

23. Doctor of Theology (DTH)

The program can also be completed by taking courses solely in English.

a. Program Goals

The Doctor of Theology degree program is an advanced academic study in the area of Christian theology. The objectives are to equip students to do research and critical theological reflection on issues and questions relevant to Asian and Global Diaspora Chinese context. The program is suitable for persons who wish to: i) undertake an advanced level of theological study and research; ii) prepare for a career of teaching in tertiary institutions; iii) achieve a scholarly dimension to their ministry as executives on church boards, editors, publishers, writers, or pastoral leaders.

b. Requirements for Admission

Admission requirements shall include: i) a Master of Theology degree or its equivalent from an institution recognized by LTS, or a doctoral degree (Ph.D.) in social science or human science with a master's degree in theology from an institution recognized by LTS (additional requirements will be applied); ii) with the experience of thesis writing; iii) have a GPA of at least 3.30 on each transcript submitted; iv) applicants must have been baptized for at least three years prior to application for study. For application, see VII. Enrollment Procedures.

c. Language Requirement

- i) Persons enrolled in this program must have sufficient English knowledge to study at a graduate-level.
- ii) For a student who chooses an emphasis in the area of New Testament or Old Testament, 9 credits of Biblical Greek (for NT) or 9 credits of Biblical Hebrew (for OT) are required.

d. Area of Emphasis

In the following table, students are required to select an “Area” under a particular “Field” as the study emphasis (e.g. New Testament). Admission is subject to faculty capacity.

Fields	Areas
Biblical Theology	Old Testament New Testament Jewish Studies
Systematic Theology	Dogmatics Church History and Historical Theology Lutheran Studies Christian Ethics

Practical Theology	Pastoral Ministry and Leadership Christian Counseling Christian Education Diakonia Christian Spirituality Worship and Liturgy Mission and Culture
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e. Program Content

i) Study Assessment

Review of the preparatory work in the area of study upon which more focused doctoral study is based, giving occasion for evaluation of students' readiness to proceed.

ii) Reading List

Under the instruction of the adviser, students must choose 6,000 pages out of the reading list for oral examinations. The selection of readings must cover the different aspects in discipline of the area of study.

iii) Oral Examinations

Oral examinations are designed to ensure in-depth knowledge in the area of studies and that students are adequately prepared to undertake the research required for their doctoral dissertation. The scope and result of every oral examination will be recorded in the *Doctor of Theology Program Record* booklet.

iv) Advanced Studies Colloquium

Students must attend the colloquium in their own field, present and discuss their dissertation proposal and at least two parts of the dissertation, respond to papers and other students' presentations, and actively participate in the colloquia in general.

v) Seminar

Students are required to attend IS4002 Seminar on Theological Research and Education.

vi) Dissertation Proposal

In addition to oral examinations, students have to prepare a dissertation proposal under the guidance of the adviser. The proposal should be confirmed by the Advanced Study and Research Committee (ASRC).

vii) Candidacy

Once the dissertation proposal is approved by the adviser and the oral examinations are successfully completed, the Doctor of Theology Candidacy will be granted.

viii) Preliminary Defence

A preliminary defence of the dissertation draft copy will be held in the advanced studies colloquium.

ix) Dissertation

The DTH dissertation is expected to be an original contribution to the field of scholarship. The dissertation shall be written under the supervision of the adviser.

x) Oral Defence

The final form of the dissertation will be defended in public.

f. Program Handbook

The details of the content and policies of the DTH program can be found in the *Doctor of Theology Program Handbook*, which will be given to students after admission.

g. Duration

This program requires three academic years. The time allowed for completion of the program may not exceed nine years.

h. Requirements for Graduation

- i) Students must complete all the program requirements; and
- ii) successfully pass the oral defence; and
- iii) satisfactorily meet the standard or requirements of LTS.