

THD: DOCTOR OF THEOLOGY

the instructor and the chair of their advisory committee, write a tentative proposal (or pre-proposal). During the following semesters, but normally not later than the last semester of course work, students must submit a final proposal that is approved by their advisory committee and prepared for submission to the PhD-ThD Committee.

The proposal must contain the preliminary bibliography, a clear statement of the problem, a description of the methodology to be employed, a basic survey of pertinent literature, and a list of tentative chapter and subsection titles.

After the dissertation proposal is approved and the student has passed the comprehensive examinations, he/she registers in GSEM995 for 1–16 dissertation credits for up to six semesters. If the dissertation is not completed after all 16 dissertation credits have been taken, the candidate must register for GSEM888 every semester, and pay a continuation fee (\$105.00) until the dissertation is completed and the defense held, or until the time limit has expired.

Dissertation Preparation

The dissertation prepared by the PhD candidate must

1. Make an original contribution to scholarship.
2. Demonstrate the candidate's competence to do independent research.
3. Reveal the candidate's familiarity with and proficiency in handling the pertinent literature.
4. Present a logically organized, methodologically sound, and readable account of the investigation, findings, conclusions, and implications of the study.

Oral Defense

A minimum of two academic years of formal course work or not fewer than four semesters of full-time study at 12 credits per semester is required. This amounts to a minimum of 48 credits of formal course work, 24 credits of which must consist of seminars, directed study, and reading courses. The student chooses a field of study and within that field an area of emphasis to which at least one-half (24 credits) of the course work is devoted. The student also chooses a supporting area, normally in another field, to which at least one-fourth (12 credits) of the course work is devoted. Of the remaining 12 credits of course work, 3 are used in GSEM854 and 9 in GSEM860. Students with recognized experience as college/graduate-level teachers may devote the latter 3 credits (together with the other remaining 3 credits) to the subject of minor revisions.

The oral defense is conducted by the dissertation defense committee and is held no later than four weeks before the degree is conferred.

To pass the oral defense, candidates must receive a vote of approval from at least four of the five examiners. The committee used in GSEM854 and 9 in GSEM860. Students with recognized experience as college/graduate-level teachers may devote the latter 3 credits (together with the other remaining 3 credits) to the subject of minor revisions.

1. Acceptance of the dissertation as presented.
2. Acceptance of the dissertation subject to minor revisions.
3. Acceptance of the dissertation subject to major revisions.
4. Rejection of the dissertation.

Normally, rejection of a dissertation terminates the student's doctoral candidacy, but the PhD-ThD Committee may consider whether to allow him/her to prepare and submit another dissertation and what specific requirements would apply (including possible further course work and additional comprehensive examinations).

After the defense

- The student makes all corrections.
- The deadline for dissertations to be submitted to the Dissertation Secretary with the signed approval page is no later than Wednesday, 10 days before graduation.

Strict adherence to this deadline or graduation is postponed.

For more detailed guidelines and scheduling see the PhD in Religion Handbook. A copy may be accessed online at: www.andrews.edu/SEM/Articles/PhD/PhD-Handbook.pdf.

_____, Director

The primary purpose of advanced academic studies leading to the Doctor of Theology (ThD) degree is to provide teacher-scholars in the fields of biblical and theological studies for the Seventh-day Adventist Church—primarily its institutions of higher learning (colleges, seminaries, universities) around the world. This academic degree meets the need of individuals in areas of the world where a ThD is the preferred academic degree. The normal doctorate in religion is the PhD.

The ThD program is offered in two fields of study with areas of emphasis as listed below.

Archaeology and History
Exegesis and Theology
Languages and Literature

Historical Theology
Systematic Theology

One who holds a Doctor of Theology degree should possess the following qualifications:

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FKRVH@LVFLSOLQH
FKRVH@LVFLSOLQH

Admission Requirements

All applicants must meet the general admission requirements listed in the Graduate Programs Admission section of the bulletin, p. 47, and in the Seminary Admission Requirements, p. 331. Admission to the ThD in religion program is granted by the PhD-ThD Committee to applicants who also have the following qualifications:

- Applicants must hold an MDiv degree or its equivalent from an approved seminary or university.
- Applicants

The admission procedure for the ThD degree program is the same as for the PhD degree program. See p. 357. Complete and return the Sixteen Personality Factor Questionnaire as directed.

Applicants must demonstrate proficiency in specified foreign languages in one of these ways:

- By passing language proficiency examinations.
- By taking specified language courses (e.g., advanced courses in Hebrew and Greek and FREN502 and GRMN502) at Andrews University and earning a grade of B or above.

If French or German (or a substitute modern language) is the student's native language and he/she has been using it regularly, no special demonstration of competency is required for that language.

Foreign language requirements for the ThD program are listed below:

Advanced Level Hebrew and Greek

Reading knowledge of French and German

Another foreign language may be substituted for either French or German (but not for both) if the substitution is warranted by the student's program. The student must submit a petition requesting the substitution and indicating a rationale for the request. The student's adviser and the program director must approve the petition before the substitution is allowed.

