



**LIDLAW  
THEOLOGY**

# POSTGRADUATE HANDBOOK 2023

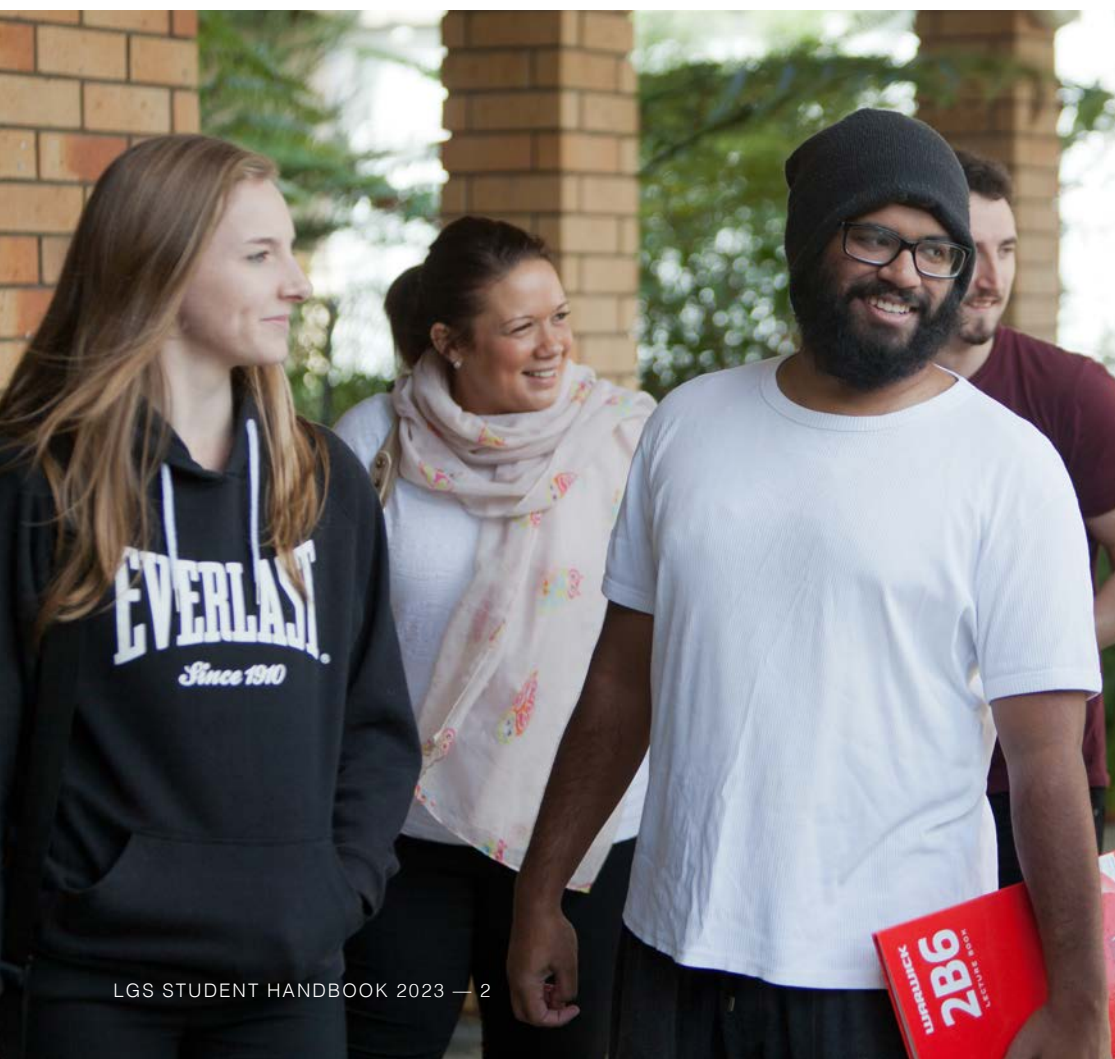


# OUR VISION TE WAWATA

A world shaped by love,  
compelled and informed by  
the Gospel.

# OUR MISSION TE WHAKATAKANGA

To equip students and scholars  
to renew their communities  
with a faith as intelligent as it is  
courageous.



Laidlaw College is an evangelical, interdenominational tertiary institution committed to the provision of theological education throughout the whole of New Zealand. Laidlaw College has campuses in Henderson, Manukau and Christchurch – as well as distance learning options, that together offer students a great deal of flexibility in how they structure their study.

Laidlaw College is registered by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) under provisions of the Education and Training Act 2020 and its amendments and is accredited to teach programmes listed in this handbook, all of which have been approved by the Authority.

# HAERE MAI WELCOME

Laidlaw is committed to scholarly discovery, holding all truth to be embedded in the creative love of a communicating God. Sound research enables discovery of the nature of God as revealed in his creative and redemptive acts of self-communication.

This is a task performed together. Fruitful enquiry emerges from communities. Out of shared assumptions and commitments new questions may be asked, debated and contested. Scholarship thus involves engaged enquiry, built out of commitment, as well as appropriate distance.

Located within the School of Theology, the Laidlaw Graduate School (LGS) seeks to nurture and train emerging scholars through strong postgraduate programmes and the building of a strong scholarly community in which students and established scholars work closely together, each gaining from the engagement of ideas.

We invite you to join this community.

## IN THIS HANDBOOK YOU WILL FIND INFORMATION ABOUT:

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- Postgraduate Programmes
- Postgraduate Courses Offered in 2023
- Master of Theology Research

## CONTACT DETAILS

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NOTE: All reasonable efforts have been made to ensure that the information in this Student Guide is accurate and current. However, Laidlaw College is not liable, and makes no guarantee that this information will not be changed or updated. Accordingly, changes and updates may be made without prior notice. This guide can be downloaded from the Laidlaw website ([www.laidlaw.ac.nz/postgraduate-study](http://www.laidlaw.ac.nz/postgraduate-study)), and the online version will always contain the latest information.

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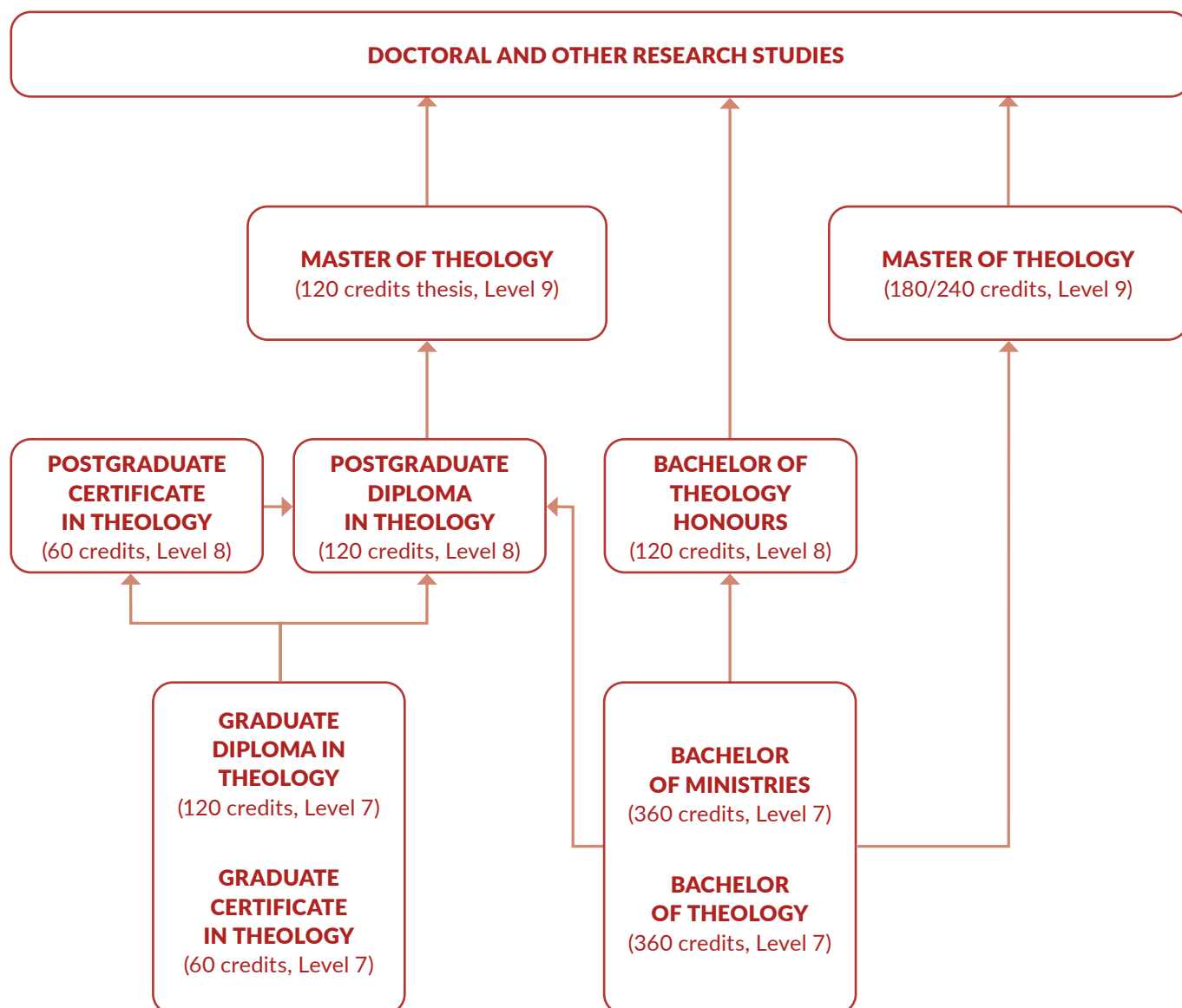
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## GRADUATE PROFILE

Laidlaw College aims to educate and prepare graduates who will transform communities. Postgraduate studies can play a particular role in this. It is at this level that students learn how to find their own voice and to produce engaging and persuasive cases for their insights. The opportunity to focus, conduct research and produce a substantive piece of writing enables a reach and impact quite different from that of undergraduate study. We aspire for our graduates to be effective 'culture agents' for the Gospel. Laidlaw's Masters

graduates fulfill this in a variety of ways. Some enter or return to church and mission leadership roles, others go on to doctoral study as preparation for a teaching career. Still others apply their deep faith development and advanced integrative skills to roles in business, community service, education, the arts, sports administration – in fact all vocations can gain from those who can think through issues carefully and articulate them in a profound manner.

# STUDY PATHWAYS



# POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN THEOLOGY (PGCertTh)

## Programme Summary

NQF Level	8 – 60 credits
Duration	Full-time for one semester, part-time options available
Starts	February and July
Places	Open – Selection criteria apply
Campus	Henderson and Distance Learning
Tuition	\$3,801 plus Student Services fee
Web	<a href="http://www.laidlaw.ac.nz/postgraduate-study">www.laidlaw.ac.nz/postgraduate-study</a>

## Career Opportunities

### Church Leadership

Paid employment in areas such as:

- Pastoral Vocations
- Christian writing
- Church based ministries
- Cross-cultural ministries
- Intercultural ministries
- Para-church work

### Professional development

Effective service as a church member

Personal Christian growth

Workplace Christians

Further study at master's and doctoral level

## Outline

The Postgraduate Certificate in Theology (PGCertTh) programme provides an advanced level theological qualification for those who have already completed a recognised Bachelor's level or a Graduate Diploma qualification in Theology. The PGCertTh programme consists of two taught courses.

## Admission requirements

The normal requirement for admission into the Postgraduate Certificate in Theology (PGCertTh) programme is a completed three-year undergraduate degree in Theology or Ministry or equivalent qualification, as defined in the National Qualifications Framework of the NZQA, in an appropriate discipline. Entry into the PGCertTh is conditional upon:

- A grade point average of 7.0 (B) in courses of the qualifying undergraduate programme at NZQF levels 6 and 7; and
- Approval of the Postgraduate Committee.

