic work, preferably a thesis written at the master's level, relevant to theological study.

Language Requirements

BIBLICAL LANGUAGES

Students are required to use the languages necessary for their course of study, in order to handle both primary and secondary sources. The normal entrance requirement is that a student would have at least 9 units (three terms) of one biblical language for emphasis in Ministry Studies, and at least 12 units (four terms) of one biblical language for Theological Studies. Students who wish to emphasize Biblical Studies would normally have studied at least four terms of their major biblical language and at least two terms of the other. The student may be required to gain facility in additional languages or higher competence in the biblical languages in the light of their program of study as set by their committee.

MODERN LANGUAGES

At least one modern research language, such as German or French, is required for all Ph.D. students. Students may be admitted without the modern language (normally a minimum of two years of formal university training). Competence in modern languages is to be demonstrated through a language examination set by the primary or secondary advisors or other suitable person at McMaster Divinity College (normally a one-hour reading and translation examination) and is to be decided by the committee of advisors. This requirement must be met before students will be permitted to move into the dissertation phase of the program.

Vocational Practice

Vocational practice is required, which creates meaningful intellectual and reflective interaction between the area of emphasis and one's chosen vocation. This is required in each term of coursework.

Supervision

From the outset, as part of the admission process, students work with a primary supervisor whose expertise and scholarly interests correspond with the student's area of emphasis. In addition, each student has the support of a supervisory committee, which consists of the primary supervisor, a secondary supervisor, the Academic Dean, and any other members from inside or outside of the College as deemed appropriate. This committee will work closely with the student to assist in planning and approving the student's program of courses and research, to decide on timing of comprehensive and language examinations, to provide the student with regular appraisals of progress, to decide when the student is ready to write the dissertation and to give advice during this process.

Residency

All students are expected to be geographically available for the duration of their registration.

Full-time Studies

All students are considered full-time in this doctoral program.

Application Deadline

The application deadline for admission to the Ph.D. program is January 15th for admission in the following September.

Accreditation

The Ph.D. in Christian Theology degree is approved by the Association of Theological Schools and is granted by McMaster Divinity College.



We're a seminary moving purposefully into the twenty-first century. You can continue learning and growing on the tier-one university campus of McMaster University, with access to leading-edge resources and modern facilities. MacDiv combines quality academic training with practical hands-on fieldwork, giving graduates excellence in knowledge, experience and confidence. If you're looking to serve God with an evangelically-grounded graduate degree, consider MacDiv – Canada's evangelical university-based seminary.

