

## BACHELOR OF ARTS IN **THEOLOGY**

### **OVERVIEW**

The theology program at Lewis University provides a strong liberal arts background which serves as a tremendous foundation for other majors such as history, literature, and English. The theology major also serves as a great building block for para-professionals entering fields which deal with ethical and life decisions on a daily basis, such as the legal and medical fields.

Students enrolled at Lewis University are required to take two general education courses in theology. As a Catholic University, the institution believes it is important to expose students not only to the study of religion and theology, but also to the Roman Catholic intellectual traditions. Such coursework helps to prepare students to reflect critically on issues of faith, morality, religion, and theology whether they are choosing theology as the main focus of their college career or in conjunction with interdisciplinary studies.

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

One of the many things that make the theology degree program at Lewis so unique is the emphasis on writing effectively. Department of Theology faculty members work with students to develop their writing skills in class projects and assignments. In addition to the strong emphasis on writing, the program also focuses on developing students' ability to think critically, both skills that are used in everyday life.

Another advantage of the program is its small size. This allows faculty to work closely with students in customizing the program and course schedule to meet their needs. Small class size offers students a number of things not found at larger institutions including personal attention, interaction with other students, and the opportunity to offer input that enhances a growing department and expanding major.

### **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

Besides offering a broad base from which to choose a career, a major or minor in theology provides skills that are very applicable in today's world, particularly with the large role that faith plays in secular society. Courses give students the opportunity to understand how theology and religion function in an individual's life, which has an impact on all aspects of their life.

Under the umbrella of religious occupations, majors in theology might pursue careers as clergy, campus/youth ministry leaders, liturgist, chaplain, parish administrator, missionary, director of religious education, and many other avenues. But a major or minor in theology can also be the foundation for careers as diverse as librarian, counselor, social worker, volunteer services director, college/university administrator, sales representative, and many others.

### **ACTIVITIES**

The Department of Theology works closely with the University Ministry program on campus. In addition, the department has begun to organize regularly scheduled trips to Italy (Rome, Ravenna, Florence, Assisi) during which students can take a class to fulfill a general education requirement, and study the artwork of ancient Rome.

### **CONTACT**

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### **ABOUT THE FACULTY**

Dr. Dominic Colonna, Chair, believes that the faculty members within the department are a particular point of pride. “One of the things I’m proudest of is the quality of our faculty,” he says. Dr. Colonna notes that Dr. Karen Trimble Alliaume (Duke University) and Dr. Clare Rothschild (The University of Chicago) both come from top schools in the discipline and are very involved in professional activities. The Reverend William Graham has been published extensively, and Brother Raymond McManaman, FSC, has taught at Lewis for over 33 years. The Department welcomes a new scholar, Maryellen Davis from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, to help in the development of a Catholic Studies program at Lewis. Such depth of experience provides students with the ability to reflect critically on how religion impacts people, cultures, history, and current world events on varying levels.

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR MAJOR AND MINOR**

The major program studies the religious dimension of humanity in its historical and contemporary expressions while investigating theological questions in biblical, historical, systematic, and moral theology. The minor provides students majoring in other disciplines the opportunity to consider core theological questions. Students may choose to double major in theology and another discipline. Those education majors contemplating a teaching career in Catholic schools are especially encouraged to consider either the double major or a minor.

The program of Roman Catholic Studies is designed for all students who wish to deepen their knowledge of the rich heritage of Catholicism while reflecting on significant issues in American culture.

Students who are considering a career in lay, vowed or ordained ministry, as well as those with an education concentration, are invited to consider the major, minor or program of ministerial studies.

### **BACHELOR OF ARTS/THEOLOGY PROGRAM ONE**

Total Credit Hours: 128

Major Credit Hours: 36

*Theology major leading to teaching or graduate degrees*

#### **I. Core Courses (18)**

19-100 The Search for Faith (3)

OR

19-106 Introduction to Christian Theology (3)

19-200 The Message of Jesus (3)

OR

19-223 The Old Testament (3)

19-225 The New Testament (3)

19-310 Christian Action and Values (3)

19-316 A History of Christian Thought (3)

19-431 Research in Theology (3)

**II. Elective Courses: 18 additional credit hours are required for the major, nine of which must be advanced courses other than those listed as core requirements.**

**III. Majors are required to maintain a C+ average in their Theology courses.**

**BACHELOR OF ARTS/THEOLOGY  
PROGRAM TWO**

Total Credit Hours: 128

Major Credit Hours: 36

*Theology major concentrating in Roman Catholic Studies*

**I. Core Courses (18)**

19-100 The Search for Faith (3)

OR

19-106 Introduction to Christian Theology (3)

19-200 The Message of Jesus (3)

OR

19-225 The New Testament (3)

19-223 The Old Testament (3)

19-310 Christian Action and Values (3)

19-316 A History of Christian Thought (3)

19-431 Research in Theology (3)

**II. Concentration Courses (12)**

*Select three from the following:*

19-205 The Catholic Church (3)

19-227 Catholic Sacraments (3)

19-238 The American Catholic Experience (3)

19-268 Christian Social Teaching (3)

19-280 The Meaning of Jesus (3)

19-281 Christianity in Africa, Asia and Latin America (3)

19-285 Theologies of Liberation (3)

**III. Elective Courses (6): Select additional courses  
being mindful of the requirement to take  
advanced courses.**

**IV. Majors are required to maintain a C+ average in  
their Theology courses.**

**BACHELOR OF ARTS/THEOLOGY  
PROGRAM THREE**

Total Credit Hours: 128

Major Credit Hours: 36

*Theology major concentrating in Ministerial Preparation*

**I. Core Courses (18)**

19-100 The Search for Faith (3)

OR

19-106 Introduction to Christian Theology (3)

19-200 The Message of Jesus (3)

OR

19-225 The New Testament (3)

19-223 The Old Testament (3)

19-310 Christian Action and Values (3)

19-316 A History of Christian Thought (3)

19-431 Research in Theology (3)

**II. Concentration Courses (12)**

19-300 Lasallian Community and Social Action (3)

OR

19-461 Christian Service and Society (3)

*Choose three additional courses from the following.*

*(Students may take both of the above courses and apply the  
second toward their other concentration requirements.)*

19-205 The Catholic Church (3)

19-227 Catholic Sacraments (3)

19-268 Christian Social Teaching (3)

19-270 Christian Faith and the Arts (3)

19-281 Christianity in Africa, Asia and Latin America (3)

19-285 Theologies of Liberation (3)

**III. Elective Courses (6): Select additional courses  
being mindful of the requirement to take  
advanced courses.**

**IV. Majors are required to maintain a  
C+ average in their Theology courses.**

**MINOR/THEOLOGY**

*A Theology minor must complete at least 18 credit hours in Theology, of which at least nine hours must be in upper-division courses, those numbered 300 or higher.*

Minor Credit Hours: 18

**I. Core Courses (6)**

19-100 The Search for Faith (3)

OR

19-106 Introduction to Christian Theology (3)

19-310 Christian Action and Values (3)

**II. Scripture (3): One scripture course dealing with either the Old or the New Testament is required.**

**III. History (3): One Historical Theology course is required.**

**IV. Elective Courses (6): Select any two additional courses being mindful of the requirement to take three upper- division courses.**



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