

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2021

Diploma in Theology (06120004)

Department Theology and Religion Dean's Office

Minimum duration of study 3 years

Total credits 359

NQF level 06

Programme information

This programme offers general theological education to students who have passed the National Senior Certificate with admission to diploma studies. It also provides a basis for denominational programmes, formation and practical training with a view to the ministry.

A fixed curriculum is prescribed.

The student, who registers for this programme, has to submit his or her curriculum to the Programme coordinator for approval at the beginning of each academic year.

The Diploma in Theology largely overlaps with the same subjects as for the two degree programmes in Theology, and students who obtain an average of 65% for the final year may be admitted to postgraduate study, with the approval of Senate.

Admission requirements

- The closing date is an administrative admission guideline for non-selection programmes. Once a non-selection programme is full and has reached the institutional targets, then that programme will be closed for further admissions, irrespective of the closing date. However, if the institutional targets have not been met by the closing date, then that programme will remain open for admissions until the institutional targets are met.
- The following persons will be considered for admission: Candidates who have a certificate that is deemed by the University to be equivalent to the required National Senior Certificate (NSC) with admission to Diploma studies; candidates who are graduates from another tertiary institution or have been granted the status of a graduate of such an institution; and candidates who are graduates of another faculty at the University of Pretoria.
- Life Orientation is excluded in the calculation of the APS.

Transferring students

Candidates previously registered at UP or at another university

The Admissions Committee of the faculty considers applications of candidates who have already completed the final Grade 12 NSC or equivalent examination and/or were previously registered at UP or at another university, on grounds of their NSC or equivalent results as well as academic merit. Candidates who were dismissed from other faculties or universities will not be considered.

Qualifications from countries other than South Africa

- Citizens from countries other than South Africa and South African citizens with foreign qualifications must

comply with all the admission requirements and the prerequisites for subjects/modules.

- Only a limited number of candidates are admitted to undergraduate studies in the faculty. In addition to meeting the admission requirements, admission is based on the performance in the **TOEFL, IELTS or SAT**, if required, in competition with other candidates who also meet the admission requirements.
- Candidates must have a NSC with admission to degree studies or a certificate of conditional exemption on the basis of a candidate's foreign qualifications, the so-called "Immigrant" or "Foreign Conditional Exemption". The only condition for the "Foreign Conditional Exemption" that is accepted is: 'completion of the degree course'. The exemption certificate is obtainable from Universities South Africa (USAf). Detailed information is available on the website at [click here](#).

University of Pretoria website: [click here](#)

Minimum requirements

Achievement level

**English Home Language or
English First Additional
Language**

APS

NSC/IEB AS Level

3 E **24**

* Cambridge A-level candidates who obtained at least a D in the required subjects and International Baccalaureate (IB) HL candidates who obtained at least a 4 in the required subjects will be considered for admission.

Examinations and pass requirements

Special examinations

See also *General Regulations G.12.6*.

A student who complies with all the requirements for the diploma with the exception of a maximum of two semester modules or one year-module, in each of which a combined mark of at least 40% has been obtained, may be admitted to a special examination in the same modules at the end of the following semester.

Promotion to next study year

- To be admitted to the second year of study, a student must pass at least eight semester modules, unless the Dean decides otherwise.
- To be admitted to the third year of study, a student must pass at least 21 semester modules, unless the Dean decides otherwise.

Academic exclusion

The Dean may, on recommendation of the relevant Faculty committee, exclude a student academically by the cancellation of the registration for that particular year or for the following year, if he or she does not comply with the minimum set of requirements. The student may appeal against the academic exclusion, but it is advisable to address any problems as soon as possible. It remains the student's responsibility to approach the relevant lecturer as soon as academic problems are being experienced.

Pass with distinction

The diploma is conferred with distinction on a student who obtains an average of 75% (GPA) in the three years of study, provided that not one of the modules had been failed previously and that the programme was completed within the minimum prescribed period.

General information

Information on modules

- If a module does not attract enough student registrations to be presented economically, the Dean may decide to withdraw it. Students will be advised in time of such decisions in order to register for an alternative module.
- The timetable of lectures must be consulted.
- A student may, with the consent of the Dean, exceed the number of modules per study year by two semester modules or one year module.

Curriculum: Year 1

Minimum credits: 124

All prescribed modules must be taken at first year level

Fundamental modules

Academic information management 111 (AIM 111)

Module credits 4.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules

Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
Faculty of Humanities
Faculty of Law
Faculty of Health Sciences
Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences
Faculty of Theology and Religion

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Information Science

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Find, evaluate, process, manage and present information resources for academic purposes using appropriate technology.

