

# Theologia Praxis

*Honours and Masters programme*

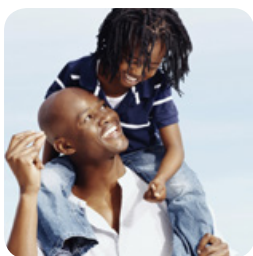
[www.ufs.ac.za/praxis](http://www.ufs.ac.za/praxis)

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TEOLOGIE



## 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, the Department of Practical 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 Honours and Masters programme in Theologia Praxis affords the student the opportunity to communicate this significance.

## 2. AIM OF THE QUALIFICATION(S)

In recent years the Honours and Masters 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, it is a fact that the needs in the church and society demand an increasingly more comprehensive and interdisciplinary contribution. In order to meet these needs, the Honours and Masters 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. THE HONOURS THEOLOGIA PRAXIS PROGRAMME

### 3.1 Structure: Honours programme

The structured programme is presented on NQF Level 8 with a credit value of 128. The modular nature of the programme implies that a student must attend a number of sessions per year. The programme extends over a minimum of two years. The curriculum affords the student the opportunity to select 4 modules. Upon completion of the qualification, a mini dissertation is completed in the second year of study. Upon the successful completion of the qualification, the student may apply for admission to a MA/MTh in Practical Theology.

### 3.2 Prerequisites

- ♦ Any B-degree at NQF Exit Level 7.
- ♦ A cognate Advanced Diploma in Theology.
- ♦ Minimum 60% in undergraduate study.
- ♦ Selection procedure as determined by the Department.
- ♦ Language and skills examinations as offered by the University.
- ♦ An essay of 1000 words on a proposed topic in the Honours study within the discipline of Practical Theology.

### 3.3 Compulsory

The following **three** modules are compulsory:



### ***Research methodology and theory (16 credits, 1st year)***

The aim of this module is to orientate students in the knowledge and skills of research methodology and theory. This enables students to describe the research process and some research methodologies within the discipline of Practical Theology from the perspective of scientific social research. Students also complete a research project.

### ***Advanced introduction to Practical Theology as an academic discipline (16 credits, 1st year)***

The aim of this module is to provide students with a review of the development of practical theology. The module sketches philosophical and theological principles in the search for an epistemological framework. This module enables students to be involved in practical theology within a postmodern context.

### ***Mini dissertation (32 credits, 2nd year)***

In their second 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 within the discipline of practical theology. The mini dissertation forms an important part of the Honours programme and calls for creative and independent work by the student.

## **3.4 Choice modules**

The student selects any of the following **four** modules:

### ***Advanced study in Congregation Studies I (Congregation and Community) (16 credits)***

The aim of this module is to make students aware of the unavoidable relationship between congregation and community. From a missional theological perspective, the module deals with a selected number of development strategies and their significance for the congregation's role in the community.

### ***Advanced study in Congregation Studies III (Leadership) (16 credits)***

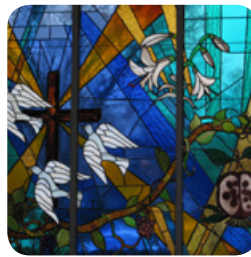
This module presents a review of the concept of leadership and its significance for practical theology. Various models of leadership are studied from a practical theological perspective. Pointers to a leadership model for change, to the spirituality of the leader and to the future are discussed.

### ***Advanced study in Specialised Pastorate I (Pastorate) (16 credits)***

The pastorate seeks descriptions of God's love for and presence in human relationships and life. This module presents the development and significance of the pastorate. The significance of the pastorate in practice is described on the basis of a selected number of pastoral models.

### ***Advanced study in Specialised Pastorate III (Narrative Therapy) (16 credits)***

This module presents a review of the philosophy of narrative therapy as well as the relationship and significance of narrative therapy for the pastorate. Narrative pastoral therapy is described theoretically. Students are, inter alia, exposed to an eclectic model illustrating specific therapeutic techniques to be mastered.



### ***Advanced study in Homiletics I (New Homiletics) (16 credits)***

This module assists students to fully understand the current status of “New Homiletics”. The module examines critically and in depth the various developments and changes experienced by “New Homiletics” since the 1960s. The aim of this module is to develop a practical-theological homiletic credo with a view to the immediate future.

### ***Advanced study in Formation of Faith II (Intergenerational Formation Practices) (16 credits)***

This module affords students the opportunity to develop, within the epistemology and context of intergenerational formation, a theologically justified praxis. The following issues are specifically addressed: the incorporation of various generations in the formation of faith in the congregation; youth and child ministry in an intergenerational context, and family ministry as formation of faith practice.

## **4. THE MASTERS THEOLOGIA PRAXIS PROGRAMME**

### **4.1 Structure: Masters programme**

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. The programme extends over minimum of two years. The curriculum affords the student the opportunity to select 4 modules, of which one may be a choice module in one of the participating departments outside the Faculty of Theology. Upon completion of the qualification, the student must hand in a comprehensive dissertation in the second year of study. The successful completion of the qualification affords the student the opportunity to apply for possible admission to a PhD in Practical Theology.

### **4.2 PREREQUISITES**

- ♦ Minimum 60% in pre-specialisation.
- ♦ Research methodology (up to Honours level).
- ♦ The selection procedure as determined by the department.
- ♦ Language and skills examination as offered by the University.
- ♦ One research essay of a maximum of 1500 words on the proposed topic within the discipline of Practical Theology.