### Special Admission Requirements

Serious consideration will be given to those that hold qualifications of an equivalent standard. In exceptional circumstances the Postgraduate Committee may allow applicants who do not meet these requirements, or who do not have qualifications of an equivalent standard. Approval will be based on:

- Completion of a 120 credit Graduate Diploma in Theology with a grade point average of 7.0 (B) in courses of the qualifying programme at NZQF levels 6 and 7;
- Completion of a recognised undergraduate degree in a discipline other than Theology or Ministry and the completion of a bridging programme of study approved by the Postgraduate Committee with a grade point average of 7.0 (B) in courses of the qualifying programme at NZQF levels 6 and 7; or
- Approved entry by the Postgraduate Committee in consideration of relevant documented academic ability and background.



Each application will, however, be considered in light of the applicant's overall background and ability to benefit from the programme. The onus is on the student to provide details of all qualifications and experience relevant to the application procedure.

## English Language Requirements

Applicants must meet both the Academic and English language requirements for this programme. In addition to the requirements outlined above applicants for whom English is not their first language must use one of the following methods to demonstrate that they have the required level of English proficiency to study in New Zealand:

- gained NCEA level 3 and met New Zealand University Entrance requirements; or
- holds a Bachelor's degree of at least three years from New Zealand, Australia, Canada, the Republic of Ireland, South Africa, the United Kingdom or the United States of America; or
- achieved a Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults (CELTA); or
- achieved the required score, as indicated in the following subsections, in one of the following internationally recognised English proficiency tests, within the preceding two years:
  - International English Language Testing System (IELTS)
  - University of Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English (CAE)
  - University of Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE)
  - University of Cambridge First Certificate in English (FCE)
  - International English for Speakers of Other Languages qualifications by City and Guilds (IESOL)
  - Pearson Test of English (Academic) (PTE)
  - New Zealand Certificate in English Language (NZCEL)
  - Testing of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).

### **The requirement for this programme is:**

- IELTS 7.0 with minimum of 7.0 in writing OR
- Pearson's Test of English (Academic) score of 65 or higher OR
- equivalent (see <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/about-us/our-role/legislation/nzqa-rules/nzqf-related-rules/the-table/>)

### **A waiver for the English language test may be granted:**

- For those applicants who have an undergraduate or higher qualification gained from; New Zealand, Australia, Canada, the Republic of Ireland, South Africa, the United Kingdom or the United States of America.
- For those who have studied in NZ for a minimum of two years at secondary school and gained either
  - a) eight, level 2 NCEA University Entrance literacy credits (4 credits in reading and 4 credits in writing) gained prior to 2014 or
  - b) ten, level 2 NCEA University Entrance Literacy credits (5 credits in reading and 5 credits in writing).
- For long-term residents (10+ years) in New Zealand, or another English speaking country, who are able to demonstrate English language competency appropriate to the desired level of study. Competency must be documented.

International applicants to Postgraduate Certificate in Theology should seek NZQA evaluation of their non-NZ (overseas) qualifications prior to applying.

# POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN THEOLOGY (PGDipTh)

## Programme Summary

NQF Level	8 – 120 credits
Duration	Full-time for 2 semesters, part-time options available
Places	Open – Selection criteria apply
Campus	Henderson and Distance Learning
Tuition Fee	\$7,602 per full-time year of study plus Student Services Fee
Web	<a href="http://www.laidlaw.ac.nz/postgraduate-study">www.laidlaw.ac.nz/postgraduate-study</a>

## Career Opportunities

### Church Leadership

Paid employment in areas such as:

- Associate Pastor
- Christian writing
- Church based ministries
- Cross-cultural ministries
- Inter-cultural ministries
- Para-church work
- Pastoral ministry

Professional development

Effective service as a church member

Personal Christian growth

Workplace Christians

Further study at Master's and doctoral level

## Outline

The Postgraduate Diploma in Theology (PGDipTh) programme provides an advanced level theological qualification for those who have already completed a recognised Bachelor's level or a Graduate Diploma qualification in Theology. The PGDipTh programme consists of taught courses.

## Admission Requirements

### General Admission Requirements

Candidates will be admitted to the Postgraduate Diploma in Theology programme:

- Where the candidate has completed a recognised three-year Bachelor's degree in Theology or Ministry, with a grade point average of 7.0 (B) in courses of the qualifying undergraduate programme at NZQA levels 6 and 7.
- Where the candidate holds a recognised Bachelor's level degree in a discipline other than Theology or Ministry and has completed a bridging programme such as Laidlaw's 120 credit Graduate Diploma in Theology with a grade point average of 7.0 (B) at NZQA level 7.
- In exceptional circumstances the relevant Academic Head may allow entry to candidates who hold Laidlaw's 60 credit Graduate Certificate in Theology with a grade point average of 7.0 (B) at NZQA level 7.
- In exceptional circumstance the relevant Academic Head may, at their discretion, give special admission to candidates who have successfully completed an alternate academic programme that meets the standard required to enter postgraduate study. Each application will, however, be considered in light of the applicant's overall background and ability to benefit from the programme. The onus is on students to provide details of all qualifications and experience relevant to the application process.



## English Language Requirements

Applicants must meet both the Academic and English language requirements for this programme. In addition to the requirements outlined above applicants for whom English is not their first language must use one of the following methods to demonstrate that they have the required level of English proficiency to study in New Zealand:

- gained NCEA level 3 and met New Zealand University Entrance requirements; or
- holds a Bachelor's degree of at least three years from New Zealand, Australia, Canada, the Republic of Ireland, South Africa, the United Kingdom or the United States of America; or
- achieved a Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults (CELTA); or
- achieved the required score, as indicated in the following subsections, in one of the following internationally recognised English proficiency tests, within the preceding two years:
  - International English Language Testing System (IELTS)
  - University of Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English (CAE)
  - University of Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE)
  - University of Cambridge First Certificate in English (FCE)
  - International English for Speakers of Other Languages qualifications by City and Guilds (IESOL)
  - Pearson Test of English (Academic) (PToE)
  - New Zealand Certificate in English Language (NZCEL)
  - Testing of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).

### *The requirement for this programme is:*

- IELTS 7.0 with minimum of 7.0 in writing OR
- Pearson's Test of English (Academic) score of 65 or higher OR
- equivalent (see <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/about-us/our-role/legislation/nzqa-rules/nzqf-related-rules/the-table/>)

### *A waiver for the English language test may be granted:*

- For those applicants who have an undergraduate or higher qualification gained from; New Zealand, Australia, Canada, the Republic of Ireland, South Africa, the United Kingdom or the United States of America.
- For those who have studied in NZ for a minimum of two years at secondary school and gained either
  - a) eight, level 2 NCEA University Entrance literacy credits (4 credits in reading and 4 credits in writing) gained prior to 2014 or
  - b) ten, level 2 NCEA University Entrance Literacy credits (5 credits in reading and 5 credits in writing).
- For long-term residents (10+ years) in New Zealand, or another English speaking country, who are able to demonstrate English language competency appropriate to the desired level of study. Competency must be documented.

International applicants to Postgraduate Certificate in Theology should seek NZQA evaluation of their non-NZ (overseas) qualifications prior to applying.

# BACHELOR OF THEOLOGY HONOURS (BTh(Hons))

## Programme Summary

NQF Level	8 – 120 credits
Duration	Full-time for one year, part-time options available
Starts	February and July
Places	Open – Selection criteria apply
Campus	Henderson and Distance Learning
Tuition	\$7,602 plus Student Services fee
Structure	Min 30 credits in research methods, 30 credits in honours special topic, and 60 credits in an honours research project

## Career Opportunities

Church leadership

Paid employment in areas such as

- Pastoral Leadership
- Missional Leadership
- Vocational leadership
- Lecturer
- Researcher
- Author
- Para-church work

Professional development

Effective service as a church member

Personal Christian growth

Workplace Christians

Further study at masters and doctoral level

## Outline

The Bachelor of Theology (Honours) programme recognises distinguished study at undergraduate level (level 7) and extends that into study and research at level 8. This is a programme of study for those who have successfully completed three years of undergraduate study in theology and want to extend this into graduate level research and writing.

## Objectives

This programme aims to equip students to live faithfully in the light of the gospel in the twenty first century. As well as learning to think, research, analyse, and evaluate, students' lives will be shaped and formed through their engagement with Scripture and theology. They will be instructed in how to read and interpret the biblical story in all its richness and diversity, making use of the skills and methods of theological research. They will also work with primary source material, gaining an understanding of the historical and cultural contexts in which God's people have wrestled with issues of life in generations prior to ours. Students will also be helped to evaluate contemporary issues in the light of their reading of God's word and the world. Students will be assisted in addressing philosophical and methodological questions around Scripture, theology, the history of Christian thought and life, and practical ministry both in other times and places and in the era of which they are part. Graduates will have a confidence in the Gospel, will pursue shalom, practice love, participate in grace, and display a commitment to hope. Graduates will be people equipped to renew their communities with a faith that sees and anticipates the new creation, and which, on that basis, engages the world in love. Love is prior to knowing and knowing comes because we love. Graduates will serve out of a vision of shaping the world with love compelled and informed by the Gospel.

On completion of the Bachelor of Theology (Honours) Laidlaw graduates will:

- Have developed skills in advanced research and writing.
- Be able to disseminate the results of advanced research to wider networks.
- Engage in self-directed learning and advanced study.
- Demonstrate intellectual independence, analytic rigour, and the ability to understand and evaluate new knowledge and ideas.
- Demonstrate the ability to identify topics for original research, plan and conduct research, analyse results, and communicate the findings to the satisfaction of subject experts.
- Be prepared for higher levels of academic research.

## Structure

The Bachelor of Theology (Honours) programme recognises distinguished study at undergraduate level (level 7) and extends that into study and research at level 8. This is a programme of study for those who have successfully completed three years of undergraduate study in theology and want to extend this into graduate level research and writing.

Those wishing to do their Honours Research Project in Biblical Studies require a Biblical language prior to enrolling in this course.

A Bachelor of Theology (Honours) may be awarded to students, where students have successfully completed:

- Postgraduate Research and Writing (30 credits)
- Honours Special Topic (30 credits)
- Honours Research Project (60 credits)

## Awards

The BTh (Hons) will be awarded:

- Honours (First Class)  
(GPA of 80-100% / A-, A, A+)
  - » Students who achieve first class honours bring intellectual rigour, excellence and insight to their work and reliably and consistently demonstrate an excellent level of synthesis and critique in relation to a depth of specialist knowledge and its impact in the broad context of their discipline.
- Honours (Second Class)
  - First Division  
(GPA of 75-79 % / B+)
    - » Students who achieve second class honours, first division, demonstrate an insightful approach to the key issues and debates in their discipline. The work demonstrates a high level of understanding, synthesis, and critique of the issues and thinking.
  - Second Division  
(GPA of 65-74% / B-, B)
    - » Students who achieve second class, second division honours demonstrate an insightful approach to the key issues and debates in their discipline. The work demonstrates good understanding, synthesis, and critique of the main issues and thinking.
- Honours (Third Class)  
(GPA of 50-64% / C-, C, C+)
  - » Students who achieve third class honours demonstrate an adequate approach to the issues and debates in their discipline. The work demonstrates fair understanding, synthesis, and initial critique of the main issues and thinking.

# Admission Requirements

## General Admission Requirements

The normal requirement for admission into the Bachelor of Theology (Honours) programme is a completed three-year undergraduate degree in Theology or Ministry or equivalent qualification, as defined in the National Qualifications Framework of the NZQA, in an appropriate discipline. Entry into the Bachelor of Theology (Honours) is conditional upon:

- A grade point average of 7.0 (B) in courses of the qualifying undergraduate programme at NZQA levels 6 and 7; and
- Approval of the Postgraduate Committee.

