



Practical and Missional Theology Master's programme

1. INTRODUCTION

In a rapidly changing world with a focus on effectivity, one seeks a relevant theology. As part of the mission of the Faculty of Theology and Religion, the Department of Practical and Missional Theology endeavours to make a relevant theological contribution to, and involvement in the community at large. In order to understand theology as a term with public significance, the postgraduate Master's programme in Practical and Missional Theology affords the student the opportunity to communicate this significance.

2. AIM OF THE QUALIFICATION

In recent years, the Master's programmes have met the various needs of prospective students to be meaningfully involved in congregations and the community. However, on the basis of recent research and challenges in practice, the needs in the church and society demand an increasingly more comprehensive and interdisciplinary contribution. In order to meet these needs, the Master's qualifications afford the student the opportunity to select a relevant programme from a number of modules with a view to a meaningful and relevant contextual ministry.

3. STRUCTURE

The structured programme is presented on NQF Level 9, with a credit value of 196. The modular nature of the programme implies that a student must attend a number of sessions per year (usually clustered in block weeks). The programme extends over a minimum of two years. The curriculum affords the student the opportunity to select four modules, of which one may be an elective module in one of the participating departments¹ outside the Department of Practical and Missional Theology (e.g., Psychology, Education, Developmental Studies, Systematic Theology, etc.). Upon completion of the qualification, the student submits a comprehensive dissertation in the last year of study.

4. PREREQUISITES

- ✓ Be in the possession of an appropriate and equivalent NQF Exit Level 8 qualification and have obtained a weighted average of at least 60%.
- ✓ Minimum of 60% in Practical Theology modules at Honours level.
- ✓ Research methodology (up to Honours level).
- ✓ Selection procedure as determined by the department.

¹ It is the responsibility of the student to enquire about the availability of these modules at the relevant faculty/department.



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Specialised fields of study within Practical and Missional Theology

The Department of Practical and Missional Theology offers four specialised study fields within the discipline of Practical and Missional Theology, each with corresponding elective modules. These are, however, only *recommendations*: a student may select any four modules in constructing a specific (and personalised) Practical and Missional Theology programme.

Congregational Studies and Leadership

Faith communities and their leadership play an important role in the lives of individuals who come together and celebrate their faith, while also serving one another and the wider community. This study field focusses on the ministry of the congregation and her service to society. Are they faithful witnesses and are they making an impact in society? Congregational Studies aims to develop a missional and contextual ecclesiology from a Practical Theology perspective.

Faith Formation

In this field of study, faith formation is studied as a lifelong, holistic and comprehensive teaching, learning and life process. It represents the relational fibre of faith formation ministries in the church. The elective modules focus on intergenerational faith formation and curriculum development for faith formation.

Homiletics and Liturgy

The field of Homiletics and Liturgy focusses on equipping students to preach the Gospel and lead people in worship in a rapidly changing (post-)world. Four carefully developed elective modules will guide students into the dynamic intersections and ongoing entanglements in the famous dictum of the church: '*Lex orandi, lex credendi, lex convivendi*'; meaning 'How we pray, is how we believe, and live together'. The elective modules focus on the church(es)' and the respective disciplines' response to similar challenges in the past. They aim to explore the major developments and shifts in both Homiletics and Liturgy over the past seven decades, and the manner in which churches discern and engage with the broader context and culture, with specific reference to the manner in which the Word, signs and times are read. Specializing in these modules will help and form students to essentially face the emerging future of the Triune God beyond the confines of mere preaching and worship.

Missiology

An in-depth study in contextual Missional Theology is explained, first, from the study of new approaches in Missional Theology in the contemporary context, with a four-fold focus: new approaches in Missional Theology; the contemporary context from the perspective of Missional Theology; engagement of the contemporary world, and the evaluation of Missional Theology in contemporary contexts. Secondly, contextual missional ministries are studied with the emphasis on missional ministries and contemporary challenges in terms of how missional ministries engage the present context. This programme ends with a final focus on Missional Theology regarding the proclamation to, as well as discussion and dialogue with a selection of world religions in describing the essential aspects of dialogue with the main world religions, engaging a selection of world religions from the perspective of discussion and proclamation, and evaluating Missional Theology in the contemporary multi-religious world.



