

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2025

Diploma in Theology (06120004)

Department Theology and Religion Dean's Office

Minimum duration of study 3 years

Total credits 379

NQF level 06

Programme information

Also refer to General Academic Regulations G1-G15.

- 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.
- Final-year students may not deregister any modules for the final year of study without permission from the Dean.
- 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

Important information for all prospective students for 2025

The admission requirements below apply to all who apply for admission to the University of Pretoria with a **National Senior Certificate (NSC) and Independent Examination Board (IEB) qualifications**. [Click here](#) for this Faculty Brochure.

Minimum requirements	
Achievement level	
English Home Language or English First Additional Language	APS
NSC/IEB	
3	24

Applicants who indicate Theology as a first or second choice will be considered. Students who select Theology as a second choice may have to submit a motivation.

Life Orientation is excluded when calculating the APS.

Applicants currently in Grade 12 must apply with their final Grade 11 (or equivalent) results.
Applicants who have completed Grade 12 must apply with their final NSC or equivalent qualification results.
Please note that meeting the minimum academic requirements does not guarantee admission.
Successful candidates will be notified once admitted or conditionally admitted.
Unsuccessful candidates will be notified after 30 June.

Applicants should check their application status regularly on the UP Student Portal at [click here](#).

Applicants with qualifications other than the abovementioned should refer to the International undergraduate prospectus 2025: Applicants with a school leaving certificate not issued by Umalusi (South Africa), available at [click here](#).

International students: [Click here](#).

Transferring students

A transferring student is a student who, at the time of applying at the University of Pretoria (UP) is/was a registered student at another tertiary institution. A transferring student will be considered for admission based on NSC or equivalent qualification and previous academic performance. Students who have been dismissed from other institutions due to poor academic performance will not be considered for admission to UP.

Closing dates: Same as above.

Returning students

A returning student is a student who, at the time of application for a degree programme is/was a registered student at UP, and wants to transfer to another degree at UP. A returning student will be considered for admission based on NSC or equivalent qualification and previous academic performance.

Note:

- Students who have been excluded/dismissed from a faculty due to poor academic performance may be considered for admission to another programme at UP, as per faculty-specific requirements.
- Only ONE transfer between UP faculties and TWO transfers within a faculty will be allowed.
- Admission of returning students will always depend on the faculty concerned and the availability of space in the programmes for which they apply.

Closing date for applications from returning students

Unless capacity allows for an extension of the closing date, applications from returning students must be submitted before the end of August via your UP Student Centre.

Examinations and pass requirements

Chancellor's examinations

See also General Academic Regulation G12.5.

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 Chancellor's examination in the same modules at the end of the following semester.

Promotion to next study year

Also refer to General Academic Regulation G3.2

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 as stated in the regulations for the respective year of the study. 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) (not rounded) 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 Students who have obtained a mark of 4 or lower in English Home Language are deemed at risk in terms of academic literacy and must register for ALL 110 and ALL 125.

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 tutorials per week, 2 lectures 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 tutorials per week, 2 lectures 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 tutorials per week, 2 lectures 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: 130

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 Semester 2

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.

Dynamics of religion 210 (REL 210)

Module credits 20.00

NQF Level 06

Service modules Faculty of Education
Faculty of Humanities

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

Investigating the method of Phenomenology as way of studying religions. Focussing on African Christianity and the phenomenon of African Independent Churches. Highlighting Prosperity Theology as phenomenon in Africa. Exploring the place of land, water and the city within religion in Africa

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 Practical Theology and Mission 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

Pastoral counselling: Grief counselling, trauma counselling and the pastoral counselling conversation.

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 Practical Theology and Mission 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 Practical Theology and Mission 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.

General Academic Regulations and Student Rules

The [General Academic Regulations \(G Regulations\)](#) and [General Student Rules](#) apply to all faculties and registered students of the University, as well as all prospective students who have accepted an offer of a place at the University of Pretoria. On registering for a programme, the student bears the responsibility of ensuring that they familiarise themselves with the General Academic Regulations applicable to their registration, as well as the relevant faculty-specific and programme-specific regulations and information as stipulated in the relevant yearbook. Ignorance concerning these regulations will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression, or basis for an exception to any of the aforementioned regulations. The G Regulations are updated annually and may be amended after the publication of this information.

Regulations, degree requirements and information

The faculty regulations, information on and requirements for the degrees published here are subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information.

University of Pretoria Programme Qualification Mix (PQM) verification project

The higher education sector has undergone an extensive alignment to the Higher Education Qualification Sub-Framework (HEQSF) across all institutions in South Africa. In order to comply with the HEQSF, all institutions are legally required to participate in a national initiative led by regulatory bodies such as the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), the Council on Higher Education (CHE), and the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). The University of Pretoria is presently engaged in an ongoing effort to align its qualifications and programmes with the HEQSF criteria. Current and prospective students should take note that changes to UP qualification and programme names, may occur as a result of the HEQSF initiative. Students are advised to contact their faculties if they have any questions.