## Special Admission Requirements

Serious consideration will be given to those that hold qualifications of an equivalent standard. In exceptional circumstances the Postgraduate Committee may allow applicants who do not meet these requirements, or who do not have qualifications of an equivalent standard, to be granted provisional candidature into the Bachelor of Theology (Honours) to be confirmed after the first semester of study. Each application will, however, be considered in light of the applicant's overall background and ability to benefit from the programme. The onus is on the student to provide details of all qualifications and experience relevant to the application procedure.

## English Language Requirements

Applicants must meet both the Academic and English language requirements for this programme. In addition to the requirements outlined above applicants for whom English is not their first language must use one of the following methods to demonstrate that they have the required level of English proficiency to study in New Zealand:

- gained NCEA level 3 and met New Zealand University Entrance requirements; or
- holds a Bachelor's degree of at least three years from New Zealand, Australia, Canada, the Republic of Ireland, South Africa, the United Kingdom or the United States of America; or
- achieved a Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults (CELTA); or

- achieved the required score, as indicated in the following subsections, in one of the following internationally recognised English proficiency tests, within the preceding two years:

- International English Language Testing System (IELTS)
- University of Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English (CAE)
- University of Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE)
- University of Cambridge First Certificate in English (FCE)
- International English for Speakers of Other Languages qualifications by City and Guilds (IESOL)
- Pearson Test of English (Academic) (PTE)
- New Zealand Certificate in English Language (NZCEL)
- Testing of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).

### *The requirement for this programme is:*

- IELTS 7.0 with minimum of 7.0 in writing OR
- Pearson's Test of English (Academic) score of 65 or higher OR
- equivalent (see <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/about-us/our-role/legislation/nzqa-rules/nzqf-related-rules/the-table/>)

### *A waiver for the English language test may be granted:*

- For those applicants who have an undergraduate or higher qualification gained from; New Zealand, Australia, Canada, the Republic of Ireland, South Africa, the United Kingdom or the United States of America.
- For those who have studied in NZ for a minimum of two years at secondary school and gained either
  - a) eight, level 2 NCEA University Entrance literacy credits (4 credits in reading and 4 credits in writing) gained prior to 2014 or
  - b) ten, level 2 NCEA University Entrance Literacy credits (5 credits in reading and 5 credits in writing).
- For long-term residents (10+ years) in New Zealand, or another English speaking country, who are able to demonstrate English language competency appropriate to the desired level of study. Competency must be documented.

International applicants to Bachelor of Theology (Honours) should seek NZQA evaluation of their non-NZ (overseas) qualifications prior to applying.

# MASTER OF THEOLOGY (MTH)

## Programme Summary

NQF Level	9 – 120, 180 or 240 credits
Duration	Full-time for 2-4 semesters, part-time options available
Places	Open – Selection criteria apply
Campus	Henderson and Distance Learning
Tuition	\$7,602 plus Student Services fee
Web	<a href="http://www.laidlaw.ac.nz/postgraduate-study">www.laidlaw.ac.nz/postgraduate-study</a>

## Accelerated Pathways

Theology graduates may pursue postgraduate study by an accelerated pathway which reduces the credit requirements of the MTh. With careful planning a full-time student may be able to complete the degree within a calendar year! See Admission Requirements and Pathways.

## Outline

The Master of Theology (MTh) programme provides an advanced level theological qualification for those who have already completed a recognised Bachelor's level or Bachelor's Honours qualification in theology and want to upgrade their qualifications in a specific area to extend their understanding of Christian ministries. The MTh combines a programme of taught courses and written thesis or dissertation. The degree provides opportunity for Master's level biblical and theological study related to the fields of Biblical Studies, Christian Thought and History, Mission and Pastoral Studies and Professional Studies.

## Structure

The Master of Theology degree is at least 240 credits except where:

- it builds on a Bachelor's Honours degree, a Postgraduate Diploma in Theology, or an equivalent qualification, or significant relevant professional experience, in which case it can be fewer than 240 but no fewer than 120 credits of which no less than 90 must be at NZQA level 9.
- it builds on a three-year Bachelor's degree or an equivalent qualification completed with a Grade Point average of at least 7.0 (B) in level 6 & 7 courses, in which case it can be fewer than 240 but no fewer than 180 credits of which no less than 60 must be at NZQA level 9.

## Objectives

On completion of the MTh programme, students should be able to:

- Evaluate critically a wide spectrum of literature in each of the coursework areas and in the areas of the research undertaken;
- Demonstrate mastery of the issues of debate in each of these areas;
- Give a fair and informed account of representative points of view in each subject area;
- Write a coherent narrative survey which is internally consistent, interacts critically with central issues, and demonstrates ability to form a reasoned opinion;
- Utilise sound hermeneutical principles in contextualising biblical theology within the subject areas studied;
- Demonstrate advanced skills of research, critical analysis and constructive synthesis, and application so as to make a significant contribution to knowledge in their area of specialisation;
- Demonstrate the distinctive contribution of biblical and theological principles to central issues in their subject areas;
- Participate in the international academic discussion of their field of study with a competence appropriate to Master's level;
- Reflect on the professional, ethical and relational implications of their study for ministry in the modern world; and
- Make available to the service of the church appropriate aspects of current scholarship in their field of study

# Admission Requirements and Flexible Structures

## Level 8 Entry

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### **180 Credit MTh**

MTh degree may be completed with 180 credits:

- Where the candidate has completed a recognised three-year Bachelor's degree in Theology or Ministry, with a grade point average of 7.0 (B) in courses of the qualifying undergraduate programme at NZQA levels 6 and 7.

### **240 Credit MTh**

MTh degree requires 240 credits:

- Where the candidate has completed a recognised three-year Bachelor's degree in Theology or Ministry, with a grade point average of 7.0 (B) in courses of the qualifying undergraduate programme at NZQA levels 6 and 7.
- Where the candidate holds a recognised Bachelor's level degree in a discipline other than Theology or Ministry and has completed a bridging programme such as Laidlaw's 120 credit Graduate Diploma in Theology with a grade point average of 7.0 (B) at NZQA level 7.
- In exceptional circumstances, the relevant Academic Head may allow entry to candidates who hold Laidlaw's 60 credit Graduate Certificate in Theology with a grade point average of 7.0 (B) at NZQA level 7.
- In exceptional circumstance the relevant Academic Head may, at their discretion, allow special admission to candidates who have successfully completed an alternate academic programme that meets the standard required to enter postgraduate study. Each application will, however, be considered in light of the applicant's overall background and ability to benefit from the programme. The onus is on students to provide details of all qualifications and experience relevant to the application process.

## Level 9 Entry

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### **120 Credit MTh**

MTh degree may be completed with 120 credits:

- Where the candidate has completed an approved four-year Honours degree in Theology or Ministry with first or second class honours, with a grade point average of at least 7.0 (B).
- Where the candidate has completed an approved Postgraduate Diploma in Theology with a grade point average of 7.0 (B).
- In exceptional circumstance the relevant Academic Head may, at their discretion, allow special admission to candidates who have successfully completed an alternate academic programme that meets the standard required to enter postgraduate study. Each application will, however, be considered in light of the applicant's overall background and ability to benefit from the programme. The onus is on students to provide details of all qualifications and experience relevant to the application process.



# ADVANCED RESEARCH DEGREES (MPhil, PhD)

The Master of Philosophy (MPhil) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) are advanced research degrees, suitable for preparation to be an academic scholar and teacher. Under a memorandum of agreement with Auckland University of Technology (AUT) graduates of Laidlaw Graduate School may apply to enrol in the AUT MPhil or PhD programme and to undertake research in theology under the supervision or co-supervision of LGS faculty. Such students are subject in all respects to the regulations of AUT and should familiarise themselves with the AUT Calendar available on the AUT website [www.aut.ac.nz](http://www.aut.ac.nz). Students interested in any of these options should contact the Head of Theology.

Under another agreement, with the Department of Theology at the University of Otago, students may apply to enrol in the Otago PhD with an endorsement from Laidlaw Graduate School. If accepted by the University of Otago they may then satisfy the Otago residency requirements at a Laidlaw campus and with the approval of Otago, receive some of their supervision from LGS.

As an affiliated institution of the Australian College of Theology (ACT), Laidlaw offers a number of ACT postgraduate programmes including the Doctor of Ministry, Doctor of Theology, and Doctor of Philosophy.

Further details on advanced research degree options are available on the AUT website [www.aut.ac.nz](http://www.aut.ac.nz), the University of Otago website [www.otago.ac.nz](http://www.otago.ac.nz), or the Australian College of Theology website [www.actheology.edu.au](http://www.actheology.edu.au). Students interested in exploring this option should consult the Head of Theology.



# GENERAL INFORMATION & REGULATIONS

General Information and regulations governing academic life at Laidlaw College form part of the portfolio of documents that makes up Laidlaw College's Academic Calendar. These regulations can be viewed online at [www.laidlaw.ac.nz/gen-regs](http://www.laidlaw.ac.nz/gen-regs).

We would like to draw your attention to the following general regulations which apply specifically to postgraduate students:

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## Transfer credits and Recognition of prior Learning (RPL)

Application may be made to transfer credits from another tertiary institution. See the regulations for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) in the General Information and Regulations handbook found here <https://www.laidlaw.ac.nz/prospectus-and-handbooks/#genregs>

If after credit recognition there remains a shortfall of credits to complete a postgraduate programme, these must be made up by enrolment in one or more level 8 courses. In some circumstances, and with the permission of the postgraduate lead academic, a 15 credit course at level 7 may be undertaken for this purpose.

## Approved Study at Another Institution

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A student who is enrolled in a Laidlaw College postgraduate programme and who concurrently enrolls and completes courses at another tertiary institution, which they wish to credit to their Laidlaw College qualification must:

- Seek from the Head of Theology or nominee prior approval of the proposed concurrent enrolment and confirmation that the course will satisfy the regulations and requirements for the qualification for which the student is enrolled at this College and that appropriate credit may be granted.
- Apply for credit in accordance with these regulations when the official results are known.
- Where prior approval has not been sought, credit will not normally be granted.

## Continuous Enrolment

It is a graduate school policy that enrolment into the Master of Theology programme must be continuous, requiring enrolment in each subsequent semester after first enrolment. As such, your enrolment status at postgraduate level should always fall into one of these four categories:

- **Enrolled**
- **Deferred (level 8 only)**
- **Suspended (level 9 only)**
- **Extended (Thesis D paper only, please see the information below on 'Extensions').**

This policy does not include the summer semester.

# Deferments and Suspensions

Should a situation arise in which you cannot maintain your continuous enrolment you should apply for a deferment at level 8 or a suspension at level 9.

## Deferment

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- Students enrolled in level 8 taught courses who cannot enrol for the upcoming semester should apply for a deferment using the 'Application for Deferment / Suspension' Form.
- The application should be submitted well in advance of the semester it pertains to.
- The completed form should be submitted to the Academic Head via the Postgraduate Administrator.
- A deferment of one semester will be granted.
- Up to two deferments during level 8 studies will be permitted.
- There is no fee associated with this application.

## Suspension

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- Students enrolled in level 9 thesis or dissertation courses who cannot enrol for the upcoming semester should apply for a suspension to their studies, using the 'Application for Deferment/ Suspension' Form.
- The application should be submitted well in advance of the semester it pertains to.
- The completed form should be submitted to the Head of Theology via the Postgraduate Administrator.
- This application should be supported by the research supervisor.
- A suspension may be granted of up to one semester and students may be granted no more than one suspension during their level 9 studies.
- A student will not have access to supervision or library services during the suspension of their studies.
- There is no fee associated with this application.

## Extensions

For information on extensions for assignments during taught MTh courses, see the General Information and Regulations section of the Academic Calendar – [www.laidlaw.ac.nz/gen-regs](http://www.laidlaw.ac.nz/gen-regs).

## Time allowed to complete a Programme of Study

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All programmes have a maximum number of semesters or years in which you have to complete your programme. You will need to complete your programme within these time limits or have a deferral or extension approved. Deferrals and extensions may be approved if you are unable to complete because of exceptional circumstances beyond your control.

