

CLASSICAL THEOLOGY, M.A.

Mission

Classical Theology exists to train students to read the Christian Scriptures and to retrieve the theological riches of the classical Christian tradition for the sake of contemporary appropriation in intellectual life, spiritual formation, and in service to the church and Christian witness in the world.

Learning Outcomes

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the Master of Arts – Classical Theology (<https://www.biola.edu/degrees/g/classical-theology-ma/>), students will be able to:

1. Analyze and synthesize the works of classical Christian theologians for the sake of retrieval (ULO 1).
2. Analyze and synthesize the doctrines of the Christian faith using key theological convictions, habits, and strategies undergirding classical theology (ULO 1 and ULO 3).
3. Analyze and interpret biblical texts with theological awareness and in conversation with the history of Christian interpretation (ULO 1)
4. Appropriate the spiritual/formational insights of classical theology in personal, academic, and social contexts (ULO 2).

Each Program Learning Outcome (PLO) listed above references at least one of the University Learning Outcomes (ULO 1, 2, 3), which may be found in the General Information section (<https://catalog.biola.edu/general-information/#UniversityLearningOutcomes>) of this catalog.

Admission Requirements

Admission Requirements

Applicants must possess a Bachelor of Arts degree or its academic equivalent from an accredited college with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale). Applicants who do not possess a Bachelor of Arts degree or its academic equivalent from an accredited institution may still apply and may be provisionally admitted at the discretion of Talbot School of Theology.

Graduation Requirements

Graduation Requirements

1. Satisfactorily complete 36 credits as outlined in the curriculum requirements below.
2. Complete the online introduction to theological research and writing by the end of the second semester.
3. Submit an acceptable thesis.
4. At least 21 of the total credits required for the degree program must be completed at Biola. Advanced standing, reduction, and transfer credit are not considered part of these credits.
5. Obtain a 3.0 average with no grade below a C- in all courses to be credited toward graduation.
6. Complete the entire program in no more than five years.
7. Meet with a graduate academic records and degree specialist in the Office of the Registrar one year prior to graduation to declare intent to graduate. (See the Graduate Graduation Application section

(<https://catalog.biola.edu/academic-policies/graduation-and-degree-conferral/graduate/#GraduateGraduationApplication>).

Program Requirements

Program Structure

The academic program leading to the degree Master of Arts - Classical Theology includes 36 credits structured to include:

1. Courses introducing the integrative methods and goals of the program and the disciplines of self-knowledge and personal formation
2. Courses in Christian doctrines (Common Places)
3. Courses in major theologians (Master Practitioners)
4. Courses in books of the Bible (Sacred Page)
5. Thesis

Talbot Course Equivalencies (for Master of Arts - Classical Theology students pursuing other Talbot degrees)

Institution Courses

TTCT 501 Catechetical Institution is equivalent to TTST 501 Introduction to Spiritual Theology and Formation.

TTCT 503 Aretaic Institution is equivalent to TTST 503 Personal Foundations for Spiritual Formation.

Common Places

TTCT 601-620 (see below for course titles): any three courses/9 credits in Common Places meets TTTH 521, TTTH 522, and TTTH 623.

Master Practitioners

TTCT 621-640 (see below for course titles): any two courses/6 credits in Master Practitioners will meet two of the following courses: TTHT 505, TTHT 506, or TTHT 514.

Sacred Page

TTCT 641-660 (see below for course titles): any three courses/9 credits in Sacred Page will meet 9 credits of electives.

Biblical Reasoning

TTCT 701 Biblical Reasoning: Thesis First Draft/3 credits

TTCT 702 Biblical Reasoning: Thesis Final Draft/2 credits

TTCT 701 and TTCT 702 **together** meet TTBE 517.

Advanced Standing

Due to the integrative nature of the Master of Arts, Classical Theology, transfer credit and advanced standing are usually not granted.

Curriculum Requirements

Each course must be completed with a C- or above.

Code	Title	Credits
Institution Courses		
TTCT 501	Catechetical Institution	4
TTCT 503	Aretaic Institution	3
Common Places		
Choose 3 from the following:		9
TTCT 601	Common Places: Scripture	

TTCT 603	Common Places: The Triune God	
TTCT 605	Common Places: Christology	
TTCT 607	Common Places: Atonement	
TTCT 609	Common Places: Anthropology	
TTCT 611	Common Places: Pneumatology	
TTCT 670	Seminar ¹	
Master Practitioners		
Choose 2 from the following:		6
TTCT 621	Master Practitioners: Irenaeus and Athanasius	
TTCT 623	Master Practitioners: Augustine	
TTCT 625	Master Practitioners: Anselm	
TTCT 627	Master Practitioners: Thomas Aquinas	
TTCT 630	Master Practitioners: Martin Luther	
TTCT 631	Master Practitioners: John Calvin	
TTCT 633	Master Practitioners: Jonathan Edwards	
TTCT 637	Master Practitioners: Karl Barth	
TTCT 670	Seminar ¹	
Sacred Page		
Choose 3 from the following:		9
TTCT 641	Sacred Page: Genesis	
TTCT 644	Sacred Page: Exodus	
TTCT 642	Sacred Page: Deuteronomy	
TTCT 643	Sacred Page: Psalms	
TTCT 645	Sacred Page: Isaiah	
TTCT 650	Sacred Page: Matthew	
TTCT 651	Sacred Page: John	
TTCT 652	Sacred Page: Romans	
TTCT 654	Sacred Page: Ephesians	
TTCT 656	Sacred Page: Hebrews	
TTCT 670	Seminar ¹	
Biblical Reasoning		
TTCT 701	Biblical Reasoning: Thesis First Draft	3
TTCT 702	Biblical Reasoning: Thesis Final Draft	2
Total Credits		36

¹ May be taken multiple times with different content.