

AGST Alliance

A comparison of our postgraduate Theology programs

	Post-graduate Diploma in Theology	Master of Theology (Theology)	Doctor of Philosophy (Theology)
For those who are...	<p>... preaching/teaching in an Asian church, or among Asians.</p> <p>... training/leading an organisation which is bringing Christian perspectives to contemporary Asian society.</p> <p>... teaching in an Asian theological/ Bible college - especially theology courses.</p> <p>... thinking/writing on theological topics/themes, and need to be better informed.</p>		<p>... giving significant teaching/leadership in their church, denomination or Christian organisation.</p> <p>... in a teaching position in a theological/Bible institution majoring in a field of theology, and need a qualification to teach at a post-graduate level.</p> <p>... a Christian scholar/ writer and majoring on theological themes.</p>
	<p>... looking for a sabbatical focus and/or ministry enrichment.</p>	<p>... needing a qualification to teach up to the MDiv level.</p>	
Anticipated outcomes	<p>Graduates who ... can present Christian truth in churches, theological seminaries and Christian organisations in ways that are dynamically appropriate for Asian contexts.</p> <p>... are trained to think theologically and contextually in order to more effectively serve God's church in Asia.</p>		<p>Graduates who ... are qualified to function as a research specialist in theology.</p> <p>... are committed to give significant theological leadership in the wider Asian church. Thus their research will have a clear applied focus for an Asian context.</p>

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Program structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Modules (21 credits)</i> Each module is a 3 credit course. Modules span about 4 months: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6-7 weeks pre-campus preparation: reading and assignments. - 5-6 day intensive on-campus session. - 6-8 weeks post-campus reading and assignments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Thesis (8 credits)</i> (Or 2 major papers). The thesis/major papers could be completed in 6-8 months of focused, diligent work. • <i>Research skills workshop (1 credit)</i> 	<p>Submission of a dissertation that reflects original research.</p> <p>[Dissertation length: 80,000 words, excluding references.]</p>
Starting dates	<p>Students may commence at any module.</p> <p>However, we recommend students start at the beginning of a cycle of modules if possible, and follow through consecutively.</p>		<p>Candidates may commence their program at any time.</p>
Full time or part time?	<p>Designed as a part-time program. If modules are taken consecutively, time commitment will be equivalent to about half (50%) a typical full-time seminary work load.</p>		<p>May be completed either full-time or part-time.</p>

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Duration	4 years maximum.	5 years maximum.	7 years maximum.
Campus residential requirements	5-7 day intensive on-campus sessions for each module.		Participate in the annual doctoral colloquium. We also encourage candidates to spend significant time with their supervisors - annually if possible; ... plan for at least 3 months at an appropriate international study centre during their program.
Graduation requirements	Satisfactory completion of the modules for the MTh(Theol) program.	Satisfactory completion of all the components of the program.	A pass recommended by 2-3 external, international examiners. An oral defence may be necessary.
Entry requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A first theological degree of a suitable academic level (usually MDiv or its equivalent). • English language proficiency: at least IELTS 6.0 or TOEFL 550 (Computer-based score 213; Internet-based score 80). • Proficiency to MDiv level in at least one biblical language. [This requisite may be obtained within the first year of the MTh(Theol) program.] • Some practical experience in Christian leadership, especially preaching/teaching. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A post-graduate degree majoring in an area of theology. (The AGST Alliance MTh(Theol) is a suitable prerequisite.) • English language proficiency equivalent to at least IELTS 6.5 or TOEFL 575 (Computer-based score 230, Internet-based score 90). • Proficiency to MDiv level in at least one biblical language. • Proficiency in a research language if appropriate to the proposed research topic (e.g. Chinese, Thai, etc.)

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Student focus	<p>Students are encouraged to apply the insights from the modules to their specific teaching/ preaching settings.</p> <p>So we encourage students to shape their assignment work and thesis for their specific contexts.</p>		<p>Candidates are actively encouraged to select a focus for their research that they are passionate about, and the outcome of which will contribute significantly to effective ministry and mission in Asia.</p>
Learning approaches	<p>A range of learning methodologies are used in the modules. The on-campus sessions emphasise participation and interaction. On-campus, Reflective critical processing of concepts and perspectives is given greater priority than content-transmission – and so the pre-campus preparation is really important.</p> <p>We aim to demonstrate good practice of adult and non-formal learning, learning in community, and integrating spiritual formation with theological insights.</p>		<p>The PhD(Theol) is solely research-oriented, guided by 1-2 supervisors.</p>

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