

Fees and enrolment

The Fees for 2024 have not yet been set. They will be available on the University website at a later stage.

Online enrolment opens in September 2023.

To enrol, go to: otago.ac.nz
and click on "Find Your Programme"

Postgraduate study options from the Theology Programme

Students wishing to undertake postgraduate study via distance have a range of options:

- Postgraduate Certificate in Chaplaincy
- Postgraduate Diploma in Chaplaincy
- Postgraduate Diploma in Faith-based Leadership and Management
- Postgraduate Diploma in Ministry
- Postgraduate Diploma in Theology
- Master of Chaplaincy
- Master of Faith-based Leadership and Management
- Master of Ministry
- Master of Theology
- PhD

For more information on postgraduate study, contact postgrad.theology@otago.ac.nz

Contact information

Theology Programme
University of Otago
PO Box 56
Dunedin 9054
Tel +64 3 479 8639
Email theology@otago.ac.nz
Or contact AskOtago: ask.otago.ac.nz
Phone: 0800 80 80 98

otago.ac.nz/theology

MO1851-HUM-HM-2023



DISTANCE LEARNING



2024

Theology @ Otago by Distance Learning



Theology@Otago. Explore faith, yourself and the world.



The Theology Programme at the University of Otago offers papers in Biblical Studies, Christian Thought and History, and Pastoral Studies via Distance Learning for students throughout New Zealand and overseas. Students can complete a Diploma in Theology, Bachelor of Theology, Diploma for Graduates, and a range of post-graduate qualifications – or contribute papers towards other University qualifications, including the Bachelor of Arts. Students can also take individual papers without working towards a qualification.

For undergraduate course advice, contact undergrad.theology@otago.ac.nz

Theology

In Theology, students explore the various dimensions of the Christian faith. This includes studying the following subject areas:

Biblical Studies (BIBS) helps students to explore the historical and cultural world of the Bible and to interpret biblical texts. Biblical Studies papers are divided into Old Testament and New Testament.

Biblical Languages offers students the opportunity to study Biblical Greek and Biblical Hebrew. Language papers are offered at 100-, 200-, 300-, and 400-level. First year language papers assume no prior knowledge.

Christian Thought and History (CHTH) includes studying the development of the Christian Church (Church History) and the critical exposition and analysis of Christian thought (Systematic Theology). It also includes papers on Christian ethics, and the relationship of Christianity to wider society.

Pastoral Studies (PAST) and **Ministry (MINS)** present a multidisciplinary study of church life, offering students the opportunity to reflect on the practice of Christian ministry.

Papers on offer in 2023 and 2024

Papers in Biblical Studies, Biblical Languages, Christian Thought and History, Pastoral Studies and Ministry are variously offered at 100-, 200-, 300-, and 400- level

Pre-Christmas Summer School 2023 (13 November–16 December 2023)

CHTH 224/324 Special Topic: Theology and the Environment

Summer School

8 January–17 February 2024

PAST 323/MINS 415 Christian Ministry in Te Ao Māori (with intensive, 15–19 January 2024, venue to be advised)

Semester 1 2024

Semester 1 paper with an intensive:

CHTH237/337 Moana Pasifika Theology (intensive, 11–15 February, Dunedin)

Delivery by videoconference

BIBS 112	Interpreting the Old Testament
BIBS 121	Interpreting the New Testament
BIBS 131	Introductory New Testament Greek Language 1
BIBS 317/413	God, Suffering and Justice in the Hebrew Bible
CHTH 102	The History of Christianity
CHTH 218/318	The Person and Work of Christ
CHTH 233/333	Public Theology: Faith in the Public Square
CHTH 320/420	Public Theology and Social Justice
HEBR 131	Introductory Biblical Hebrew 1
PAST 216/316	Current Perspectives on Pastoral Care
PAST 324/MINS 424	The Chaplain as Ceremonial Leader

Semester 2 2024

Semester 2 paper with an intensive:

CHTH 236/336 Māori Religion and Theology (intensive 1–5 July, Ohope Marae, Bay of Plenty)

Delivery by videoconference

BIBS 132	Introductory New Testament Greek II
BIBS 211/311	God, Land and Exile in the Hebrew Prophets
BIBS 226/326	Jesus in the New Testament
CHTH 111	Doing Theology
CHTH 131	God and Ethics in the Modern World
CHTH 416	The Theology of Bonhoeffer
HEBR 132	Introductory Biblical Hebrew 2
PAST 225/325	Special Topic: [A Topic in Pacific Theology]
PAST 318/MINS 410	Pastoral Care in Dying, Grief and Loss

Pre-Christmas Summer School 2024

11 November–15 December 2024

CHTH 217/317 Special Topic: Theology and Science

Full year

Delivery by videoconference:

BIBS 213/313/411 Hebrew Old Testament Exegesis 2 and 3
BIBS 223/323/421 Greek New Testament Exegesis 2 and 3

In addition, it is possible for distance students to do a 400-level research essay. Contact the Programme for more details.

Methods of distance learning

Distance Learning papers in Theology are taught through videoconferences, one-week intensives, teaching days and online. This allows students to have direct contact with their lecturer and to interact with other students doing the paper. In almost all papers, students receive course materials containing a study guide, reading material and general administrative information. Students also have access to the University's distance library service.

Videoconferences

Students participate in videoconferences via Zoom. Videoconferences are generally run as tutorials, with discussions around key topics essential to the paper.

Teaching Day

Some papers may also include elements of face-to-face teaching (teaching days). These sessions take place near the beginning of the course and are either held in Wellington or via Zoom. Students can use this time to meet the lecturer, get to know other students and discuss the course in depth.

Intensives

Students attend a compulsory five-day, full-time block course, generally at the beginning of the semester. This week covers all the required contact hours, and students complete the rest of the paper through submission of assessments during the semester.

Online

Students participate in online forums through Blackboard to discuss questions related to the course materials. Each forum covers about two weeks' worth of material and students can contribute at any time during the discussion. In addition to responding to questions set by the lecturer, students are encouraged to raise for discussion other matters from their reading. You will find more details on the department's website: otago.ac.nz/theology