

CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY (BA)

Program Description

A degree in Christian Theology from Seattle Pacific University prepares you to live your life with depth and conviction in whatever field you choose. That might mean serving in an overseas relief agency or with a nonprofit organization. It might mean working in the business sector, health care, education, or other professional area. Or it might mean going on to pursue graduate study in theology in order to serve God in the church or the academy.

Regardless of your path, the faculty of the School of Theology knows that *what* you believe is only one aspect of Christian faith. It also matters *how* you live out that faith. With our distinctive understanding of theological education (Academy, Abbey, and Apostolate (<https://spu.edu/academics/school-of-theology/about/academy-abbey-and-apostolate/>)), a degree in Christian Theology from SPU will help you learn to understand your faith so that, in partnership with the Holy Spirit, you might translate it into a way of life that engages the culture and changes the world.

This degree offers a transformative encounter with Scripture and the Christian tradition, preparing students to deepen their own Christian faith, nurture Christian faith in others, and serve as agents of reconciliation in diverse settings.

Entering and Completing the Major

In order to earn a degree, you must complete at least one academic major. SPU encourages students to explore various academic paths, so if you change your mind about a major, or want to include an additional program, you are able to do so, as outlined below.

Note that the University encourages you to enter your chosen major(s) as soon as you have determined it and are eligible to join it, especially by the start of your junior year. Students who transfer as juniors and seniors should enter a major within their first two quarters at SPU.

- If this is your first quarter at SPU and you identified a major in this department as your first choice on your application for admission to the University, you have gained entry to the major. To change or add a major, follow these instructions (<https://spu.atlassian.net/l/cp/a3th1keb/>).
- If you are an SPU student with an SPU cumulative GPA of 2.0 or better, follow these instructions (<https://spu.atlassian.net/l/cp/a3th1keb/>) to enter a major in this department.
- The University requires a grade of C- or better in all classes that apply to a major; however, programs may require higher minimum grades in specific courses. You may repeat an SPU course only once for a higher grade.
- To advance in this program, meet with your faculty advisor regularly to discuss your grades, course progression, and other indicators of satisfactory academic progress. If your grades or other factors indicate that you may not be able to successfully complete the major or minor, your faculty advisor can work with you to explore options, which may include choosing a different major.
- You must complete the major requirements that are in effect in the SPU Undergraduate Catalog for the year you enter the major.

Christian Theology (BA)

50 Credits Minimum, Including 30 Upper Division (UD)

Code	Title	Credits
University Foundations Courses - 10 Credits		
UFDN 2000	Christian Scripture or UFDN 300 Christian Scripture for Transfer Students	
UFDN 3100	Christian Theology	
Section credits required		10
Christian Scripture Courses - 10 Credits		
THEO 3100	Community Bible Study ¹	
THEO 3110	Torah/Pentateuch: The Old Testament Gospel	
THEO 3210	Four Gospels and One Jesus	
THEO 3250	Biblical Texts: Old Testament	
THEO 3255	Biblical Texts: New Testament	
THEO 3260	Biblical Topics	
THEO 4250	Biblical Exegesis ²	
Section Credits Required		10
Christian Life and Ministry Courses - 10 Credits		
THEO 2620	Global and Urban Ministry	
THEO 2725	Christian Spirituality and Discipleship	
THEO 2730	Biblical and Theological Introduction to Christian Reconciliation	
THEO 3640	Intercultural Ministry	
THEO 3710	Human Development and Christian Faith	
THEO 3715	Youth Cultures and Christian Faith	
THEO 3722	Christian Disciplines	
THEO 3730	Foundations of Youth Ministry	
THEO 3735	Youth Ministry as Mission and Evangelism	
THEO 3780	Wesleyan Small Group: New Leader Training	
THEO 4720	Leadership in Society	
THEO 4730	Advanced Topics in Reconciliation Studies	
THEO 4780	Leading a Wesleyan Small Group ³	
THEO 4911	Worship Arts Leadership Seminar	
THEO 4931	Worship Arts Leadership Practicum	
Section Credits Required		10
Theological Studies Courses - 10 Credits		
THEO 3303	Christianity in America	
THEO 3304	Christian Heritage	
THEO 3331	Women in Christianity	
THEO 3401	Exploring Christian Theology	
THEO 3403	History and Theology of Christian Worship	
THEO 3500	Christ and Culture	
THEO 3501	Christian Ethics	
THEO 3510	Theology, Culture, and Society	
THEO 3515	World Christianity	
THEO 3540	Creation Care	
THEO 4610	World Religions	
Section Credits Required		10
Theology Electives (any other THEO Course, or any of the following) - 5 credits		
THEO 1201	Hebrew I	
THEO 1202	Hebrew II	
THEO 1203	Hebrew III	
THEO 4900	Independent Study	