Academic information management 121 (AIM 121)

Module credits 4.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules

Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology
Faculty of Education
Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences
Faculty of Humanities
Faculty of Law
Faculty of Health Sciences
Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences
Faculty of Theology and Religion
Faculty of Veterinary Science

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 2 lectures per week



Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Informatics

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Apply effective search strategies in different technological environments. Demonstrate the ethical and fair use of information resources. Integrate 21st-century communications into the management of academic information.

Academic literacy 110 (ALL 110)

Module credits 6.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules Faculty of Health Sciences
Faculty of Theology and Religion

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Unit for Academic Literacy

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

This module intends to equip students to cope more confidently and competently with the reading and understanding of a variety of texts, to apply these skills in a variety of contexts and to follow the conventions of academic writing.

Academic literacy for Theology 120 (ALL 120)

Module credits 6.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules Faculty of Theology and Religion

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Unit for Academic Literacy

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

By the end of this module students should be able to cope more confidently and competently with the reading, writing and critical thinking demands that are characteristic of the field of Theology.

Academic orientation 105 (UPO 105)

Module credits 0.00

NQF Level	00
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Theology and Religion Dean's Office
Period of presentation	Year

Core modules

Introduction to the New Testament 110 (NTL 110)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	05
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	2 lectures per week, 2 tutorials per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	New Testament and Related Literature
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

The encyclopaedia of the New Testament and the religious-, political-, economic-, and socio-cultural setting of the New Testament.

Gospels: Mark and Matthew 120 (NTL 120)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	05
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	2 lectures per week, 2 tutorials per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	New Testament and Related Literature
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Introduction to the exegesis and theology of Mark and Matthew; Synoptic problem and canonicity.

Introduction to the world of the Old Testament 110 (OTL 110)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	05
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	2 lectures per week, 2 tutorials per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English

Department Old Testament and Hebrew Scriptures

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Geographical and historical background of the Old Testament. The Near-Eastern cultural background of the Bible.

Narratives in the Old Testament 120 (OTL 120)

Module credits 10.00

NQF Level 05

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 2 lectures per week, 2 tutorials per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Old Testament and Hebrew Scriptures

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Introduction to narratology. Capita selecta: Ruth, Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah.

Practical Theology: Introduction and insertion 110 (PRT 110)

Module credits 10.00

NQF Level 05

Prerequisites No prerequisite.

Contact time 2 lectures per week, 2 tutorials per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Practical Theology and Mission Studies

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

A general introduction to the field of Practical Theology, its sub-disciplines and the current context of faith practices.

Theory of religion 110 (REL 110)

Module credits 12.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules Faculty of Education
Faculty of Humanities

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 1 discussion class per week, 2 lectures per week, 2 tutorials per week



Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Religion Studies

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

What is religion? The functions of religion. Studying religion. Perspectives on religion. Common concepts and key terms in various religions will be dealt with - also generic dimensions and aspects. The interdependence of religion, culture and society.

Kaleidoscope of religions 120 (REL 120)

Module credits 12.00

NQF Level 05

Service modules Faculty of Education
Faculty of Humanities

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 1 discussion class per week, 2 lectures per week, 2 tutorials per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Religion Studies

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

The occurrence of religion in societies. Types of religion. Primal religions. Christianity, Judaism, Islam. A variety of religions will be addressed: capita selecta will be made from Christianity; Hinduism; Buddhism; New Religions; New Age; main developments in the world and South Africa.

Introduction to the study of religion 120 (RSM 120)

Module credits 10.00

NQF Level 05

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 2 lectures per week, 2 tutorials per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Religion Studies

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

What is religion? The functions of religion. Methods of studying religion. Perspectives on the origin of religion. Common concepts and key terms in various religions will be dealt with - also generic dimensions and aspects. The interdependence of religion, culture and society.

Faith and stories 110 (SHT 110)



Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	05
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	2 lectures per week, 2 tutorials per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Systematic and Historical Theology
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Overview and introduction to the disciplines within the field of theological studies.

History of Christianity in Southern Africa 120 (SHT 120)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	05
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	2 lectures per week, 2 tutorials per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Systematic and Historical Theology
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Introduction to the history of Christianity in Southern Africa with specific reference to colonialism and post-colonialism.

Curriculum: Year 2

Minimum credits: 110

All prescribed modules must be taken at second year level

Core modules

Gospels: Luke-Acts 210 (NTL 210)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	06
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	New Testament and Related Literature
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Introduction to the exegesis and theology of Luke-Acts.

Johannine literature 220 (NTL 220)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	06
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	New Testament and Related Literature
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Introduction to the exegesis and theology of the Johannine gospel and letters.

Old Testament exegesis and former prophets 210 (OTL 210)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	06
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Old Testament and Hebrew Scriptures

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Variety of exegetical methods applied to texts of the former prophets.

