



# Postgraduate Diploma in Theology at the University of the Free State

*Are you called to serve as a leader in your church and need theological training?*

*Do you hunger for deeper theological knowledge and discernment?*

*Are you looking for an opportunity to develop your ministerial skills and step into your calling with confidence?*

*Do you want to experience doing theology anew within the South African context?*

*Are you curious to sense and explore more of God's presence in our midst?*

*The Postgraduate Diploma in Theology at the University of the Free State may be what you are searching for!*

**Online applications**

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

**For more information**

Contact the postgraduate advisor,  
Ms Palesa Pholo Tel: 051 401 9645  
Email: [theologypostgraduate@ufs.ac.za](mailto:theologypostgraduate@ufs.ac.za)

**Closing date for  
Applications**

**31 October**

[www.ufs.ac.za/theology](http://www.ufs.ac.za/theology) | [theologypostgraduate@ufs.ac.za](mailto:theologypostgraduate@ufs.ac.za)

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



UNIVERSITY OF THE  
FREE STATE  
UNIVERSITEIT VAN DIE  
VRYSTAAT  
YUNIVESITHI YA  
FREISTATA



**UFS**  
THEOLOGY AND RELIGION



Postgraduate Diploma in Theology (PGDIP)

This unique programme is for students with an academic background in any field (NQF level 7) who feel called to contextual Christian ministry. Grounded in the soil of the South African context but aware and connected to global discussions, the programme aims to form students to become innovative and respected Christian leaders within their respective communities. The theology we seek to explore and embody together is ecumenical at heart – as we thirst to drink from more and deeper wells the church offers us. All theological disciplines are tailored to meet (and even anticipate) the ever-growing challenges of ministry in a world faced with many looming disasters. In short, interpreting the Word and the world is the ongoing task of those called to serve.

MODULE	PERIOD	CREDITS
FIRST-YEAR MODULES FOR PART-TIME STUDENTS		
<b>TOTT5814: Advanced Study of the Old Testament</b> The theology, ethics, and hermeneutics of the Old Testament are studied so that you can apply scripture meaningfully within a ministerial context.	Semester 1	16
<b>TELG5814: Advanced Study of Church History and Church Polity</b> Historical hermeneutics, contemporary South African historiography, and a selected number of themes of historical and church political trends are studied.	Semester 1	16
<b>TNTT5824: Advanced Study of the New Testament</b> The theology, ethics, and hermeneutics of the New Testament are studied so that you can apply scripture meaningfully within a ministerial context.	Semester 2	16
<b>TSYS5824: Advanced Study of Systematic Theology and Ethics</b> 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.	Semester 2	16
SECOND-YEAR MODULES FOR PART-TIME STUDENTS		
<b>TPRM5804: Advanced Study in Research Methodology and Theory in Practical and Missional Theology</b> Different research approaches and methods in practical and missional theological research are studied on an advanced level. This includes enhancing the practical relevance of research within an ecclesial setting, exploring the multiplicity of collaborative research practices within such communities of practice, and the eventual presentation of a research proposal and a research report.	Year	16
<b>TPMT5800: Advanced Study of Themes in Practical and Missional Theology, Specialised Ministries and Practicum</b> The fundamental knowledge, theories, principles, and practices of an advanced study of the themes in practical and missional theology will be studied, including a) Practical Theological Ecclesiology, b) Pastoral Care, c) Liturgy and homiletics, d) Faith formation, and e) Missiology.	Year	40

Tuition format

We follow a blended tuition model consisting of one compulsory face-to-face block contact week each semester (the last weeks of February and July) and one live online class (50 minutes) every Wednesday from 16:10–17:00. The weekly online class will be rotated between the modules. The aim of these online meetings may vary from presenting and discussing lectures or group work, receiving feedback on assignments, or checking in to support your progression through the content. Students are expected to work independently and follow a disciplined self-study programme.

It is also important to note that these contact sessions are closely aligned with students’ active involvement within a particular faith community – and students need to work under the respected leadership and guidance of an acknowledged mentor from within their situated faith community. The independent development of your ministerial portfolio is an important outcome of this programme.

Note the following:

- Full-time students do this qualification in one (1) year.
- Part-time students do this qualification over two (2) years. The block contact sessions for part-time students will be shorter.

Contact session details

Block week I (The last week in February)	
Monday 08:10 to Tuesday 18:00	TOTT5814 and TELG5814.
Wednesday 08:10 to 17:00	TPRM5804
Thursday 7:10 to Sunday 10:00	TPMT5800
Block week II (The last week of July)	
Monday 08:10 to Tuesday 18:00	TNTT5824 and TSYS5824.
Wednesday 08:10 to 17:00	TPRM5804
Thursday 7:10 to Sunday 10:00	TPMT5800
One weekly online contact session, Wednesday from 16:10–17:00	
Weekly, except during block contact weeks.	Per rotation schedule

Projected costs

The projected cost for full-time tuition fees (excluding books): R47575.00  
This is not a quote for 2025 but a minimum cost projection for the full course based on the fees for 2025. The UFS Fees Yearbook for 2025 will only be available at the end of 2025.

Bursaries

- A limited number of small bursaries that can be used 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](mailto:theologybursary@ufs.ac.za) for further information.
- The DRC offers bursaries for students of the DRC, URCSA and DRCA. For more information, contact Tertius Botha at [tbotha@ngkvs.co.za](mailto:tbotha@ngkvs.co.za) The last date to submit applications is 31 January 2025.

Language

The language of tuition will be in English, but students are encouraged and sensitised to work in a multi-lingual ministerial environment.

Important dates and contact details

Closing date for applications: 31 October 2025

For more information, please contact the academic advisor,

Ms Palesa Pholo Tel: 051 401 9645

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