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Pastoral Care and Therapy

This specialised field finds its point of departure in the basic principles, theories and practices of the caring and counselling offices of ministry. The field includes the study of the methods of care and healing with reference to moral and religious life and development, as well as interpersonal and family relationships. The field of Pastoral Care aims to reflect on concrete human experiences with the objective of developing practical methods (therapy) – created from a normative vision, concrete understanding and practical wisdom – that help people cope with daily problems and life crises.

Specialisation in Pastoral Care, with the aim of registering as a specialist pastoral therapist at the Council for Pastoral and Spiritual Counsellors (CPSC), requires that all four Pastoral Care and Therapy-related modules (electives) be taken. If such a registration is not required, two of these modules can be replaced by two other modules.

5. MODULE DESCRIPTIONS

All modules are Year Modules.

DESCRIPTION	
1	Mini-dissertation in Practical Theology OR Missiology In their final year of study, students can, in consultation with both the programme coordinator and the relevant study leader, decide on a topic for their mini-dissertation or a publishable article within the discipline of Practical Theology.
2	Research Methodology and Theory in Practical and Missional Theology Fundamental knowledge, theories and practices related to practical and missional research are studied on an advanced level. This includes the development of a research proposal, the selection of an appropriate methodology, and the completion of a research report.
3	In-depth Study of the Congregation and Community This module will explore the relevance of a missional theology for congregation and community. Appropriate community development theories are used to develop a framework for the description of the role a congregation may play in society. An in-depth study of the challenges a community faces contributes to the development of a contextual ecclesiology.
4	In-depth Study of Congregational Analysis and Change An in-depth study of a framework for congregational analysis will enhance a critical understanding of the congregation, its management and organisation. The understanding of a changing context will be used to conceptualise an integrated contextual ministry.



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DESCRIPTION	
5	In-depth Study in Leadership This module will contextually explore, analyse and describe possible orientations towards leadership geared for the various challenges of the future. This dynamic interaction will be portrayed in visions of future leadership in a globalised context.
6	In-Depth Studies of Pastoral Care and Counselling In this module pastoral care and counselling theologies, theories and models will be studied in depth, with a focus on pastoral theological conceptualisations, and the application of specific pastoral care models in specific contexts of care (e.g., marriage and family, illness and loss, and crises and trauma).
7	In-depth Study of Pastoral Care in the Context of Crime This module aims to introduce and conceptualise specific pastoral theologies, theories and models of care to law-offenders and the survivors of crime, with a specific focus on the contexts of law-offenders and survivors of crime.
8	In-depth Study of Narrative Pastoral Therapy This module will conduct an in-depth study of narrative pastoral therapy and related theories and concepts, with a specific focus on the exploration of various narrative pastoral therapeutic techniques as they can be applied to specific contexts.
9	Pastoral Care Internship and Supervision² The content of this module entails both pastoral care theory and practical work components. The theory focusses on the introductory components of pastoral care and the methods related to providing pastoral care in the context of marriage and family, loss and bereavement, and crisis counselling. This theory directly relates to the practical component, which provides the students with both a context and opportunities to consider the following aspects related to practice: ethics; the basics of psychiatric ailments; pastoral and spiritual counselling to the sick; spiritual resilience in creating hope, and aspects of community care. Students then learn how to apply skills related to the above.
10	In-depth Study of Intergenerational Faith Formation This module aims to develop new knowledge and approaches in intergeneration faith formation in the postmodern context of the local congregation as well as the virtual reality of society. The module also analyses the leadership needed in this context.
11	In-depth Study of Curriculum Design in Faith Formation In this module, the in-depth study of curriculum design in faith formation will enhance a critical understanding of faith formation, its management and organisation. The understanding of curriculum design will be used to conceptualise a framework for lifelong faith formation within the context of the local congregation.
12	In-depth Study in Prophetic Preaching This module presents an in-depth study of the practice of prophetic preaching, with a specific focus on its history, development, state, and future in the South African context. This particular focus will seek different interlocutors and discern whether they may stimulate and deepen the practice of prophetic preaching in South Africa nowadays.