## 4.3 COMPULSORY

### *Extended dissertation (60 credits)*

In their second year of study students can, upon consultation with both the programme coordinator and the relevant study leader, decide on a topic for the extended dissertation. Upon completion of the dissertation, it is expected that the outcome of the research will be submitted for possible publication in a professional journal.

### *Research Methodology and Theory (16 credits)*

This module contains fundamental knowledge, theories, principles and practices of an in-depth study of research methodology and theory in practical theology, including: the research statement and proposal, an understanding of qualitative and quantitative research methodologies and theories, the application of a mixed methodology, practice-orientated and contextual research, the use of Computer-assisted qualitative data analysis Software (CAQDAS) and the ethical aspects of research in practical theology.

## 4.4 Choice modules within Practical Theology

The student selects any of the following **three/four** modules:

### *In-depth study in Specialised Pastorate I (Pastoral Care) (30 credits)*

The pastorate facilitates the search for God's presence in a complex world. It assists people to live a meaningful life. This module presents a review of the significance and development of the pastorate. The significance for practice is presented from a selected number of pastoral models.

### *In-depth study in Specialised Pastorate II (Pastoral Care to Transgressors of the Law and Victims of Crime) (30 credits)*

This module assists students to critically conceptualise scientifically justified terminology in the context of transgressors of the law and victims of crime. This theoretical justification forms the basis for being professionally and practically involved, by using a narrative-informed pastoral framework, in the context of transgressors of the law and victims of crime.

### *In-depth study in Specialised Pastorate III (Narrative Pastoral Therapy) (30 credits)*

This module presents a review on the origin and philosophy of narrative therapy. Pastoral-therapeutic contexts explain the significance of narrative therapy for the pastorate. Specific therapeutic skills are mastered and used with particular emphasis on exposure to and practice of therapeutic skills.



### ***In-depth study in Specialised Pastorate IV (Pastoral Practice) (30 credits)***

Theoretical & practical aspects of the pastoral practice.

This module offers an in-depth study of Pastoral Care. Clinical perspectives and skills are introduced by means of practical work. As the practical work builds upon the underlying theory of the Narrative Therapy which is offered in the in-depth study in Specialized Pastorate III, the module is offered in the second year of the Masters Programme. A minimum percentage of 60% is required. After completion of the module, depending on the amount of practical hours completed under supervision, the student will be recommended for registration with the Board of Pastoral Care Counsellors.

### ***In-depth study of Congregation Studies I (Congregation and Community) (30 credits)***

The aim of this module is to make students aware of the critical relationship between congregation and community. From a missional theological perspective, a selected number of development theories and approaches are studied in-depth. The module examines their significance for the congregation's role in a dynamic changing community.

### ***In-depth study of Congregation Studies II (Analysis and Change) (30 credits)***

In times of transformation and change, an analytical, critical and appreciative investigation into the congregation is essential. The aim of this module is to examine in depth the processes and theories in this respect and to ultimately develop frameworks for an integrated missional congregational ministry.

### ***In-depth study of Congregation Studies III (Leadership) (30 credits)***

This module studies in depth the concept of leadership and its significance for practical theology. In the practical-theological description of leadership, various frameworks of dynamic leadership in specific contexts are studied. Indicators are formulated for a leadership framework for the future.

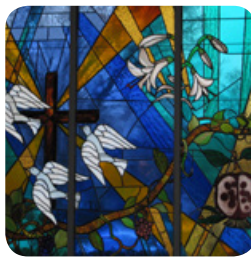
### ***In-depth study in Formation of Faith II (Intergenerational Formation Practices) (30 credits)***

This module affords the student the opportunity to develop a theologically justified praxis in an intergenerational context. The module studies the intergenerational context of the congregation, as well as youth- and children's ministry with a view to formation of faith practices and missional intergenerational formation practices. The module assists the student to develop family ministry with a view to formation of faith in an intergenerational context.

### ***In-depth study of Homiletics (30 credits)***

This module studies in depth the practice of prophetic preaching. Our theological reading of the Bible – especially the prophetic literature – comes to the fore. We look into the long, rich and varied tradition of prophetic preachers and their sermons within their specific episteme. Lastly, we discern on some urgent prophetic tasks us preachers face today.





The student may select **one** of the following modules:

### ***Centre for Development Support***

Upon consultation with the programme coordinator, the student selects a relevant module from the modules offered by the Centre on Master's level.

### ***Department of Psychology***

For the module in Psychology, a student can apply to the Department of Psychology for selection to be registered for two modules (with the weight of one Master's module) from the Psychology Honours programme. The minimum requirement for applying for this module is the completion of Psychology III at undergraduate level. In addition to this relevant requirement, there is also a selection process for candidates who apply for admission to the Psychology Honours programme in the Department of Psychology. It must be emphasised that, when attending and completing the modules, the student must meet the requirements as determined by the Department of Psychology and that both these modules must be completed before completing the relevant module in the Masters programme. The successful completion of the two modules adds to the student's credit status, should s/he apply for admission to the remaining Honours modules in the Psychology programme and for the potential obtainment of the Psychology Honours qualification.

### ***Faculty of Education***

Upon consultation with the programme coordinator, the student selects a relevant module from those presented by the Faculty of Education at Honours and Masters level.

### ***Enquiries:***

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