Unless otherwise specified in the regulations for a particular programme the standard time limits given below apply:

PROGRAMME	CREDITS	FULL-TIME	PART-TIME
Postgraduate Certificate	60	1 semester	2 years
Postgraduate Diploma	120	1 year/2 semesters	3 years
Master's Degree	180	1.5 years/3 semesters	4 years
	240	2 years	6 years*
Bachelor of Theology (Honours)	120	1 year/2 semesters	3 years

\* Including the time taken to complete internal credits transferred.

The opportunity to continue beyond these time limits will be considered on a case by case basis and with approval of the Academic Head.

In exceptional circumstances, the Academic Head may approve a personal programme of study which does not conform to the above requirements, however the total number of credits required for the completion of the programme cannot be adjusted.

## Flexible Design, Individual Pathways

With 180 and 240 credit pathways, completed using 60, 90 or 120 credits research options, Laidlaw's MTh can be designed to suit the interests and opportunities of the candidate. The chart on the next page sets out some typical student pathways to completion (assumes full-time).

If doing a Thesis, students typically begin with Thesis A and progress through B to C to D as applicable. Each part is 30 credits worth of study.

If doing a Dissertation, students complete Dissertation A and B. Each part is 30 credits worth of study.

## Typical Master of Theology Configurations

240 CREDIT MTH WITH 60 CREDIT DISSERTATION	240 CREDIT MTH WITH 90 CREDIT THESIS	240 CREDIT MTH WITH 120 CREDIT THESIS	180 CREDIT WITH 90 CREDIT THESIS (FAST TRACK)
Taught Course 1 Level 8 – 30 credits	Taught Course 1 Level 8 – 30 credits	Taught Course 1 Level 8 – 30 credits	Taught Course 1 Level 8 – 30 credits
Taught Course 2 Level 8 – 30 credits	Taught Course 2 Level 8 – 30 credits	Taught Course 2 Level 8 – 30 credits	Taught Course 2 Level 8 – 30 credits
Taught Course 3 Level 8 – 30 credits	Taught Course 3 Level 8 – 30 credits	Taught Course 3 Level 8 – 30 credits	Taught Course 3 Level 8 – 30 credits
Taught Course 4 Level 8 – 30 credits	Taught Course 4 Level 8 – 30 credits	Taught Course 4 Level 8 – 30 credits	Thesis B Level 9 – 30 credits
Taught Course 5 Level 8 – 30 credits	Taught Course 5 Level 8 – 30 credits	Thesis A Level 9 – 30 credits	Thesis C Level 9 – 30 credits
Taught Course 6 Level 8 – 30 credits	Thesis B Level 9 – 30 credits	Thesis B Level 9 – 30 credits	Thesis D Level 9 – 30 credits
Dissertation A Level 9 – 30 credits	Thesis C Level 9 – 30 credits	Thesis C Level 9 – 30 credits	
Dissertation B Level 9 – 30 credits	Thesis D Level 9 – 30 credits	Thesis D Level 9 – 30 credits	

## Grades for Postgraduate Courses

Grades for BTh(Hons), PGCertTH, PGDipTh and MTh (both taught courses and research papers, including thesis and dissertations) will be given as a numerical percentage first, which will then be converted into a letter grade. As an example, a high A would be awarded an 89, a low A would be awarded an 85, and a solid A would be awarded an 87. The range of each of the grades is noted below:

A+	90-100	Exceptional	Distinction
A	85-89	Excellent	
A-	80-84	Superior	
B+	75-79	Very Good	Merit
B	70-74	Good	Pass
B-	65-69	Competent	
C+	60-64	Satisfactory	
C	55-59	Acceptable	
C-	50-54	Marginal	

## Postgraduate Appeals

If a postgraduate student or their supervisor feels that he or she is not able to establish an effective working relationship, either party may petition the Postgraduate Committee for the appointment of a new supervisor. If either the student or the supervisor feels that the student's work is not proceeding satisfactorily for reasons outside of their control, either party may, after consultation with the other, approach the Postgraduate Committee, for assistance.

Petitions to the Postgraduate Committee can be made through the Postgraduate Administrator.

If the student considers the assessment process has been inadequate or unfair, he or she may apply to the Academic Head through the Postgraduate Committee for a review of the process. If that is not satisfactory, an appeal to the Principal may be sought. In such cases, the relevant school will ensure that the issues of concern are addressed expeditiously to avoid significant loss of time in regard to the student's research or funding.

# MASTER OF THEOLOGY COURSES OFFERED IN 2023

## LAIDLAW FIELDS OF STUDY

- 100 Biblical Studies (incl. Languages)
- 200 Christian Thought
- 300 History of Christianity
- 350 Research
- 400 Spirituality
- 500 Pastoral and Contextual Studies
- 600 Cross-Cultural Mission
- 650 Marketplace Studies
- 800 Education
- 900 Counselling

## COURSE NUMBERING AND CREDIT SYSTEM

The Laidlaw course numbering system follows this pattern:

- The first digit indicates the field of study (e.g. 1 = Biblical Studies, 8 = Education, 9 = Counselling).
- The second and third digits further define the level and/or subject area (e.g. 120 = Old Testament).
- The first digit after the decimal point indicates the National Qualifications Framework level.
- The second and third digits after the decimal point indicate the credit value of the course (e.g. 15 = 15 credits, 30 = 30 credits).
- One credit is equivalent to ten hours of learning. A 15 credit course = 150 hours of learning.

## Courses for 2023

Unless otherwise stated, MTh taught courses are held on the Henderson Campus. Please allow approximately six weeks ahead of lecture blocks for pre-course assignment work. Courses are subject to viability requirements and may not be offered pending student enrolments.

For full course details please consult the MTh Summary Document or the website: [www.laidlaw.ac.nz](http://www.laidlaw.ac.nz)

## Semester One 2023

### **R140.830 THE GOSPEL AND ITS PROCLAMATION**

**Dr Mark Keown**

22 – 26 May | 9am – 4pm

Our everyday world is an increasingly dynamic mix of faiths, philosophies, cultures, and ideologies in both local and global contexts. In such a world, Christians and their communities still have the imperative to share Christ but often struggle with traditional paradigms of the gospel and its effective proclamation. This course goes deeply into New Testament exploring diverse understandings of the gospel to strengthen our capacity to present the gospel today. It also explores patterns of its proclamation, providing a basis for sharing the gospel in posture, proclamation, and praxis in the complex cultural landscapes that exist within Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond.

### **R351.830 POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH AND WRITING**

**Dr Greg Liston and Dr Terry Pouono**

21-24 February | 9am - 5pm

22-24 March | Wed-Thurs 9am - 5pm, Fri 9am - 1:30pm

**Writer's Workshop (Optional but highly recommended)**

24-25 March | 9am - 5pm

Postgraduate Research and Writing introduces you to the wonder and joy of research. It is a course designed to inspire students with the vast breadth of cutting-edge investigations that are being done by the lecturers at Laidlaw, and then to teach them how to research themselves by partnering with one of these lecturers. Students will develop and hone the skills of research and writing by designing and implementing a short research project in their own area of interest.

### **R405.830 MENTAL HEALTH AND HUMAN FLOURISHING**

**Dr Maja Whittaker and Dr Sarah Penwarden**

27 – 31 March | Mon-Fri 9:30am - 4:30pm

Mental distress can be a common but challenging aspect of human experience. In this course, students will explore how to understand mental distress from within the framework of practical theology. Students will learn how to articulate a theology of mental distress as well as human flourishing and shalom, through a focus on mental health in general and particular experiences such as anxiety, depression and bipolar disorder. Students will gain an understanding of issues of stigma surrounding mental distress in society. Students will evaluate pastoral responses to mental distress, and will articulate an understanding of what a wise, compassionate, and informed pastoral response might involve within the varied cultural contexts of Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond.

### **R507.830 ANOINTED MINISTRY**

**Dr Myk Habets**

1-5 May | Mon-Fri 9:30am - 4:30pm, Fri 9:30am-1pm

This course examines the doctrine of the Trinity and applies this to pastoral practices in order to allow the doctrine of the Trinity to have a controlling influence over such practices. This course addresses key concerns related to the practice of ministry. By grounding the course in a robust trinitarianism, students will receive a clear biblical and theological foundation for ministry as participation in the ongoing ministry of Christ in the world in the power of the Spirit, thus preparing them for effective Christocentric pastoral and missional leadership. The course develops historical, theological, and ministerial themes, and seeks to enable students to develop convictions for ministry and reflect on ecclesial practices such as administration of the sacraments, pastoral care, preaching, prayer, and worship.



## **R512.830 FOUNDATIONS OF MINISTRY SUPERVISION**

**Dr David Crawley and Karen Kemp**

15 - 17 March | Wed-Fri 9.30am - 4.30pm

31 May - 2 June | Wed-Fri 9.30am - 4.30pm

This is the first of two courses which together comprise a Postgraduate Certificate in Theology, designed to equip graduates to offer professional supervision in a range of ministry contexts (understanding ministry in the broad sense of Christian vocation). It examines the nature and purpose of professional supervision, including its importance in people-related ministries. Several theoretical approaches to supervision will be evaluated and participants will reflect critically on theological, ethical, and cultural dimensions of offering supervision in their own contexts.

# **Semester Two 2023**

## **R121.830 OLD TESTAMENT NARRATIVE: ITS MESSAGE AND METHOD**

**Dr John de Jong**

14-18 August & 16-20 October | 9.30am - 12.30pm

This course engages in a detailed study of the content and form of Old Testament narrative, and the hermeneutical and theological issues raised by narrative approaches to the Old Testament, illustrated by study of selected Old Testament narrative texts. The significance for preaching and application of the narrative form and content within the various cultural contexts of Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond is also considered.

## **R236.830 SPECIAL TOPIC: CHRISTIAN THOUGHT AND HISTORY**

*Patristics Paper*

**Dr Edwina Murphy**

28 August - 1 September | Mon -Thurs 9am - 5pm,  
Fri 9am - 1pm

This course provides an opportunity for students to engage in theological or historical disciplines in an advanced way. The course involves a concentrated study of a theological or historical issue. Critical issues of background and context are explored, and contemporary applications to the complex cultural landscapes that exist within Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond are investigated.

## **R351.830 POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH AND WRITING**

*By distance throughout the semester*

**Dr Terry Pouono**

Postgraduate Research and Writing introduces you to the wonder and joy of research. It is a course designed to inspire students with the vast breadth of cutting-edge investigations that are being done by the lecturers at Laidlaw, and then to teach them how to research themselves by partnering with one of these lecturers. Students will develop and hone the skills of research and writing by designing and implementing a short research project in their own area of interest.

## **R508.830 REFLECTIVE PRACTICE FOR MINISTRY**

**Dr Maja Whitaker and Graeme Flett**

21-25 August | Mon - Fri 9.30am - 4.30pm

This course explores the postures and practices that allow people in ministry to flourish in their ministry context. Students will learn to critically evaluate their ministry environment both culturally and contextually, to develop practices of discernment and habits of mind that produce resilience over the long-term, and to understand what they bring to their ministry role from their own personality, context and as a participant in community.

## **R513.830 DEVELOPING A MINISTRY SUPERVISION PRACTICE**

**Dr David Crawley and Dr Karen Kemp**

2 - 4 August & 13 - 15 September | 9.30am - 4.30pm

This is the second of two courses which comprise a Postgraduate Certificate in Theology, designed to equip graduates to offer professional supervision in a range of ministry contexts (understanding ministry in the broad sense of Christian vocation). Through the integration of theory, practice, and theology, it enables practitioners to develop a framework for supervision appropriate to their own cultural and professional contexts, and to engage in critically reflective practice.