DESCRIPTION	
13	In-depth Study in the "New Homiletic" This module explores the history, development, characteristics, and challenges of the "New Homiletic". It closely studies the reception of the "New Homiletic" into various components and aspects of the practice of preaching. At the end of the module, an evaluation will highlight both the strengths and weaknesses of the 'New Homiletic'.
14	In-depth Study in Cultural Liturgies This module will explore the relationship between cult and culture. The dynamics between liturgy and life, worship and social ethics, faith formation and cultural critique will be engaged from different perspectives. Exegesis and hermeneutics of the social imagination of both some thick Christian practices and rituals, as well as other cultural practices in our post-world, will be closely scrutinized in order to deepen Christian formation and witness in the current world.
15	In-depth Study In Liturgical Renewal This module will explore the liturgical renewal that occurred during the 20 th century in both the Catholic and Protestant churches. The commonalities, contradictions and challenges in the deep convictions and orientations of these movements in the 20 th century will be closely scrutinized in terms of their relevance and impetus for Christian liturgy in the 21 st century, and even more specifically in terms of the South African context.
16	Any module from another department/faculty Students who wish to enrol for a module in another department/faculty should consult both the programme director of the particular department/faculty as well as the programme director of Theology before registration of the module.
17	Contextual Missional Theology An in-depth study of new approaches in missional theology in the contemporary context.
18	Missional Theology in a Multi-Religious Context In this module, missional theology is studied with emphasis on proclamation to, as well as discussion and dialogue with a selection of world religions.
19	Contextual Missional Ministries This module, studies missional theology, with the emphasis on missional ministries and contemporary challenges.

² The module 'In-depth study of narrative pastoral therapy' is a prerequisite for the 'Pastoral care and internship and supervision' module. For the Supervision module to be offered in a specific year, at least five enrolled students are required. If this is not the case, the module will be postponed.



6. PLANNING YOUR CURRICULUM

COMPULSORY MODULES – these modules are presented every year
1. Mini-dissertation in Practical Theology
2. Research Methodology and Theory in Practical and Missional Theology
ELECTIVE MODULES – these modules are presented every OTHER year
Select any 4 of the following
3. In-depth Study of the Congregation and Community
4. In-depth Study of Congregational Analysis and Change
5. In-depth Study in Leadership
6. In-Depth Studies of Pastoral Care and Counselling
7. In-depth Study of Pastoral Care in the Context of Crime
8. In-depth Study of Narrative Pastoral Therapy
9. Pastoral Care Internship and Supervision
10. In-depth Study of Intergenerational Faith Formation
11. In-depth Study of Curriculum Design in Faith Formation
12. In-depth Study in Prophetic Preaching
13. In-depth Study in the “New Homiletic”
14. In-depth Study in Cultural Liturgies
15. In-depth Study in Liturgical Renewal
16. Contextual Missional Theology OR Missional Theology in a Multi-Religious Context OR Contextual Missional Ministries

COMPULSORY MODULES – these modules are presented every year
1. Mini-dissertation in Missiology
2. Research Methodology and Theory in Practical and Missional Theology
ELECTIVE MODULES
MISSIOLOGY MODULES
Select at least 2 of the following
3. Contextual Missional Theology
4. Missional Theology in a Multi-Religious Context
5. Contextual Missional Ministries
PRACTICAL THEOLOGY MODULES - these modules are presented every OTHER year
Select 1 or 2 of the following – depending on how many Missiology Modules you selected. You should complete a total of 4 elective modules.
6. In-depth Study of the Congregation and Community
7. In-depth Study of Congregational Analysis and Change
8. In-depth Study in Leadership
9. In-Depth Studies of Pastoral Care and Counselling
10. In-depth Study of Pastoral Care in the Context of Crime
11. In-depth Study of Narrative Pastoral Therapy
12. In-depth Study of Intergenerational Faith Formation
13. In-depth Study of Curriculum Design in Faith Formation
14. In-depth Study in Prophetic Preaching
15. In-depth study in the “New Homiletic”
16. In-depth Study in Cultural Liturgies
17. In-depth Study in Liturgical Renewal

Closing date for new applications: 30 September

Enquiries: Annelize Dreyer at dreyera@ufs.ac.za

