

Master of Theological Studies (MTS)

Faculty of Theology
University of St. Michael's College

*A centre of excellence for
theological studies*

Phone: (416) 926-7140

Fax: (416) 926-7294

Email: usmctheology.registrar@utoronto.ca

Classrooms and Offices:

The Cardinal Flahiff Basilian Centre
95 St. Joseph Street
Toronto ON CANADA
(north of Bay and Wellesley)

Mailing Address:

81 St. Mary Street
Toronto ON CANADA M5S 1J4

Website:

stmikes.utoronto.ca/theology



University of St. Michael's College is a federated College in the University of Toronto, our identity is explicitly Christian and Catholic, rooted in the heritage of the Congregation of St. Basil. We are a Faculty of Theology engaged in the exploration and proclamation of the mystery of God in contemporary culture.

We commit ourselves to the faithful and creative interpretation and articulation of the biblical, liturgical, theological, ethical, pastoral, historical and cultural dimensions of our Catholic faith. We reflect our Catholic identity in our faculty, our programs, and our commitment to the formation of our students for service in the church and society.

We are a founding member of the Toronto School of Theology and an accredited Member of the Association of Theological School in the United States and Canada. Our commitment to diversity in terms of gender, ethnicity, race, and culture is reflected in our students, staff and faculty. We strive to create a community of hospitality, equality, collegiality, and justice for all. Our communal life hinges upon the habits of study and worship. We offer diploma and degree programs in Theology and Religious Education: M.Div., M.R.E., M.T.S., M.A.C.L., M.A., Th.M., D.Min., Th.D. and Ph.D.

Master of Theological Studies (MTS)

Goals

This program is designed to strengthen the religious basis of the individual's life and work, whether in a secular career or church-related career, by providing the individual with a general theological understanding as well as the opportunity for some in-depth study and specialization. The curriculum is organized:

- To facilitate the attainment of survey knowledge of the Catholic theological tradition with the possibility of attaining a focused knowledge in a specific discipline
- To enable students to think theologically by considering different theological areas, perspectives and methods
- To allow a level of freedom that respects and builds upon a person's interests, abilities and past experiences and encourages that individual's commitment to life-long learning

A total of twenty units of study with a minimum B- average (2.7 GPA), with no mark below B-, are necessary to complete the degree.

Curriculum

The twenty (20) units of study consist of foundational courses, in-depth courses, electives, and a summative exercise, as follows:

Foundational Courses (5 units)

- Introduction to the New Testament (SMB1501)

- Introduction to the Old Testament. (SMB1007)
- any Foundational Church History course (SMH1010 is recommended)
- Foundations of Theology (SMT1101)
- Fundamental Themes in Christian Ethics (SMT1904)

In-Depth Courses (7 units)

- any course in Old Testament
- any course in New Testament
- one course on Trinity
- one course in Christology
- one course in social, sexual, biomedical, or ecological ethics
- any course in Church History
- Theology of Ministry, Pastoral Care, Pastoral Counselling, or Spiritual Direction

N.B. Core Systematic and Ethics courses must be taken from offerings in the Roman Catholic tradition.

Electives (7-8 units)

- A total of seven or eight (7 or 8) free electives, depending on which Summative Exercise option is chosen.
- No more than three units of Greek, Hebrew, and or Latin may be included.

MTS Specialization

Students may choose a specialization consisting of a total of six courses from one of the major divisions (Scripture, Systematic Theology, History or Pastoral). In-depth courses and electives may be counted toward a specialization.

Summative Exercise (1-2 units)

Students may complete the degree in one of three (3) ways: a Field Education option, a Thesis option, or a Research Paper option.

Field Education Option (2 units)

- 1 unit, Theology of Ministry (SMP 2600). Students wishing to complete the MTS program in two years take this course in their first year, as the full sequence of Theology of Ministry, Field Placement and Theological Reflection Seminar requires a minimum of three semesters.
- A minimum of 1 unit consisting of at least 100 hours in an approved placement site and a one-semester Theological Reflection Seminar. Students may take a two (2) unit Field Education program or a second one (1) unit program with the second unit counted as one of the electives.
- The Theological Reflection Seminar constitutes the summative exercise for this degree option. Consult the Director of Pastoral Formation and Field Education about this component.

- Students who choose the Thesis option may also choose to take the Theology of Ministry and Field Education/Theological Reflection Seminar courses as electives.

MTS Thesis Option (2 units)

MTS students who maintain a minimum A- average, normally after completion of fifteen courses, may choose to write a thesis in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the MTS degree. The thesis is worth 2 units of study and comprises the summative exercise for this option. Students are given two full semesters to write their thesis. After two full semesters, students must apply for an extension and will be charged a program continuation fee. Further information is available from the Director of Basic Degree Programs.

Research Paper Option (1 unit)

Students may also choose to complete the degree with a major research paper. This paper should be 8000 to 9000 words, and is evaluated by one reader, who may also be the director. This option is worth 1 unit of study, leaving the rest of the degree to be fulfilled with a further elective course.