

ETF Graduate Programme (Masters) – Prospectus

Purpose and Description:

The Masters Programme is designed to provide students with graduate level education in one of the classical areas of Theological Studies: Systematic Theology, Biblical Studies, Church History, Missions, Christian Ethics, Applied Theology and Contemporary Christianity, Spirituality, or in a field that combines theological inquiry with other disciplines such as Theology and Culture, Theology and Science, Christian Counseling, Christian Education, Religion and Society, Peace Studies, etc.

This is a two-year research-oriented programme, which also includes a teaching segment consisting of lectures, seminars, and tutorials. The quantity of work required and the quality expectations regarding students' academic performance match those of other European educational institutions. All courses are taught in English and all course work would normally be presented in English. Where adequate resources and qualified mentoring for advanced research are available in another language than English, students are permitted to do research and write in that language if they so choose.

Admission Requirements:

- An undergraduate degree (BA) with a major in humanities or social studies. Candidates holding an undergraduate degree in an area other than the above are required to complete up to one year of preparatory work before enrolment into the graduate program is granted.
- A Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.5 or higher on a 5 point scale where 5 is the highest grade.
- Good knowledge of English (a TOEFL score of 550 would be recommended).

Modules and Credit Hours:

The masters programme amounts to a total of 120 ECTS. It consists of:

- A core curriculum, amounting to 40 ECTS, which includes the following modules: Research Theory and Practice in Theological Studies (7 ECTS); Historical Theology (10 ECTS); Systematic Theology (9 ECTS); Biblical Theology I: Old Testament (7 ECTS); and Biblical Theology II: New Testament (7 ECTS).
- A specialized curriculum, amounting to 40 ECTS, which includes modules that cover topics in the area of specialization chosen by the student.
- An elective curriculum, amounting to 10 ECTS, which consists of one or two modules chosen from a list of offered elective modules each year. Alternatively, candidates who wish to explore topics not offered under the curriculum as an elective module may do so provided that they have the approval of the Programme Coordinator and that qualified supervision is available. In such cases candidates will complete all or part of the 10 ECTS required under this segment of the programme by following a guided study format.
- A research module consisting of a 30,000 ($\pm 10\%$) words dissertation, counting as 30 ECTS, exploring a topic in the specific area of specialization the candidate pursues. In the case of a specialization in Applied Theology, the research module should be a project in which the candidate is expected to apply the theoretical knowledge acquired to concrete situations of life, ministry, public life, etc. The written part of the project, including reports of progress and a critical evaluation of its outcomes, will be submitted instead of a dissertation.

Work-hours and workload:

Typically 1 ECTS amounts to 25-30 hours of work. This time is divided between:

- An instruction component ($\pm 15\%$ of the time) consisting of lectures, seminars and/or tutorials.
- An investigation component ($\pm 65\%$ of the time) consisting of reading and research. For 1 ECTS a student is expected to read approximately 300 pages of relevant specialized literature.
- An assessment component ($\pm 20\%$ of the time) consisting of study time and assignment preparation. Assessment for each module typically consists of one or two written assignments and/or an oral or written exam. The writing a student will do for 1 ECTS typically amounts to 600 ($\pm 10\%$) words.

Due Dates and Course of Study:

The exam and assignments for each module are due at the end of that particular module. Extensions of time may be granted if compelling reasons are presented. For an extension, students must apply in writing to the Programme Coordinator prior the date an assignment is initially due. Work turned in late without approval will

be marked down and professors are free to fail a student in such a case if they so choose. For further on due dates consult the course schedule.

Dissertation:

The dissertation should show proof of a student's ability to research primary and secondary sources, engage in critical reflection of scholarly material, use the tools and methodologies of the chosen field of study, communicate clearly and concisely and integrate previous study and contemporary context. It should be completed in approximately 900 hours of work and is the sole focus of the student during the fourth semester within a full-time program.

The student must submit a dissertation proposal to the Programme Coordinator before the end of the third semester of his/her residency. After the proposal is accepted by the Academic Committee and a supervisor for the dissertation is assigned, the student can begin work on the dissertation in the fourth semester provided that he/she has completed all the course work. Three copies of the dissertation, provisionally bound, should be submitted for examination to the Programme Coordinator no later than the last working day of July for students intending to graduate at the end of October of the same year.

The dissertation should be of 30,000 ($\pm 10\%$) words including footnotes but without bibliography. It may be written in English or in another language provided that the supervisor and an examiner who read that language are available. For the technical aspects of the layout see the approved style manuals. After examination, three hard-bound copies of the dissertation (seek binding instructions from the ETF Librarian) should be submitted to the Programme Coordinator.