

Are you a leader in your church?

Are you looking for an opportunity to deepen your knowledge of theology and sharpen your ministry skills but your previous training is not in the field of theology?



The Postgraduate Diploma in Theology at the University of the Free State may just be the answer!

Closing date for applications:

31 October 2021

Online applications

<https://apply.ufs.ac.za/>

For more information

Contact the academic advisor:

+27 51 401 2617 | theology@ufs.ac.za

www.ufs.ac.za/theology

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*Inspiring excellence, transforming lives
through quality, impact and care.*

UNIVERSITY OF THE
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UFS

THEOLOGY AND RELIGION

This unique programme is for students with an academic background in any field (NQF level 7) who feel called to contextual ministry in and through a Christian community of faith. The programme has an ecumenical orientation, in other words representing the body of Christian churches and all theological disciplines are tailored to meet the challenges of ministry in an unstable and rapidly changing world. Tuition takes place in face-to-face block contact sessions on the Bloemfontein Campus of the UFS, with independent learning between sessions. Assignments should be completed as part of your active involvement in a faith community under the leadership of a mentor. The independent development of your ministry portfolio is an important outcome of this programme.

Advanced Studies of the Old Testament and the New Testament

The theology, ethics, and hermeneutics of the Bible are studied in such a way that you will be able to apply scripture meaningfully within a ministerial context.

Advanced Study of Church History and Church Polity

Historical hermeneutics, contemporary South African historiography, and a selected number of themes of historical and church political trends are studied.

Advanced Study of Systematic Theology and Ethics

In this module, the interplay of systematic theology, ethics, and context is studied through the application of a theological notion that informs the well-being of the personal, congregational, and public spheres of life in the South African context. You will explore a chosen theological response that is relevant and appropriate to the complexities of the context and speak to a range of audiences in various ways.

Advanced Study of the Theology of Mission

Have you ever wondered how the Good News is spread in our fast-changing world? In this module, recent developments and contemporary challenges in the theology of missions are studied. You will explore the application of missional theory in ecclesiological and African contexts.

Advanced Study of Themes in Practical Theology, Specialised Ministries and Practicum

In this module theories, principles and practices associated with an advanced study of some themes in specialised ministries and a practicum will be studied, including:

- Orientation:** An exploratory account of the specific coordinates and genealogical developments present in doing practical theology today.
- Congregational studies and leadership:** An exploratory study of the interaction between faith communities, society and ministry.
- Pastoral care:** An exploratory study of some pastoral care models to apply to selected practice scenarios.
- Liturgy and homiletics:** An exploratory study of liturgy and homiletics to apply selected forms in practice.
- Faith formation:** An exploratory study of faith formation to apply important principles for a theology of youth ministry.

Please note that you are **required** to be actively involved in a faith community to compile a ministerial portfolio as part of compulsory experience and engagement under the guidance of a ministerial mentor. Additional requirements might be applicable for some candidates after a review by the Department of Practical and Missional Theology.

Admission requirements: A three-year degree (360 credits at NQF level 7) in any field, completed at an accredited institution.

Tuition: Students are expected to attend four block contact sessions (with lecturing on consecutive days) at the Faculty of Theology and Religion on the Bloemfontein Campus of the University of the Free State. Between sessions, students are expected to study independently.

Contact session details		
Term 1	February	8 weekdays
Term 2	May	5 weekdays
Term 3	August	5 weekdays
Term 4	October	4 weekdays

* Dates will be communicated with successful candidates at the end of 2021.

Assessment: Continuous assessment

Duration: Full-time students complete the qualification in one year; part-time students can choose to complete the qualification in two consecutive years.

Articulation: Students who are new to the field of theology may, upon completion of the Postgraduate Diploma of Theology, apply for access to a Bachelor of Theology Honours Degree or a structured Master of Theology. Evaluation of the application will consider previous research exposure as well as departmental selection criteria as set out in the Rule Book of the Faculty of Theology and Religion.

Students who completed undergraduate studies in theology will be allowed access to a Master's degree in Theology upon completion of the Postgraduate Diploma in Theology if the student complies with the admission requirements of the Master's degree as set out in the Rule Book of the Faculty of Theology and Religion.

The projected cost for full-time tuition fees (excluding books): R40 370*

* This is not a quote for 2022, but a minimum cost projection based on the fees of 2021. The UFS Fees Yearbook for 2022 will only be available at the end of 2021.

Bursaries: A limited number of small bursaries towards a third of the registration deposit are available to students in need. Send an email with your student number to theologybursary@ufs.ac.za for further information.

Language of instruction: English

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