

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2025

Bachelor of Divinity [BDiv] (06130008)

Department Systematic and Historical Theology

Minimum duration of study 4 years

Total credits 559

NQF level 08

Programme information

Also refer to General Academic Regulations G1-G15.

- This programme provides theological training and formation aimed at the needs of churches. It comprises two aspects, namely a general denominational aspect and a specific denominational aspect. The structure of the programme is determined by a balance between the critical reading of the texts that are part of the Christian canon as well as related literature, historical and systematic theology, and the applied dimensions in the field of theology.
- The outcome that the programme aims to achieve, is theoretically supported formation aimed at a broad spectrum of ministerial needs. For this purpose, certain elements of the programme are presented in partnership with churches that support the programme.
- A student who registers for this programme has to submit his or her curriculum to the Dean for approval at the beginning of each year.
- Final-year students may not deregister any modules for the final year of study without permission from the Dean.

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	
4	
	28

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 degree 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 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 degree is conferred with distinction on a student who obtains an average of 75% (GPA) (not rounded) in the four years of study, including the independent study (OST 400), 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: 140

Additional information:

All core and fundamental modules must be taken.

Two semester modules from any faculty must be taken as electives, providing that the requirements for the modules are met. The list below are electives from Theology and Religion but students are not limited to these.

Fundamental modules

[Academic information management 111](#) (AIM 111) - Credits: 4.00

[Academic information management 121](#) (AIM 121) - Credits: 4.00

[Academic literacy 110](#) (ALL 110) - Credits: 6.00

[Academic literacy for Theology 120](#) (ALL 120) - Credits: 6.00

[Academic orientation 105](#) (UPO 105) - Credits: 0.00

Core modules

[Greek 110](#) (GRK 110) - Credits: 12.00

[Greek 120](#) (GRK 120) - Credits: 12.00

[Hebrew 110](#) (HEB 110) - Credits: 12.00

[Hebrew 120](#) (HEB 120) - Credits: 12.00

[Introduction to the New Testament 112](#) (NTL 112) - Credits: 10.00

[Gospels: Mark and Matthew 122](#) (NTL 122) - Credits: 10.00

[Introduction to the world of the Old Testament 112](#) (OTL 112) - Credits: 10.00

[Narratives in the Old Testament 122](#) (OTL 122) - Credits: 10.00

[Practical Theology: Introduction and insertion 112](#) (PRT 112) - Credits: 10.00

[Introduction to the study of religion 122](#) (RSM 122) - Credits: 10.00

[Faith and stories 112](#) (SHT 112) - Credits: 10.00

[History of Christianity in Southern Africa 122](#) (SHT 122) - Credits: 10.00

Elective modules

[Introduction to Community development 110](#) (CYE 110) - Credits: 10.00

[Researching communities 120](#) (CYE 120) - Credits: 10.00

[Theory of religion 110](#) (REL 110) - Credits: 12.00

[Kaleidoscope of religions 120](#) (REL 120) - Credits: 12.00

[Introduction to Spirituality 110](#) (SRY 110) - Credits: 10.00

[Religion, scripture and spirituality 120](#) (SRY 120) - Credits: 10.00

Curriculum: Year 2

Minimum credits: 174

Additional information:

All core modules must be taken.

Electives are optional and registration for these are subject to approval by Student Administration.

Core modules

Greek 210 (GRK 210) - Credits: 16.00

Greek 220 (GRK 220) - Credits: 16.00

Hebrew 210 (HEB 210) - Credits: 16.00

Hebrew 220 (HEB 220) - Credits: 16.00

Gospels: Luke-Acts 212 (NTL 212) - Credits: 10.00

Johannine literature 222 (NTL 222) - Credits: 10.00

Old Testament exegesis and former prophets 212 (OTL 212) - Credits: 10.00

Poetry and apocalypses 222 (OTL 222) - Credits: 10.00

Practical Theology: Understanding and interpreting I 212 (PRT 212) - Credits: 10.00

Practical Theology: Understanding and interpreting II 222 (PRT 222) - Credits: 10.00

Key concepts and topics in missiology 212 (RSM 212) - Credits: 10.00

Theologies of the South 222 (RSM 222) - Credits: 10.00

Faith and beliefs 212 (SHT 212) - Credits: 10.00

Being human 222 (SHT 222) - Credits: 10.00

Theology in history 225 (SHT 225) - Credits: 10.00

Elective modules

Leadership and Community Development 212 (CYE 212) - Credits: 10.00

Social and missional entrepreneurship 222 (CYE 222) - Credits: 10.00

Dynamics of religion 210 (REL 210) - Credits: 20.00

Ancient religions and health 220 (REL 220) - Credits: 20.00

Christian spirituality: Origins and dynamics 210 (SRY 210) - Credits: 10.00

Christian spirituality: Christian spiritual practices 220 (SRY 220) - Credits: 10.00

Curriculum: Year 3

Minimum credits: 125

Additional information:

All core modules must be taken.

Electives are optional and registration for these are subject to approval by Student Administration.

Core modules

Community engagement 302 (CYE 302) - Credits: 15.00

Paul 312 (NTL 312) - Credits: 10.00

Deutero- and Trito-Pauline letters 322 (NTL 322) - Credits: 10.00

The Pentateuch 312 (OTL 312) - Credits: 10.00

The Prophets 322 (OTL 322) - Credits: 10.00

Practical Theology: Discerning and imagining 312 (PRT 312) - Credits: 10.00

Practical Theology: Living the faith 322 (PRT 322) - Credits: 10.00

Mission in practice 312 (RSM 312) - Credits: 10.00

Church planting 322 (RSM 322) - Credits: 10.00

Church and community 312 (SHT 312) - Credits: 10.00

Living as Christians 315 (SHT 315) - Credits: 10.00

Contemporary theological discourses I 322 (SHT 322) - Credits: 10.00

Elective modules

Community Development Praxis in community engagement I 312 (CYE 312) - Credits: 10.00

Community Development Praxis II 322 (CYE 322) - Credits: 10.00

Material religion 310 (REL 310) - Credits: 30.00

Sociology of religion 320 (REL 320) - Credits: 30.00

Christian spirituality and theology 310 (SRY 310) - Credits: 10.00

Contextual and contemporary spirituality 320 (SRY 320) - Credits: 10.00

Curriculum: Final year

Minimum credits: 120

All core modules must be taken in the final year.

Select **one** of the Research essay modules from the list.

Core modules

General letters and Revelation 412 (NTL 412) - Credits: 10.00

Life, text and context 412 (OTL 412) - Credits: 10.00

Practical Theology: Integration 422 (PRT 422) - Credits: 10.00

Philosophy of religion 1 410 (REL 410) - Credits: 20.00

Philosophy of religion 2 420 (REL 420) - Credits: 20.00

Missional ecclesiology in contemporary context 422 (RSM 422) - Credits: 10.00

Contemporary theological discourses II 412 (SHT 412) - Credits: 10.00

Elective modules

Research essay: New Testament and related literature 400 (NTL 400) - Credits: 30.00

Research essay: Old Testament and Hebrew Scriptures 400 (OTL 400) - Credits: 30.00

Research essay: Practical Theology and Mission Studies 400 (PRT 400) - Credits: 30.00

Research essay: Religion Studies 400 (REL 400) - Credits: 30.00

Research essay: Systematic and Historical Theology 400 (SHT 400) - Credits: 30.00

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.