## **R612.830 THE CHURCH FOR OTHERS**

**Dr Joe McGarry**

4 - 8 September | Mon - Fri 9.30am - 4.30pm

The church's social advocacy is increasingly recognised as a central aspect of her witness in the world. And yet, a call to social action can often be cast aside or seen as just one priority amongst many. This course presents biblical, theological, and historical investigations into the self-emptying existence for others which rests at the heart of Christian existence. Beginning with the biblical witness regarding the community's posture towards the vulnerable, the course then uses Dietrich Bonhoeffer's theological work to guide our discourse. We will hear Bonhoeffer ask, "Is the church the church if she does not exist for others?" and consider the significance of moving social action from the register of mission (something the church does) into the register of being (something the church is). The course will conclude by investigating historical case studies, illuminating how social action for the other historically and consistently emerges when the church lives from her faithful identity in Christ, and how it can be applied in the varied cultural contexts that exist in Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond.

# **Summer Semester 2023-24**

## **R540.830 FOUNDATIONS IN VOCATIONAL THEOLOGY**

**Dr Roshan Allpress**

Calling or *vocatio* is deeply rooted within the Christian tradition as a way of framing the good or faithful life. This course invites students to discern and articulate their vocation, and to frame this within a distinctively Christian theological articulation of hope. Students will engage with integrative theological frameworks, approaches, and their vocational practices in relation to God and the world, to address key questions pertinent to their own vocation, and so to faithfully enhance their own professional well-being and engagement within their own cultural and situational contexts.

# ALL POSTGRADUATE COURSES

## **RXXX.830 SPECIAL TOPIC: BIBLICAL STUDIES**

This course provides an opportunity for students to engage in biblical studies in an advanced way. The course involves a concentrated study of a biblical text, biblical issue, or other aspect of biblical studies including but not limited to hermeneutics, interpretative method, or text critical studies. Critical issues of background and context are explored, and contemporary applications to the complex cultural landscapes that exist within Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond are investigated.

## **RXXX.830 ADVANCED ECCLESIOLOGY**

This course provides an advanced exploration of selected contemporary issues and trends in the doctrine and practice of ecclesiology. Various understandings of the church, as expounded by contemporary theologians and exhibited in practise across different cultures and denominations are examined and evaluated through the lenses of Scripture, tradition, reason, and experience. This course equips students to derive a rigorous and robust understanding of what the church is, God's intention for it as compared with its current realisation, and to investigate how this understanding affects pragmatic decisions about what the church does. It equips students to make wise ecclesial decisions based on coherent theological understanding in the complex cultural landscapes that exist within Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond.

## **R236.830 SPECIAL TOPIC: CHRISTIAN THOUGHT AND HISTORY**

This course provides an opportunity for students to engage in theological or historical disciplines in an advanced way. The course involves a concentrated study of a theological or historical issue. Critical issues of background and context are explored, and contemporary applications to the complex cultural landscapes that exist within Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond are investigated.

## **RXXX.830 EMBODIED EXISTENCE: THEOLOGY AND PRACTICE**

Embodiment is an essential element of what it means to be human and part of God's good intention for flourishing human life. However, the body is a battleground in modern culture, and the lived experience of embodiment is often fraught for many Christians. This course will explore the place of the body in theological anthropology, the biblical story, and culture. From this will emerge implications for praxis in the complex cultural landscapes that exist within Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond, including body diversity, disability, ethics, discipleship, and spiritual practices.

## **RXXX.830 MENTAL HEALTH AND HUMAN FLOURISHING**

Mental distress can be a common but challenging aspect of human experience. In this course, students will explore how to understand mental distress from within the framework of practical theology. Students will learn how to articulate a theology of mental distress as well as human flourishing and shalom, through a focus on mental health in general and particular experiences such as anxiety, depression and bipolar disorder. Students will gain an understanding of issues of stigma surrounding mental distress in society. Students will evaluate pastoral responses to mental distress, and will articulate an understanding of what a wise, compassionate, and informed pastoral response might involve within the varied cultural contexts of Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond.

## **RXXX.830 ADVANCED PREACHING**

This course extends students' preaching ability by equipping them to proclaim Scripture effectively in a range of contexts to people of diverse ages and stages of life and faith. A variety of preaching forms will be examined and students will explore how these can be contextualised both to the medium in which their preaching takes place (digital, in-person, hybrid) and to the cultural and situational context of their unique audience.

## **RXXX.830 SPECIAL TOPIC: PRACTICAL THEOLOGY**

This course provides an opportunity for students to engage in pastoral, practical, or missional disciplines in an advanced way. The course involves a concentrated study of a pastoral, practical, or missiological theme or issue. Critical issues of background and context are explored, and contemporary applications to the complex cultural landscapes that exist within Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond are investigated.

## **R512.830 FOUNDATIONS OF MINISTRY SUPERVISION**

This is the first of two courses which together comprise a Postgraduate Certificate in Theology, designed to equip graduates to offer professional supervision in a range of ministry contexts (understanding ministry in the broad sense of Christian vocation). It examines the nature and purpose of professional supervision, including its importance in people-related ministries. Several theoretical approaches to supervision will be evaluated and participants will reflect critically on theological, ethical, and cultural dimensions of offering supervision in their own contexts.

A minimum of two years of ministry or professional experience is normally required for entry.

## **R513.830 DEVELOPING A MINISTRY SUPERVISION PRACTICE**

This is the second of two courses which comprise a Postgraduate Certificate in Theology, designed to equip graduates to offer professional supervision in a range of ministry contexts (understanding ministry in the broad sense of Christian vocation). Through the integration of theory, practice, and theology, it enables practitioners to develop a framework for supervision appropriate to their own cultural and professional contexts, and to engage in critically reflective practice.

## **RXXX.830 SPECIAL TOPIC: OTHER (THEOLOGICAL & RELIGIOUS STUDIES)**

This course provides an opportunity for students to engage in a specific area of theological or religious studies that is not already covered elsewhere in the curriculum. The course involves a concentrated study of a theological or religious theme, topic, issue, or text. Critical issues of background and context are explored, and contemporary applications to the complex cultural landscapes that exist within Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond are investigated.

## **R233.830 SPIRIT CHRISTOLOGY AND MODELS OF SANCTIFICATION FOR MINISTRY**

The contemporary field of Spirit Christology, which looks at the Holy Spirit's role in the life and mission of Jesus Christ, has focused on questions concerning Trinitarian theology, Christology, salvation in Christ, and to some extent life in Christ. This course extends the research in this field in a practical direction by asking how the same Spirit who dwells in Christ and guides him in his life and mission shapes the lives of his disciples today. Such a question yields a models-based theology of sanctification informed by a Christ-shaped approach to personal growth, ministry and witness. Through the study of five models of sanctification grounded in scriptural, patristic, reformation and contemporary narratives of life in Christ, students will learn to humbly discern and articulate theologically the movement of the Spirit of Christ in their own lives and vocations in church and world.

### **R506.830 JUSTICE THAT RESTORES**

There have always been debates about the definition, meaning and requirements of justice. In recent times, these debates have become even more fractious and complicated, with some thinkers simply concluding that, "nobody knows what justice is". Christians have something important to contribute to this discussion, for the biblical tradition reflects deeply and pervasively on the character of justice, and particularly on the restoring justice of God. This course will explore key themes in biblical teaching on justice, human rights and peacemaking, and reflect on their concrete application both in society and the church to the complex cultural landscapes that exist within Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond, and especially through the use of restorative justice principles and practices.

### **R612.830 THE CHURCH FOR OTHERS**

The church's social advocacy is increasingly recognised as a central aspect of her witness in the world. And yet, a call to social action can often be cast aside or seen as just one priority amongst many. This course presents biblical, theological, and historical investigations into the self-emptying existence for others which rests at the heart of Christian existence. Beginning with the biblical witness regarding the community's posture towards the vulnerable, the course then uses Dietrich Bonhoeffer's theological work to guide our discourse. We will hear Bonhoeffer ask, "Is the church the church if she does not exist for others?" and consider the significance of moving social action from the register of mission (something the church does) into the register of being (something the church is). The course will conclude by investigating historical case studies, illuminating how social action for the other historically and consistently emerges when the church lives from her faithful identity in Christ, and how it can be applied in the varied cultural contexts that exist in Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond.

### **R613.830 THE PROMISE OF RECONCILIATION: FROM DOCTRINE TO POLITICAL ETHIC**

This course explores the ways in which the theological ethic of reconciliation has informed political projects from the civil rights era to contemporary struggles against mass incarceration. Beginning with the revival of the doctrine of reconciliation in late 19th century Europe, this course traces how various theologians and political movements have seen its promise for thinking theologically about post-conflict situations, race relations, and immigration, as well as identity and relationality. The multivalence of reconciliation owes to its auxiliary concepts of justice, truth, mercy, forgiveness, repentance, and liberation, all of which learners will interrogate as part of developing a theological ethic of reconciliation for thinking about their own political and cultural context.

### **R102.830 GENESIS: CREATION AND BLESSING**

Genesis makes a unique and important contribution to the biblical canon. This course explores that contribution by looking at the distinctive place Genesis occupies in the biblical narrative and investigating its rich theological content. It investigates the sophisticated composition of the book and its carefully crafted narrative episodes. The student will also encounter the book's remarkable capacity for speaking to contemporary concerns in the complex cultural landscapes that exist within Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond.

### **R115.830 FROM FURY TO FORGIVENESS**

This course pursues a Christian understanding of interpersonal forgiveness. It begins with close readings of biblical texts dealing with forgiveness and proceeds to an investigation of several related topics such as emotion, disposition, character, and virtue ethics. By this means it is possible to understand more clearly not just what it means to forgive, but also how to become a better forgiver. These readings in the biblical text are supplemented with important insights from other disciplines, including psychology, moral philosophy, classics, and neuroscience. The course also reflects on what makes Christian interpersonal forgiveness unique, why it occupies such an important place in the Christian faith, and its application to the complex cultural landscapes that exist within Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond.

### **R121.830 OLD TESTAMENT NARRATIVE: ITS MESSAGE AND METHOD**

This course engages in a detailed study of the content and form of Old Testament narrative, and the hermeneutical and theological issues raised by narrative approaches to the Old Testament, illustrated by study of selected Old Testament narrative texts. The significance for preaching and application of the narrative form and content within the various cultural contexts of Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond is also considered.

### **R140.830 THE GOSPEL AND ITS PROCLAMATION**

Our everyday world is an increasingly dynamic mix of faiths, philosophies, cultures, and ideologies in both local and global contexts. In such a world, Christians and their communities still have the imperative to share Christ but often struggle with traditional paradigms of the gospel and its effective proclamation. This course goes deeply into New Testament exploring diverse understandings of the gospel to strengthen our capacity to present the gospel today. It also explores patterns of its proclamation, providing a basis for sharing the gospel in posture, proclamation, and praxis in the complex cultural landscapes that exist within Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond.

### **R154.830 ROMANS AND THE MISSION OF GOD**

This course explores Paul's letter to the Romans from a missional perspective. After considering a missional hermeneutic and engaging with critical scholarship on Romans, the letter will be located socially and historically in the mission of God and that of the Apostle. Consideration will be given to the genre and literary strategies of Romans in relation to the theme of "the gospel" and other themes. An articulation of Paul's gospel behind and in the letter will be explored. Drawing on Romans, a range of missional themes will be investigated, and their application to the complex cultural landscapes that exist within Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond. These themes include the cosmic scope of mission and its completion, proclamation, the gospel as the power of salvation, missional agency, the miraculous, social justice, ecological mission, social transformation, patronage and hospitality, the sovereignty of God and human volition, prayer, the Spirit, the State, culture, Israel, theology, and apologetics.

### **R202.830 GOD'S WORLD: THEOLOGY AND SCIENCE IN CONVERSATION**

This course engages in a constructive conversation between science and the Christian faith. Drawing on historical and contemporary perspectives, this course reflects critically on the nature of theological and scientific inquiry and the nature of dialogue between science and theology. Key topics explored include models of science-religion interaction; creation and cosmology; biology, evolution and creationism; human nature, freedom and determinism; the implications of natural theology; and the ethical implications arising from theological and scientific beliefs in conversation. Students will be encouraged to develop a nuanced analysis of how scientific and theological truths can be critically integrated and to apply this understanding to a topic of contemporary significance within the cultural landscape of Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond.

### **R215.830 THEOLOGIAN IN CONTEXT**

This course is a close study of one major theologian (or a group of closely related theologians), past or present, in the intellectual context of their day. Through the study of selected writings of the theologian and secondary sources, their theological method and commitments will be analysed and their contribution to theology past and present evaluated, particularly as it impacts on the contemporary cultural and contextual situation within Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond.

### **R216.830 THIRD ARTICLE THEOLOGY**

Third Article Theology (TAT) is a new theological movement utilizing a distinctly pneumatological approach to developing Christian doctrine. TAT examines Christian beliefs and practices through the lens of the Holy Spirit and aims to equip the church to "act its age"—proclaiming a timely message appropriate for our current context, leading to practical applications for life, mission, and ministry, that are particularly in complex cultural landscapes that exist within Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond.

### **R222.830 HUMANITY FULLY ALIVE**

This course explores Christian understandings of humanity as individual human beings and in community. The course focuses on topics such as human beings as the 'image and likeness of God', understandings of body and soul, personhood and identity, the significance of community, sexuality and gender, discrimination, ecological concerns, and eschatological perspectives on human destiny.

**\*N.B. NOT ALL COURSES ARE OFFERED EVERY YEAR**

### **R507.830 ANOINTED MINISTRY**

Run as a seminar, this course examines the doctrine of the Trinity and applies this to pastoral leadership practices in order to allow this doctrine to have a controlling influence over such practices. By grounding the course in a robust trinitarianism, students will receive a clear biblical and theological foundation for ministry as participation in the ongoing ministry of Christ in the world in the power of the Spirit, thus preparing them for effective Christocentric pastoral and missional leadership within the complex cultural landscapes that exist within Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond. The course develops historical, theological, and ministerial themes, and seeks to enable students to develop convictions for ministry and reflect on ecclesial practices such as administration of the sacraments, pastoral care, preaching, prayer, and worship. The methodology of Third Article Theology is applied to pastoral leadership and ministry practices.

### **R505.830 ISSUES IN PUBLIC AND CONTEXTUAL THEOLOGY**

This course critically examines the origin, nature and methods of both public theology and contextual theology and their relationship to the wider Christian theological tradition. It assesses their application to public issues and contextual matters facing individuals and communities today across the cultural landscape of Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond.

### **R223.830 THEOLOGY AND MEDIA**

This course critically examines key areas of religious communication including the coverage of religion by mass media, how religious communities interact with the media, and how mass media shape perceptions of religion. Particular emphasis will be placed upon the interaction between Christianity and media, in the complex cultural landscapes that exist within Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond.

### **R609.830 THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH IN THE 21ST CENTURY**

A theological exploration of best mission practice analysed through studying scripture, church tradition, contemporary culture, and practical experience. The relationship between missiology and cognate areas with contemporary cultural contexts in Aotearoa and beyond is explored to contribute to a renewed missional understanding.

### **R351.830 POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH AND WRITING**

This course centres on the methodology and practical aspects of advanced research. Students reflect on the theological, ethical, and missiological implications of research whilst developing advanced skills and methods which will support a research project. A range of scholars relate their own research experience and students engage with a number of contemporary approaches to critical research and writing. Students develop and hone the skills of research and writing by designing and implementing a small research project in the field of their interest.

### **R508.830 REFLECTIVE PRACTICE FOR MINISTRY**

This course explores the postures and practices that allow people in ministry to flourish in their ministry context. Students will learn to critically evaluate their ministry environment both culturally and contextually, to develop practices of discernment and habits of mind that produce resilience over the long-term, and to understand what they bring to their ministry role from their own personality, context and as a participant in community.

### **R540.830 FOUNDATIONS IN VOCATIONAL THEOLOGY**

Calling or *vocatio* is deeply rooted within the Christian tradition as a way of framing the good or faithful life. This course invites students to discern and articulate their vocation, and to frame this within a distinctively Christian theological articulation of hope. Students will engage with integrative theological frameworks, approaches, and their vocational practices in relation to God and the world, to address key questions pertinent to their own vocation, and so to faithfully enhance their own professional well-being and engagement within their own cultural and situational contexts.





# MASTER OF THEOLOGY RESEARCH

## Pre-requisites

To progress to research at Level 9 in the MTh, a student must have achieved a grade point average in Level 8 taught papers of 7.0 (B), excluding the lowest mark achieved (in the case of the dissertation).

## Research Project (Level 9)

### R381.930 DISSERTATION A

This dissertation (A and B) is assessed as Level 9 on the National Qualifications Framework, and is normally undertaken in the final part of a student's MTh candidature.

### R382.930 DISSERTATION B

This dissertation (A and B) is assessed as Level 9 on the National Qualifications Framework, and is normally undertaken in the final part of a student's MTh candidature.

### DISSERTATION (60 CREDITS, 20,000 WORDS)

A dissertation must be the student's own work, and demonstrate mastery of a conceptual understanding of the area or topic discussed which is commensurate with Master's level study. In moving beyond the range of skills appropriate to superior undergraduate degree candidates, the candidate must demonstrate evidence of reading across viewpoints and the ability to report different views with critical academic integrity. They must also demonstrate the ability to take a point of view and sustain it with evidence, and show evidence of analytical skill and ability to assess critically existing scholarly literature.

### R383.930 THESIS A

The thesis is assessed as Level 9 on the National Qualifications Framework, and is normally undertaken in the final part of a student's MTh candidature.

A 120 credit, 40,000 word thesis consists of Thesis A, B, C, and D.

### R384.930 THESIS B

The thesis is assessed as Level 9 on the National Qualifications Framework, and is normally undertaken in the final part of a student's MTh candidature.

A 120 credit, 40,000 word thesis consists of Thesis A, B, C, and D. A 90 credit, 30,000 word thesis consists of Thesis B, C, and D.

### R385.930 THESIS C

The thesis is assessed as Level 9 on the National Qualifications Framework, and is normally undertaken in the final part of a student's MTh candidature.

A 120 credit, 40,000 word thesis consists of Thesis A, B, C, and D. A 90 credit, 30,000 word thesis consists of Thesis B, C, and D.

### R386.930 THESIS D

The thesis is assessed as Level 9 on the National Qualifications Framework, and is normally undertaken in the final part of a student's MTh candidature.

A 120 credit, 40,000 word thesis consists of Thesis A, B, C, and D. A 90 credit, 30,000 word thesis consists of Thesis B, C, and D.

### THESIS (90 CREDITS, 30,000 WORDS / 120 CREDITS, 40,000 WORDS)

Insightful, accurate research lies at the heart of postgraduate study. A thesis submitted for the Master of Theology degree must be a work of literary quality. The style must represent a good standard of prose, as used in published academic theological works. A thesis should demonstrate advanced research skills and critical interaction with existing academic publications in the topic area at a level in advance of that required in other research papers. The work need not present original findings, but it must demonstrate independent research and show a full understanding of the complexity of debate surrounding the topic and be a significant contribution to evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of the existing approaches.

All research must be of acceptable literary style, conform to the requirement for use of non-discriminatory language and contain acknowledgement of all sources and materials quoted. Theses and dissertations must not incorporate any material previously submitted by the candidate for any other degree or similar award.



### WORD COUNTS FOR LAIDLAW BTHEOL(HONS) RESEARCH PROJECTS AND MTH THESES AND DISSERTATIONS

Research Output	Credits	Maximum Word Count <sup>1,2</sup>	Referencing and Bibliography	Appendices	Front material <sup>3</sup>
BTheol (Hons) Research Project	60	20,000	Excluded from word count		
Masters Dissertation	60	20,000	Excluded from word count		
Masters Thesis	90	30,000	Excluded from word count		
	120	40,000	Excluded from word count		

<sup>1</sup>Word count includes footnoted material that is not related to referencing.

<sup>2</sup>This is the maximum word count allowed. The body text of the thesis should not exceed this.

<sup>3</sup>Front material includes title page, abstract, table of contents, acknowledgements, lists of figures and illustrations, glossaries, and other material prior to the main body of the thesis or dissertation.

## Ethics Approval

All staff and students of Laidlaw College undertaking research that involves human participation are required to ensure that their research complies with the highest ethical standards. This includes research that may be undertaken within a taught course. To this end, approval of any research that involves human participants must be submitted to the Laidlaw Ethics Committee for approval. Ethics Committee approval must be granted before any such research commences. Undergraduate research involving human participation will only be approved in exceptional circumstances.

The Ethics Committee will consist of at least five members, drawn from the academic staff with relevant research experience including a minimum of one external member. The Ethics Committee's concern will be to ensure that human rights issues are properly addressed, any potential harm is minimized and managed, informed consent has been obtained, confidentiality and anonymity will be maintained, and that all the necessary documentation to support this is in place.

It is the responsibility of both the supervisor and the researcher to be aware that certain research may need Ethics Committee approval. All documentary evidence required from the researcher, must be in place, and the approval of the ethics committee obtained before investigative procedures involving human subjects and the resultant gathering and storage of information may begin.

All documentary evidence required from the researcher must be in place, and the approval of the ethics committee obtained, before investigative procedures involving human subjects and the resultant gathering and storage of information may begin.

## Human Research Ethics Protocol

The ethics protocol is in four sections:

- Section 1: a statement of policy on research and teaching activities that involve human participants.
- Section 2: an application coversheet, which records the researcher's contact details, the details of the supervisor and the title of the research project.
- Section 3: a checklist of yes/no responses that identifies key issues.
- Section 4: the proforma which provides the Ethics Committee with more detail about the project and particularly the interaction with research subjects.

## Statement of Principles and Policies on Human Research Ethics

Applicants for Ethics Committee approval for research should complete the required forms and submit them to the chair of the Ethics Committee through the Postgraduate Administrator. Final approval of any proposal is subject to an Ethics Committee recommendation.

Any teaching and research proposals that require ethical approval must evidence:

- research or teaching merit;
- participants' informed consent which is given free from any form of coercion;
- respect for participants' rights of privacy and confidentiality;
- minimisation of the risk of harm to participants;
- special care for vulnerable participants;
- limitation of, and justification for, any use of methods involving lack of full disclosure such as 'blind' groups, 'double blind' groups, or control groups;
- appropriately qualified supervision;
- avoidance of any conflict of interest;
- respect for societies and cultures of participants;
- freedom to publish the results of research, while maintaining the anonymity of individuals;
- compliance with other standards where appropriate;
- appropriateness of remuneration where applicable..

For guidance on these issues and for an Ethics Protocol form, contact the Graduate School.

## Language Requirements

Students will be required to demonstrate competence in any languages which are required for their research focus. Students wishing to undertake a dissertation or thesis in biblical studies must demonstrate an intermediate level competency in relevant biblical language(s). Where there is uncertainty as to whether language competency is required, the matter should be referred to the Head of Theology for a decision with a recommendation from the Supervisor. Depending on the nature of their research, some students may be required to purchase biblical studies software. Students should consult with their supervisor if unsure. Laidlaw has an agreement with Logos that can provide substantial discounts to qualifying students.

## Preparing a Proposal

The preparation of a research proposal (and if appropriate, an ethics submission) takes place in consultation with your proposed supervisor or supervisors. The research proposal form can be accessed via Moodle or from the Postgraduate Administrator.

Your supervisor will submit the completed research proposal to the Postgraduate Committee at least two months prior to the beginning of the semester in which you will begin your thesis or dissertation (i.e. by December for a semester one start or by May for a semester two start).

For more information on the proposal process, or to submit your proposal, please contact [lgs@laidlaw.ac.nz](mailto:lgs@laidlaw.ac.nz).

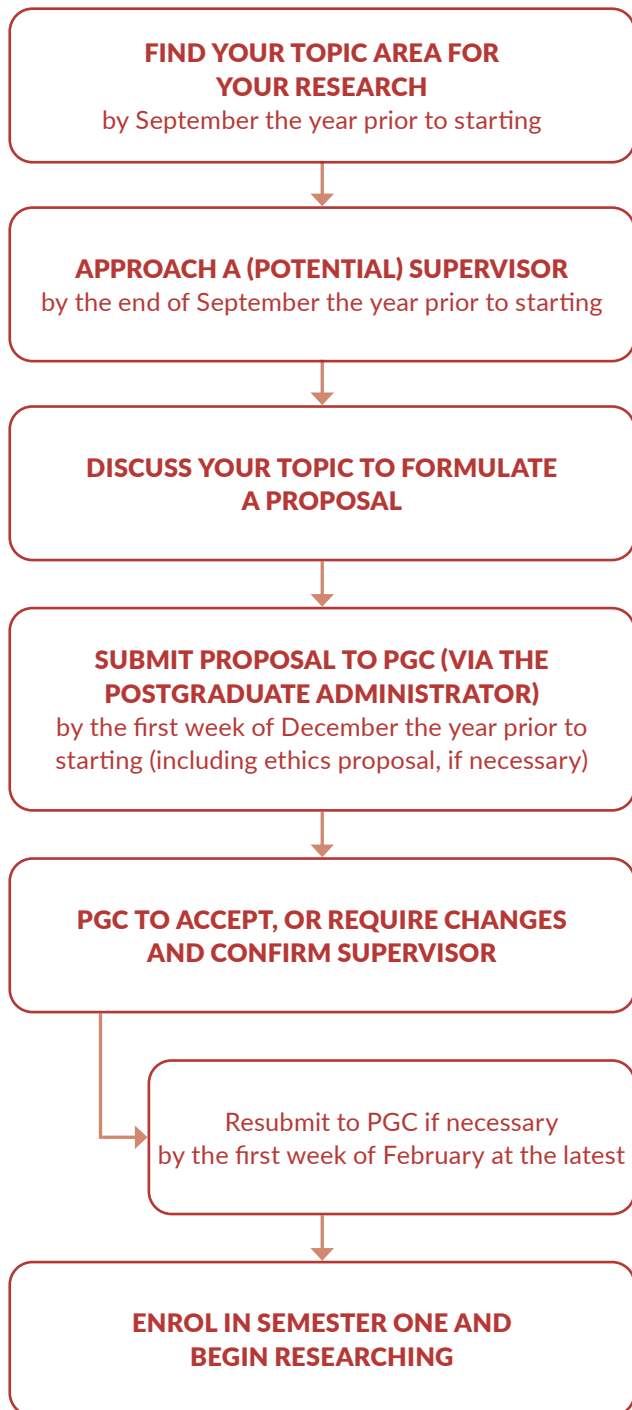
## Level 9 Research Timeline

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In any given year, students should submit proposals in the first week in December for enrolment the following February; the first week in June for enrolment in July.

Where applicable, students should consult the Ethics Protocol for approval for Human Subject Research located in the General Information and Regulations section of the Academic Calendar of Laidlaw College – [www.laidlaw.ac.nz/gen-regs](http://www.laidlaw.ac.nz/gen-regs).

### *February Enrolment (Semester One)*



### *July Enrolment (Semester Two)*



# Supervision

## *Appointment of Supervisors*

The Postgraduate Committee, in consultation with the candidate, will appoint a supervisor for each research student studying at LGS. Any choice of supervisor initiated by the candidate is, up to that point, provisional upon the approval of the Postgraduate Committee. Students shall discuss their study with their supervisor on a regular, defined schedule.

## *Supervision Contract*

An explanation of both the duties of students and the duties of supervisors is available from the Postgraduate Administrator. Based on their discussion of these standard expectations, the student and supervisor(s) should draw up a written understanding of how the supervision of the thesis will operate, once a proposal has been accepted by the Postgraduate Committee. A proforma supervision contract is available from the Postgraduate Administrator.

## *Research Progress Reports*

Research Progress Reports are to be completed by all MTh research candidates, and their supervisor, for every semester they are enrolled. Students submit their report to their supervisor by 23 March and 23 August. Supervisors then add their comments and submit the report to the Postgraduate Administrator by 30 March and 30 August. The Postgraduate Committee is notified of any issues.

## *Duties of Laidlaw Graduate School*

Students have the right to be well-informed about the LGS examination procedure, the research profile of the supervisor, the presentation requirements of LGS, and any facilities and services to which they are entitled. Problems arising from supervision and disputes which cannot be satisfactorily resolved should be referred to the Postgraduate Committee through the Head of Theology for a review.

## *Writing your Thesis/Dissertation*

All students must use a recognised academic style for footnoting and bibliographic formatting. The required referencing style is either SBL or Turabian (with SBL the preferred style from 2023). Students should consult the Laidlaw College 'Guidelines for Written Assignments' available on Moodle.

## *Plagiarism*

It should be noted that plagiarism at level 8 and 9 is considered a serious academic transgression and is not acceptable in any form. Significant plagiarism will be regarded as a disciplinary matter and will result in the failure of the course. Please also refer to the General Regulations Document for a full outline of plagiarism regulations.



# Submission / Thesis Dissertation

## Thesis

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The thesis is to be in A4 format, in 11- or 12-point type script, in at least one and a half line spacing with a left-hand margin of at least 30 mm in width and left justified only. Each thesis must be accompanied by a cover sheet. These are available from the Postgraduate Administrator and need to be signed by the student and supervisor. The thesis must be submitted on Moodle to be checked for plagiarism and as a record of the date of submission. The thesis must have the title, author's name, the institution (Laidlaw Graduate School), year of submission and the award on the front cover. The first page should state the title, author's name, institution (Laidlaw Graduate School), the year and the wording, 'A thesis submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements of the MTh.' There should also be a disclaimer of plagiarism, 'No other source has been used for this thesis except where due acknowledgement has been made in the text.' The thesis must include an abstract, not exceeding 500 words, in a form suitable for separate publication and included as the first page after the table of contents.

Two printed hard copies (spiralbound) is optional though may be required at the examiners request. If requested by the examiner the PG administrator will print and bind.

## Dissertation

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Dissertations should be in A4 format, in 11 or 12-point type script, in at least one and a half line spacing with a left-hand margin of at least 30 mm in width, and left justified only. The dissertation must be accompanied by a cover sheet. These are available from the Postgraduate Administrator and need to be signed by the student and supervisor. The dissertation must be submitted on Moodle to be checked for plagiarism and as a record of the date of submission. The dissertation must have the title, author's name, the institution (Laidlaw Graduate School), year of submission and award on the front cover. The first page should repeat the title, author's name, institution (Laidlaw Graduate School), the year and the wording, 'A dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements of the MTh.' There should also be a disclaimer of plagiarism, 'No other source has been used for this dissertation except where due acknowledgement has been made in the text.' Dissertations should contain a synopsis of about 300 words.

Two printed hard copies (spiralbound) is optional though may be required at the examiners request. If requested by the examiner the PG administrator will print and bind.

## Extension to Thesis or Dissertation

For students who have come to the end of their enrolment in the Thesis or Dissertation, but have not yet completed their research to a suitable state for submission, one extension of one further semester can be applied for.

An application must be received prior to the original due date of the research project. If an extension application is not received and the paper is not submitted by the due date, the enrolment will be considered to have lapsed and the student will be awarded a grade of "Did Not Complete" (DNC).

- A maximum of one extension per thesis/dissertation will be granted.
- Extensions will only be considered for those enrolled in the final portion of their thesis or dissertation.
- The student should use the Application for Extension to Thesis/Dissertation Form.
- This application must be supported in writing by the research supervisor.
- Conditions may be placed on the extension, such as meeting milestones.
- The form should be submitted for consideration to the Postgraduate Committee, via the Postgraduate Administrator. There is a cost of \$800 to apply for extended status.

# Examination

The MTh thesis and dissertation will be examined by two appropriately qualified examiners, one of whom must be external to Laidlaw, appointed by the Postgraduate Committee. Examinations typically take two to three months, and examiners remain confidential.

Research submitted for the MTh will be evaluated according to the Laidlaw College grading system (see the General Information and Regulations section of the Academic Calendar) based on the following criteria:

- (1) Literary style and presentation: skilful use of prose; coherence; clarity; academic bibliographic and footnoting format.
- (2) Advanced independent research skills: breadth of reading across a variety of viewpoints; accurate representation of scholarly discussion; appreciation of complexity of debate; historical awareness in use of sources.
- (3) Critical evaluation: analysis and synthesis of strengths and weaknesses of existing approaches; ability to sustain a point of view with evidence; critical interaction with international scholarly debate; well-supported conclusions.
- (4) Integration of biblical and theological principles with central issues in the subject area, utilising sound hermeneutical principles.
- (5) Awareness of contribution of the area of research to the wider academic, ecclesial, missional or social environment; awareness of the professional, ethical and relational implications of their study for ministry.
- (6) For theses, overall depth of engagement with topic; ability to marshal and interpret a substantial body of evidence. The examiners are required to report recommending that:
  - (a) the thesis be passed with an assigned letter grade;
  - (b) the thesis be passed with an assigned letter grade provided the minor amendments in the examiners' reports are completed to the satisfaction of the student's supervisor;
  - (c) the thesis not be passed, but opportunity be given for the thesis to be rewritten and resubmitted for examination; or
  - (d) the thesis not be passed, with no opportunity for resubmission.

The PGC will award a grade based on the recommendation of examiners. In the event that the examiners disagree on the grade to be awarded the following will occur:

- The Postgraduate Committee will ask the examiners to exchange reports and attempt to reach agreement on the grade to be awarded. If the examiners cannot agree but the difference is within 2 points the Postgraduate Committee will make a decision.

- If the examiners cannot agree to within 2 grade points an external moderator will be appointed to consider the reports and recommend a grade to the Committee. The Postgraduate Committee (or the Academic Head as representative) will then make a decision based on the recommendations.
- If one examiner recommends failing the thesis or dissertation and the other recommends a pass, a third examiner will be appointed. The Postgraduate Committee (or the Academic Head as representative) will then make a decision based on the recommendations.

## *Making Corrections to marked Thesis and Dissertations*

If thesis or dissertation examiners have required corrections to be made, students are required to complete those corrections within six weeks of being notified of their result. If corrections have not been completed by eight weeks, the Postgraduate Lead will consider appropriate action which may include a further formal extension (which includes the associated enrolment fee of \$800) or allocating a DNC in consultation with the Postgraduate Committee.

## *Extension for Resubmission*

An extension of one semester will be granted in cases where a thesis or dissertation has been examined and has not been passed, but given the opportunity to be rewritten and submitted for examination. The fee incurred for such an extension will be the equivalent of a normal semester's extension of \$800.

## *Thesis/Dissertation Final Submission*

The degree will not be awarded without a final copy of the research, corrected in accordance with the submission requirements, being presented to the Academic Head for inclusion in the Deane Memorial Library of Laidlaw College.

The final copy is required to be hardbound. It must have the title, author's name, the institution (Laidlaw Graduate School), year of submission and award in gold-blocked lettering on the front cover and the same on the spine (with abbreviated title). Copies should be single sided, 35mm on the left side, 20mm all around with 1.5 spacing. For bound hardcopies, Laidlaw recommends The Bookbindery ([thebookbindery.co.nz](http://thebookbindery.co.nz)).

In addition to the hardbound copy an electronic copy should also be submitted to the Deane Memorial Library by email or USB, accompanied by a Consent Form, available from the Postgraduate Administrator.



## Merit and Distinction

The MTh may be awarded with Merit where a grade point average of 7.5 (B+) is achieved; with Distinction if a grade point average of 8.0 (A-) or greater is achieved. In cases of a narrow margin, the grade of the thesis or dissertation will be considered the determinant.

These designations are available only to those who meet the standard due dates (without taking advantage of the extension).

