

Master of Arts: Historical and Theological Studies Major

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The Master of Arts in Historical and Theological Studies is an advanced degree offering students with a background in biblical and theological studies an opportunity to pursue depth and breadth of knowledge in Christian history and/or theology. The focus of the program is on developing strong research skills, methodological awareness, and excellence in academic writing. These goals are pursued within an intentionally integrative approach to historical and theological studies, which encourages cross-disciplinary dialogue and contextual thinking.

Admission requirements include a first degree in a related discipline (e.g., an undergraduate degree in biblical, theological, or religious studies, or a seminary degree), a minimum B+ average or GPA of 3.3, and submission of a sample research paper.

This degree will help students to further their own intellectual development, to strengthen their academic foundations for Christian ministry and service, and/or to prepare them for doctoral study in history or theology. The program culminates in a major work of research, which takes the form of a thesis (6 credit hours) or a major paper (3 credit hours).

Students may pursue research on a wide variety of historical and theological topics. The Tyndale faculty has particular strengths in the following areas: Canadian Christianity, Global Christianity, Evangelicalism, Islam, Christian-Muslim relations, Theology and Science, Theological Anthropology, Contemporary Theology, Reformation Theology (especially Luther and Calvin), Wesleyan Theology, the Puritans, Karl Barth, and Dietrich Bonhoeffer.

MA Historical and Theological Studies Learning Outcomes:

1. Deepen advanced research and writing skills in history/theology.
2. Produce a substantial piece of written scholarly research.
3. Develop specialized knowledge in a particular subject area.
4. Demonstrate awareness and working knowledge of relevant methodological issues, as relevant to their specialization.
5. Prepare for potential admission to a PhD program.

Master of Arts: Historical and Theological Studies Major				Courses
INTD 0861	Advanced Research Methods			1
INTD 0854 or 0857	Interdisciplinary Seminar			1
THEO 0552	Theological Method and Practice	OR	HIST 0670 Historiography	1
Electives within specialization (<i>Students will specialize in either history or theology</i>)				5*
Electives outside specialization (<i>History specialists will take two courses in theology and vice-versa</i>)				2*
THEO/HIST 0899	Thesis Research and Writing	OR	THEO/HIST 0870 Directed Reading and Research (major paper) And one further elective	2
Total Course Requirements				12*

**Students with a strong academic record in a relevant field can apply for advanced standing of up to four courses, reducing the total number of electives to three (2 within specialization, 1 outside specialization).*

Notes:

1. Graduating students are required to have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0, and to have achieved at least a B- grade in all courses that count towards the program. Students pursuing the thesis option will require a minimum 3.3 GPA for their MA coursework.
2. Students may be required to demonstrate reading proficiency in one research language if it is required for their specialization. This will be determined at the discretion of the director.
3. Students will normally be expected to complete the program in a maximum of 7 years. The program can be completed fully online.