THEO 4930	Practicum	
THEO 4950	Special Topics	
Section Credits Required		5
Final Coursework - 5 Credits		
THEO 4899	Christian Theology Capstone	2
THEO 4940	Internship	3
or THEO 4995	Thesis	
Total Credits		50

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May be repeated for up to four credits.

2

Requires 3110 or 3210 as a pre-requisite.

3

May be repeated up to 4 credits.

Suggested Course Sequence

The SPU Christian Theology major is designed to be light and flexible, making it an ideal choice for a first or second major.

Only 15 of the required credits are tied to specific courses, all of which are offered every year (UFDN 2000 Christian Scripture or UFDN 3001 Christian Scripture for Transfer Students, UFDN 3100 Christian Theology, THEO Capstone, and THEO Internship or Thesis). The remaining credits may be completed by choosing from among an array of courses that are mostly offered every other year. Thus, students may spread their THEO courses throughout their years at SPU (as it is described in this suggested course sequence), or complete most of the major within as little as four or five quarters. Students pursuing high-credit majors, for instance, often pack most of their theology courses into the quarters where their primary major has lighter load requirements.

Most THEO courses do not have pre-requisites, and of those that do, most only require UFDN courses— so prioritize taking those as early as you can in your SPU career. Recall that “traditional” four-year students take UFDN 1000 The Christian Faith, UFDN 2000 Christian Scripture, and UFDN 3100 Christian Theology, while transfer students who enter SPU with junior status take UFDN 3001 Christian Scripture for Transfer Students and UFDN 3100 Christian Theology.

On this, please note: while UFDN 2000 Christian Scripture is set up to exclude those who have not achieved sophomore status, and UFDN 3100 Christian Theology is set up to exclude those who have not achieved junior status, a student in their spring quarter may ask for permission to take the next-level course if there are seats available. So, for example, a freshman student who has already taken UFDN 1000 The Christian Faith may seek permission to take UFDN 2000 Christian Scripture in the spring of their freshman year if any of the available sections aren’t full.

Course	Title	Credits
Freshman		
Autumn or Winter		
UFDN 1000	The Christian Faith	5
Credits		5
Winter or Spring		
After UFDN 1000, take one Christian Life & Ministry course (5 credits). Some recommendations:		5
THEO 2620	Global and Urban Ministry	
THEO 2725	Christian Spirituality and Discipleship	

THEO 2730	Biblical and Theological Introduction to Christian Reconciliation	
Credits		5

Sophomore

Autumn or Winter

UFDN 2000	Christian Scripture	5
Credits		5

Winter or Spring

After UFDN 2000, take one Christian Scripture course (5 credits). Some recommendations:

THEO 3110	Torah/Pentateuch: The Old Testament Gospel	
THEO 3210	Four Gospels and One Jesus	
THEO 3250	Biblical Texts: Old Testament	
THEO 3255	Biblical Texts: New Testament	
Take one additional Christian Life and Ministry course		5
THEO 3260	Biblical Topics	
Credits		10

Junior

Autumn or Winter

UFDN 3100	Christian Theology ¹	5
Credits		5

Winter or Spring

After UFDN 3100, take one Theological Studies course

Take one additional Christian Scripture Course

Decide whether you'll do a thesis or an internship and begin planning with your faculty advisor.

Credits **10**

Senior

Winter or Spring

Take one more Theological Studies course

Take one more THEO course as your elective

Take THEO 4899 Capstone (typically winter quarter)

THEO 4940 Internship
or THEO 4995 or Thesis

Credits **15**

Total Credits **55**

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If you transfer to SPU with Junior status, take UFDN 3001 Christian Scripture for Transfer Students