## Graduation

Students should consult the Laidlaw website [www.laidlaw.ac.nz](http://www.laidlaw.ac.nz) for information on graduation.

# Creative Works Research

A student may choose to complete a research Master of Theology through a thesis/dissertation comprising of a creative work with an associated exegesis concerning that work.

Supervision of the student and their project should be carried out by one of more supervisors.

## What are creative practices/creative works?

- Creative practice research embraces post-formal ways of knowing i.e. critical thinking expressed via symbolic representation.
- It operates at interdisciplinary borders in order to contribute to knowledge i.e. theology and creative writing.
- It recognises that mainstream or conventional academic studies do not always align or adequately/appropriately express knowledge in some subject areas i.e. interpreting poetry, creative writing, art, understanding human experience, understanding emotions or feelings (desire, love, grief, awe), articulating God.

## The creative works pathway: Master of Theology (Laidlaw College)

### *Thesis/Dissertation presentation comprising an exhibition of creative work and exegesis (project narrative).*

The creative works component comprises an exhibition of creative work which may take the form of performance (dance, theatre, haka, waiata), manuscript (novella, novel, anthology, music), fine arts exhibition (whakairo, raranga/textiles/weaving, photography, painting) or another creative endeavour approved by the Academic Head. This creative work must be undertaken during the period of enrolment in the Master of Theology, that is, it cannot be something that was completed beforehand. The exegesis is a critical narrative accompanying the creative work of 20000 words for a 120 credit Master's thesis; 15000 words for 90 credit thesis, 10000 words for a 60 credit dissertation. The thesis is delivered in two parts:

#### **[A] CREATIVE WORKS PATHWAY ARTEFACT/EXHIBIT**

- intentional creation and curation of a creative artefact
- the artefact performatively enquires into an issue of biblical or theological significance
- the artefact integrates aesthetics, artistic expertise and theology with sophistication
- the artefact is compellingly presented, performed or exhibited

#### **[B] CREATIVE WORKS PATHWAY EXEGESIS/NARRATIVE CHAPTER FORMAT/SECTIONS (EXEMPLAR):**

- A critical introduction and framing
- A robust review of the literature
- Detailed description of methodologies
- Discussion of relevant theoretical, theological and critical context
- Discussion which overviews and undergirds the creative work
- Discussion of outcomes/contribution to the discipline of theology/biblical studies

### ***Submission for Examination***

1. The Academic Head shall consult the thesis supervisors as to whether the creative and exegetical elements are submitted at the same time for examination or whether the exegetical element be examined first, with a subsequent examination of the creative element (e.g. as part of an exhibition or performance) at a later date.
2. The exegetical element of the thesis should be submitted for examination as per the regular Laidlaw Graduate School requirements for a written thesis.
3. The creative element of the thesis should be submitted in an appropriate form for examination as per the guidance of the Graduate School. Where appropriate a discussion may be scheduled between the student and examiners in the presence of an exhibition/presentation of the creative element

### ***Examination of a creative works thesis***

The creative works MTh is examined by an internal and external scholar with relevant specialisation and understanding/appreciation of creative works pathways. Some creative works can be examined in the usual way (thesis emailed to examiners) i.e. manuscript, anthology etc. For a performed or exhibited artefact, the student must work with the college to identify a location (usually on campus), and time so that both examiners have an opportunity to engage with the creative work. The exegesis is provided to the examiners in advance.

### ***Final Submission to the Library after Examination***

The degree will not be awarded without a final copy of the research, corrected in accordance with the submission requirements, being presented to the Academic Head for inclusion in the Deane Memorial Library of Laidlaw College.

For a creative works thesis this involves the following.

1. A copy of the exegetical element of the thesis as per the guidelines in the Laidlaw Graduate Handbook section Thesis/Dissertation Final Submission.
2. Documentary evidence of the creative work, if the work itself is unable to be lodged with the library.

This evidence may include:

- Audio/visual material from the creative element;
- Audio/visual material and photographs documenting the creative element;
- Other appropriate evidence as required by the Library.

### ***Planning ahead***

Creative Works pathways are for postgraduate students who are invested in exploring theological or biblical studies via creative or performative practices. There are opportunities at most New Zealand universities to continue at doctoral level in creative works mode. Creative Works pathways are readily accepted and considered mainstream at both AUT and Auckland University. Some international universities and some NZ theological schools do not recognise creative works pathways so this should be considered by the student when selecting this pathway.

## Postgraduate Study Support

Students commence postgraduate study with the goal of completing. Laidlaw's postgraduate programmes are adapted to part-time study and many find this is the only viable option. However this can mean a long arduous journey to completion. Laidlaw is therefore committed to facilitating full-time and accelerated study. The Summer Semester allows students to advance their study research goals, potentially completing 240 credits in less than two full years.

### Laidlaw Library

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Welcome to the Laidlaw Library: [www.laidlaw.ac.nz/library](http://www.laidlaw.ac.nz/library)

Students are encouraged to make the Library homepage their first port of call. There is a wealth of information on the homepage, including links to resources via 'One Stop Search' and the Library catalogue.

In addition to the homepage, there is a library brochure specifically designed for postgraduate students. Other libraries and archives of interest are listed in the brochure.

Tailor-made services for postgraduate students are provided. When a Block Course is being taught, specific books are placed on Desk Copy and Short Loan if material is in high demand. Up to 30 books can be borrowed at a time with a 90-day loan period. However, books can be recalled for another borrower after two weeks and are then required to be returned within three days. The library can also request items on interloan from other libraries in order to keep students fully resourced. The Library subsidises interloans so the cost is only \$5 per item.

LGS students may arrange access to the Ayson Clifford Library of Carey Baptist College ([www.carey.ac.nz](http://www.carey.ac.nz)) and to the Colin Library of Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College.

### Postgraduate Student Support

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Each year a postgraduate student representative is elected. This person is available to assist postgraduate students with student life issues.

### The Blaiklock Centre

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All full time research students may apply to the Postgraduate Administrator for study space in the Blaiklock Centre. The purpose of this space is to create a community of support and discovery for postgraduate students writing their theses.



# Scholarships

## Farmer Fund Postgraduate Scholarship

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**Amount:** 100% tuition fees (excludes student services fee)

**Eligibility:** Any student engaged in full-time research through Laidlaw College in conjunction with the Laidlaw College MTh, AUT MPhil, AUT PhD, or ACT postgraduate programmes<sup>1</sup>

With the generous assistance of the Farmer Fund, Laidlaw College offers up to six annual tuition scholarships to students researching in an area of applied or practical theology. This could include an interdisciplinary project engaging with theology and one or more other disciplines such as education or counselling, or could be an application of theology to a particular sphere of life. A central requirement of these scholarships is the expectation that a practical report or professional resource will be produced alongside the thesis or dissertation itself for the benefit of the church and/or wider community in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Research projects within the Laidlaw College MTh, AUT MPhil, AUT PhD or ACT postgraduate research programmes may be eligible. Securing the support of an approved Laidlaw College research supervisor for the project is a requirement of the scholarship. Students within research programmes spanning multiple years of full-time study, such as PhD or DMin programmes, may apply annually for subsequent tuition funding.

Scholarships will be awarded on the basis of academic and leadership potential and project suitability. Laidlaw College reserves the right not to award any scholarship in any given application round.

Please complete the online application form on the Laidlaw website (<https://www.laidlaw.ac.nz/scholarships/>) and attach the following:

1. **Evidence of eligibility, including institution, programme of study, and supervisor(s) name(s)**
2. **A full academic transcript**
3. **A research plan**
4. **The names of two referees (one of which must be an academic referee).**

<sup>1</sup> ACT postgraduate programmes (MA, DMin or PhD) are offered under the accreditation of The Australian College of Theology, not the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA), and as such are not eligible for student loans.

## Matt Alexander Postgraduate Scholarship (Māori)

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**Amount:** \$5,000 per semester plus 100% of tuition fees (excludes student services fee)

**Eligibility:** Any Māori student entering their thesis research year within the MTh programme

With the generous assistance of the Longview trust, Laidlaw offers one Master of Theology Scholarship to a Māori student each year. Each Scholarship is worth \$10,000 per year, to which Laidlaw will add a full fees scholarship.

The priority will be students entering the thesis research year. In such cases the scholarship will be for a period of one year (two semesters). In exceptional cases up to three semesters of full-time study (including coursework) may be approved – i.e. \$15,000 plus tuition fees).

1. Applicants will be theology or ministry graduates, engaged in or qualified to enter Laidlaw's Master of Theology programme. The scholarships will be for full-time study at Laidlaw for a thesis-based Master of Theology degree.
2. Scholarships will be awarded on the basis of academic and leadership potential. Laidlaw reserves the right not to award either or any scholarship in any given round.

Please complete the online application form ([www.laidlaw.ac.nz/scholarships](http://www.laidlaw.ac.nz/scholarships)), and attach the following:

1. Evidence of eligibility
2. A full academic transcript
3. A study plan
4. The names of two referees.

Successful applicants will meet with members of the Longview Trust to discuss their plans and study.

## Matt Alexander Postgraduate Scholarship (Pasifika)

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**Amount:** \$5,000 per semester plus 100% of tuition fees (excludes student services fee)

**Eligibility:** Any Pasifika student entering their thesis research year within the MTh programme

With the generous assistance of the Longview trust, Laidlaw offers one Master of Theology Scholarship to one Pasifika student each year. Each Scholarship is worth \$10,000 per year, to which Laidlaw will add a full fees scholarship.

The priority will be students entering the thesis research year. In such cases the scholarship will be for a period of one year (two semesters). In exceptional cases up to three semesters of full-time study (including coursework) may be approved – ie \$15,000 plus fees).

1. Applicants will be theology or ministry graduates, engaged in or qualified to enter Laidlaw's Master of Theology programme. The scholarships will be for full-time study at Laidlaw for a thesis-based Master of Theology degree.
2. Scholarships will be awarded on the basis of academic and leadership potential. Laidlaw reserves the right not to award either or any scholarship in any given round.

Please complete the online application form ([www.laidlaw.ac.nz/scholarships](http://www.laidlaw.ac.nz/scholarships)), and attach the following:

1. Evidence of eligibility
2. A full academic transcript
3. A study plan
4. The names of two referees.

Successful applicants will meet with members of the Longview Trust to discuss their plans and study.

## International Postgraduate Scholarship

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**Amount:** \$3,000 for PGDipTh / \$5,000 for MTh

**Eligibility:** Any first year postgraduate international student (Postgraduate Diploma in Theology and Master of Theology students)

The presence of international students at Laidlaw College adds significantly to the richness and vibrancy of our classrooms, scholarship and community life. We are committed to being an intercultural college and welcome participation in our programmes from students from abroad.

To qualify for consideration of the award of a scholarship you should meet the following criteria:

1. Demonstrate a commitment to what it means to being a Christian.
2. Be able to show evidence of a high level of academic achievement in your previous tertiary study history in completed qualifications, and a high level of community involvement.
3. Be able to provide an academic reference as to your ability.
4. Have applied for and been accepted to a programme of study at Laidlaw College.

The link for the scholarship application form will be sent on receipt of a completed application to study.

## Liddle Scholarship for International Students

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**Amount:** Up to \$1,500

**Eligibility:** Any current undergraduate/postgraduate (PGDipTh & MTh) international student

The presence of international students at Laidlaw College adds significantly to the richness and vibrancy of our classrooms, scholarship and community life. We are committed to being an intercultural college and welcome participation in our programmes from students from abroad.

To qualify for consideration of the award of a scholarship you should meet the following criteria:

1. Be able to show evidence of academic achievement in your first year of study at Laidlaw College, and involvement in the Laidlaw community.
2. Demonstrate genuine financial hardship.

Please complete the online application form ([www.laidlaw.ac.nz/scholarships](http://www.laidlaw.ac.nz/scholarships))





#### **HENDERSON & DISTANCE LEARNING**

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