

# **Postgraduate Diploma in Theology – PGDip (Theology) (445100) (NQF level 8)**

## ***Religion and Culture focus***

The MPhil in Religion and Culture is preceded by a Postgraduate Diploma in Theology done with a Religion and Culture focus. You register for the Postgraduate Diploma in Theology, and for your research assignment you should research a theme that relates to Religion and Culture.

## ***Target Group***

- Students without any theological training, from a variety of backgrounds and disciplines and who have previously obtained a bachelor's (BSc, BA or similar) degree on a NQF level 7.
- Students with a three-year qualification in theology (exit-level NQF level 7) who do not qualify to continue with an MDiv, MTh or Postgraduate Diploma in Theology in Christian Ministry.

## ***Specific Admission Requirements***

- Any bachelor's degree or equivalent qualification, that need not necessarily be in theology; or
- An equivalent qualification from this or another university or seminary approved for this purpose by Senate or by the Executive Committee acting on behalf of Senate.

## ***Closing Date for Applications***

- If you are a South African citizen, you must apply before 30 October of the year preceding study.
- If you are an international student, you must apply before 30 September of the year preceding study.

## ***Duration of Programme***

You can enrol to complete this programme in one year or over two years. If you choose to do the programme over two years, you will complete your research project in the second year.

## ***Presentation Structure***

- Electronic learning by using SUNLearn (the learning management system of Stellenbosch University), and MS Teams (the team collaboration platform of Stellenbosch University), which includes contemporary teaching techniques, online discussion groups with fellow students and lecturers and electronic assignments.
- Modules (year modules) are offered in block-contact sessions throughout the year.

## ***Contact Sessions***

Synchronous and asynchronous teaching and learning contact sessions will be conducted with the assistance of the SUNLearn and MS Teams platforms (details in the PGDip information booklet).

### ***Orientation***

Two orientation sessions are planned per year, each at the start of a semester. The purpose of these sessions is to provide students with necessary information, introduce them to lecturers, and answer general questions.

### ***Teaching and Learning***

This will be done in block-contact sessions throughout the year. A programme will be included in the programme guide and the module framework and will be distributed electronically at the beginning of each academic year.

### ***Workshops***

Workshops on research methodology, academic writing, selection and access to resources and the use of electronic databases will be presented. These workshops are compulsory for students enrolled on the research assignment (60-credit) module and will only be presented at the start of each year.

### ***Assessment and Examination***

Assessment of the 10-credit modules is by means of diagnostic, formative, and summative assessments as communicated in the module frameworks. The 60-credit module is assessed by means of a written research assignment and an oral examination which includes the writing of book reviews.

Submission dates for research assignments:

- 1 November for the December graduation; and
- 15 January for the March graduation.

The research assignment is examined by an internal, as well as an external examiner.

Take note: graduation is dependent on a student completing all modules successfully (i.e. minimum requirement of 50%)

### ***Programme Outcomes***

After completion of this programme, you:

- Will have a broad overview of a variety of theological disciplines for your personal enrichment;
- could continue further studies/research in theology through the Master in Theology (NQF level 9), Master of Divinity (NQF level 9) or the Postgraduate Diploma in Theology in Christian Ministry (NQF level 8).

### ***Programme Structure***

The programme consists of:

- Six compulsory modules of 10 credits each. These six modules cover the six main subjects, Ecclesiology, Missiology (including Community Development), New Testament, Old Testament, Practical Theology, and Systematic Theology. These modules are offered in block sessions throughout the year.
- A research assignment in your field of specialisation. The research topic for the assignment will depend on your choice of elective module. The elective module is offered over one year

and includes contact sessions on research methodology and academic writing, including sessions between the supervisor and the student.

### *One-year programme*

We recommend that the following students consider the one-year programme:

- students who have already received training in theology, and
- students who are not employed full-time.

You will be expected to:

- Attend orientation sessions and sessions on research methodology and academic writing.
- Attend contact sessions for all six the 10-credit modules, do assignments and write exams.
- Write and submit a research assignment. This 60-credit module includes extensive reading in the area of specialisation as well as a research assignment and oral examinations.

### *Two-year programme*

We recommend that the following students consider the two-year programme:

- students who have already received training in theology, and
- students who are not employed full-time.

You will be expected to:

- Attend orientation sessions and sessions on research methodology and academic writing.
- Attend contact sessions for all six the 10-credit modules, do assignments and write exams.
- Write and submit a research assignment. This 60-credit module includes extensive reading in the area of specialisation as well as a research assignment and oral examinations.

## ***Programme Content***

*Total 120 credits*

**If you enrol to complete the programme in one year:**

*Compulsory Modules*

*(credits = 60)*

Ecclesiology	711(10)
Missiology	711(10)
New Testament	711(10)
Old Testament	711(10)
Practical Theology	711(10)
Systematic Theology	711(10)

*plus*

*Elective Modules*

Choose one subject from the list below. The focus of the elective will determine the topic of your research assignment.

*(credits = 60)*

Ecclesiology	742(60)
Missiology	742(60)
New Testament	742(60)
Old Testament	742(60)
Practical Theology	742(60)
Systematic Theology	742(60)

**If you enrol to complete the programme in two years:**

**1<sup>st</sup> year (72 credits)**

*Compulsory Modules*

*(credits = 60)*

Ecclesiology	711(10)
Missiology	711(10)
New Testament	711(10)
Old Testament	711(10)
Practical Theology	711(10)
Systematic Theology	711(10)

**2<sup>nd</sup> year**

*Elective Modules*

Choose one subject from the list below. The focus of the elective will determine the topic of your research assignment.

*(credits = 60)*

Ecclesiology	742(60)
Missiology	742(60)
New Testament	742(60)
Old Testament	742(60)
Practical Theology	742(60)
Systematic Theology	742(60)