Poetry and apocalypses 220 (OTL 220)

Module credits 10.00

NQF Level 06

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Old Testament and Hebrew Scriptures

Period of presentation Year

Module content

Poetical and apocalyptic literature of the Old Testament.

Practical Theology: Understanding and interpreting I 210 (PRT 210)

Module credits 10.00

NQF Level 06

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Practical Theology and Mission Studies

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

A general introduction to theories for understanding and interpreting faith practices with an emphasis on Youth, Pastoral Care, Community Development/Transformation and Congregational Studies.

Practical Theology: Understanding and interpreting II 220 (PRT 220)

Module credits 10.00

NQF Level 06

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Practical Theology and Mission Studies

Period of presentation Semester 2



Module content

A general introduction to theories for understanding and interpreting faith practices with an emphasis on Liturgy, Hymnology and Homiletics.

Introduction, key concepts and topics in missiology 210 (RSM 210)

Module credits 10.00

NQF Level 06

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Religion Studies

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Introduction to mission studies, Church and mission and missional leadership.

Theologies of the South 220 (RSM 220)

Module credits 10.00

NQF Level 06

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Religion Studies

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

An understanding of hybrid forms of Christianity, especially in Africa.

Faith and beliefs 210 (SHT 210)

Module credits 10.00

NQF Level 06

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Systematic and Historical Theology

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

Pluriversal perspectives on faith, God, Trinity, Jesus Christ and Holy Spirit.



Being human 220 (SHT 220)

Module credits 10.00

NQF Level 06

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Systematic and Historical Theology

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Pluriversal perspectives on being human, on beliefs and on spirituality.

Theology in history 223 (SHT 223)

Module credits 10.00

NQF Level 06

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Systematic and Historical Theology

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Historical analysis of selected theological traditions and themes from the early church up to the 20th century.

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 125

All prescribed modules must be taken at final year level

Core modules

Community engagement 300 (CYE 300)

Module credits	15.00
NQF Level	06
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Practical Theology and Mission Studies
Period of presentation	Year

Module content

Develop a critical vision for how to engage with communities, in ways that are respectful and responsible. General principles and formation.

Paul 310 (NTL 310)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	06
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	New Testament and Related Literature
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Introduction to the exegesis and theology of the authentic letters of Paul.

Deutero- and Trito-Pauline writings 320 (NTL 320)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	06
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	New Testament and Related Literature



Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Introduction to the exegesis and theology of the Deutero- and Trito-Pauline writings.

The Pentateuch 310 (OTL 310)

Module credits 10.00

NQF Level 06

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Old Testament and Hebrew Scriptures

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

The Pentateuch (including hermeneutical perspectives).

The Prophets 320 (OTL 320)

Module credits 10.00

NQF Level 06

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Old Testament and Hebrew Scriptures

Period of presentation Semester 2

Module content

Selection from the Latter Prophets: exegesis and theologies.

Practical Theology: Discerning and imagining 310 (PRT 310)

Module credits 10.00

NQF Level 06

Prerequisites No prerequisites.

Contact time 2 lectures per week

Language of tuition Module is presented in English

Department Practical Theology and Mission Studies

Period of presentation Semester 1

Module content

A general introduction to methods and theories related to discernment and action regarding faith practices with an emphasis on Youth, Pastoral Care, Community Development/Transformation and Congregational Studies.

Practical Theology: Living the faith 320 (PRT 320)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	06
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Practical Theology and Mission Studies
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

A general introduction to methods and theories related to discernment and action regarding faith practices with an emphasis on Liturgy, Hymnology and Homiletics.

Mission in practice 310 (RSM 310)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	06
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Religion Studies
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Missional ecclesiology and community engagement.

Church planting 320 (RSM 320)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	06
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Religion Studies
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Church pioneering and leadership. Establishing new faith communities.

Church and community 310 (SHT 310)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	06
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Systematic and Historical Theology
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Reflections on what it means to be church in the current context.

Living as Christians 313 (SHT 313)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	06
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Systematic and Historical Theology
Period of presentation	Semester 1

Module content

Pluriversal perspectives on ethical behaviour, societal issues and ethical challenges.

Contemporary theological discourses I 320 (SHT 320)

Module credits	10.00
NQF Level	06
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Contact time	2 lectures per week
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Systematic and Historical Theology
Period of presentation	Semester 2

Module content

Critical discussion of theological and ecclesial issues as reflected in recent history.

The information published here is subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information. The [General Regulations \(G Regulations\)](#) apply to all faculties of the University of Pretoria. It is expected of students to familiarise themselves well with these regulations as well as with the information contained in the [General Rules](#) section. Ignorance concerning these regulations and rules will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression.