

Bachelor of Theology (BTh)

Level 7, 360 credits

Flexible Study Options

Students can study towards the BTh on campus in Henderson and Christchurch or by Distance Learning. This programme also allows for a range of flexible learning options, including a combination of on campus and Distance Learning courses, as well as part-time study.

Programme Requirements

The Bachelor of Theology is a three year full-time (or part-time equivalent) programme. The usual programme structure is 24 courses at 15 credits each at levels 5,6 and 7; however, there are also two 30-credit internship courses on offer in the programme.

The Programme Guide below lists the minimum requirements of each area.

For a comprehensive list of compulsory and elective courses that can be taken towards the BTh please refer to the Theology Handbook published on the website: <https://www.laidlaw.ac.nz/prospectus-and-handbooks/>

BACHELOR OF THEOLOGY	BIBLICAL STUDIES (100s)	CHRISTIAN THOUGHT AND HISTORY (200-300s)	PASTORAL, MISSIONAL AND CONTEXTUAL STUDIES (400-600s)
Minimum credits for degree	90	75	90
	A total minimum of 360 credits A minimum of 180 credits at level 6 or above A minimum of 75 credits at level 7		
Level 5	115.515 Reading the Bible 120.515 Reading the Old Testament 140.515 Reading the New Testament	201.515 Engaging Theology 308.515 Christian History: Our Story	401.515 Formation 505.515 Christian Leadership and Mission 907.515 T Bicultural Relationships: Tikanga Kawenata
Level 6 & 7	111.6/715 Interpreting the Bible At least 1 OT and 1 NT exegesis paper	202.6/715 Christology 219.6/715 Ngākau Maia: Christian Confidence	480.6/715 Faithful Living: Intro to Reflective Practice 590.715 Capstone: Integrative Practice

Specialisations

The Bachelor of Theology at Laidlaw can be completed in two ways:

General BTh

The General pathway through the BTh is designed to offer all students a solid, biblical, theological, and practical foundation while also creating space within it to include a wide range of courses. Students join a vibrant College life which includes chapels, community lunches, and other events.

BTh with Specialisation

Students may choose to follow a BTh specialisation pathway through their programme. Specialisations are a curated three-year plan of study focusing on a particular field of study. The specialisations that will be on offer in 2026 are:

- Biblical Studies
- Christian Thought & History
- Pastoral Leadership
- Youth Leadership
- Missions Studies

If you are completing the BTh following the General, Christian Thought & History, Pastoral Leadership, Youth Leadership, or Missions Studies pathways, we recommend taking the following required Level 5 courses in your first year of study:

- **Semester 1:** 115.515 *Reading the Bible*, 140.515 *Reading the New Testament*, 907.515 *T Bicultural Relationships: Tikanga Kawenata*, 505.515 *Christian Leadership and Mission*
- **Semester 2:** 120.515 *Reading the Old Testament*, 401.515 *Formation*, 201.515 *Engaging Theology*, 308.515 *Christian History: Our Story*

If you are completing the BTh following the Biblical Studies pathway, we recommend taking a biblical language course in your first year of study as this will allow you to take an Old Testament or New Testament exegetical course that exegetes from the Greek or Hebrew text in your second year of study. Therefore, your recommended courses for your first year of study include:

- **Semester 1:** 115.515 *Reading the Bible*, 140.515 *Reading the New Testament*, 106.515 *Hebrew 1* or 108.515 *Greek 1*, 505.515 *Christian Leadership and Mission*
- **Semester 2:** 120.515 *Reading the New Testament*, 201.515 *Engaging Theology*, 107.515 *Hebrew 2* or 109.515 *Greek 2*, 308.515 *Christian History: Our Story*

Please refer to the website for more information about specialisations: <https://www.laidlaw.ac.nz/theology/programmes/bth/>

UPDATED 16 JULY 2025

READY TO APPLY? ANY QUESTIONS?

0800 999 777

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On completion of the Bachelor of Theology Laidlaw College graduates will:

- 1. Be agents of change and grace as they live out the gospel in diverse vocations.**
- 2. Be equipped to be leaders in church, non-profit, educational, and other vocational settings.**
- 3. Be thoroughly Christian in terms of their perspective of the world and the centrality of Christ.**
- 4. Have established a good biblical and theological knowledge which they can continue to build on.**
- 5. Have been mentored, understanding the necessity of relationships for sustained ministry and transformation.**
- 6. Have a heart for people and a holistic vision of the gospel making a difference spiritually, socially, emotionally, and physically.**
- 7. Have developed the skills of reflective practice which allows them to thoughtfully bring their lived experience into conversation with their biblical and theological knowledge.**
- 8. Have developed the skills to discern the uniqueness of how God is at work in a local context.**
- 9. Have gained life skills for leading, communicating, resolving conflict, mentoring, and personal management.**
- 10. Have developed an awareness of self and their unique set of giftings that enables them to recognise their best fit for Christian ministry practice and their potential for development.**
- 11. Be thoroughly versed in their commitments to Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi, as tangata whenua or tangata ti tiriti.**

2026 Fees

2026 fees will be published in October 2025.

NOTE: programme is three years and annual fee may vary.

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