

Master of Theology (MTh)



level 9, 120, 180 or 240 credits

Flexible Study Options

Postgraduate taught courses involve block-mode lectures, allowing for those outside of the Auckland region to take part. If a student's situation prevents them from being able to come to campus to attend in-person, they can seek approval from the Postgraduate Lead to attend the lectures via zoom.

**Note that, apart from R351, Postgraduate courses do not have a Distance Learning option - live engagement in the lectures is a necessary part of postgraduate study at Laidlaw.*

Programme Requirements

Level 8 entry:

The MTh degree may be completed with **180 credits** where the candidate has completed a recognized 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.

The MTh degree requires **240 credits** 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.

Level 9 entry:

The MTh degree may be completed with **120 credits** where the candidate has completed a four-year Honours degree in Theology or Ministry with first or second class Honours **OR** a Postgraduate Diploma in Theology with a grade point average of 7.0 (B).

2024 Fees

2024 fees will be confirmed in October 2023.

Postgraduate Scholarships

Laidlaw College provides access to a number of postgraduate scholarships and funds for students studying in New Zealand. Please see the Laidlaw website for more details: www.laidlaw.ac.nz/scholarships

Laidlaw Postgraduate Courses 2024

Semester One 2024

R223.830 THEOLOGY AND MEDIA

Dr Stephen Garner
4-8 March | 9.30am - 12.30pm
13-17 May | 9.30am - 12.30pm

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.

R512.830 FOUNDATIONS OF MINISTRY SUPERVISION

Dr Stephen Garner
4-8 March | 9.30am - 12.30pm
13-17 May | 9.30am - 12.30pm

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.

Note: Entry to this course is normally through enrolment in the PG Cert Th (Ministry Supervision). If you are enrolled in a different programme, please contact the Postgraduate Administrator to see if you are eligible to select this course.

*pending NZQA approval

R514.830 THE ETHICS OF EMBODIMENT*

Rev. Dr Myk Habets
12-18 April | 9.30am - 4.30pm

Unlock the complexities of bio-medical ethics from robust Christian foundations in our thought-provoking and captivating course designed to explore the most pressing moral dilemmas of our time. In a rapidly advancing medical landscape, it's crucial for professionals, pastors, and individuals alike to grapple with the ethical challenges surrounding issues such as euthanasia, abortion, organ donation, end-of-life decisions, disability, public policy, and more.

R154.830 ROMANS AND THE MISSION OF GOD

Rev. Dr Mark Keown
29 April - 3 May | 9.30am - 4.30pm

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. Paul's gospel behind and in the letter will be explored. Drawing on Romans, a range of missional themes will be investigated including 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 State, culture, Israel, theology, and apologetics

R801.830 THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS FOR EDUCATION IN AOTEAROA

Sam Burrows
17 - 19 April | 9.30am - 4.30pm

In this course students will engage in biblical theology and make links to the cultural landscapes in the educational context of Aotearoa. The course will provide an opportunity to engage in discussion around Christian theology and how it relates to the vocation of teaching, Christian education, and this current cultural moment. The cultural influences and formation of Christian teachers and their spirituality will also be a focus of the course.

Semester Two 2024

R351.830 POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH AND WRITING

Dr Terry Pouono and Rev. Dr Sarah Penwarden
By distance throughout the Semester.

See description from Semester One.

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

Dr Greg Liston
25-26 July | 9.30am - 4.30pm
16-20 Sept | 9.30am - 4.30pm

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 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 the 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.

R513.830 DEVELOPING A MINISTRY SUPERVISION PRACTICE

Rev. Dr David Crawley and Rev. Dr Karen Kemp
31 July - 2 Aug | 9.30am - 4.30pm
11-13 Sept | 9.30am - 4.30pm
Pre-requisite: R512.830

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.

Note: Entry to this course is normally through enrolment in the PGCertTh (Ministry Supervision). If you are enrolled in a different programme, please contact the Postgraduate Administrator to see if you are eligible to select this course.

R115.830 INTERPERSONAL FORGIVENESS IN THE BIBLE AND THE WORLD

Dr Richard Neville
5-9 Aug | 9.30am - 4.30pm
21-25 Oct | 9.30am - 4.30pm

Interpersonal forgiveness is one of the most profound ethical teachings bequeathed to us, and yet it has received surprisingly little attention from biblical scholars. This course is an opportunity to explore the biblical teaching on forgiveness in a focused manner. The engine room of the course will be a careful reading of texts from the Old and New Testaments. We will sharpen our work in the text by setting it in the context of other biblical themes, and by bringing it into dialogue with insights from other disciplines and with the realities of true-life stories of forgiveness.

R508.830 REFLECTIVE PRACTICE FOR MINISTRY

Rev. Dr Maja Whitaker and Rev. Dr Graeme Flett
19-23 August | 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. and all learning is grounded in the student's own ministry context.

R510.830 ADVANCED PREACHING

Reuben Munn
26-30 August | 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.

Semester Two 2024 continued

R802.830 THEOLOGICAL RESPONSES TO ISSUES IN EDUCATION IN AOTEAROA

Sam Burrows

2-4 October | 9:30am - 4:30pm

Pre-requisite: R801.830

In this course students will engage with a selection of current issues and challenges experienced in educational contexts in Aotearoa. This course builds upon the Theological Foundations for Education in Aotearoa course, and pays close attention to the ways culture, context, and theology influences teaching in Aotearoa today.

READY TO APPLY? ANY QUESTIONS?

0800 999 777

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UPDATED 7 SEPTEMBER 2023