Theology and Religious Studies, B.A.

Chairperson: Peter Spitaler, Ph.D.
Program Director: Mark Graham, Ph.D.
Office Location: 203 Saint Augustine Center
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[Website]

About

Theological and religious studies as conceived, studied, and advanced at Villanova are interdisciplinary and integrative. Students pursue their objectives from diverse theological and religious perspectives, places them in dialogue with each other, and integrate religious and theological knowledge with experience and other forms of knowing.

Our programs explore the intersections of Catholic theology, religion, and cultures(s) and prepare students for graduate studies and for careers in humanitarian, philanthropic or other non-profit, charitable organizations; and in religious organizations as campus, youth or parish minister, educator, catechist, retreat worker, administrator, counselor, spiritual director or in one of the many other positions such organizations offer.

Program: Theology and Religious Studies
Type: Bachelor of Arts

PRIMARY MAJOR (30 credits)

The primary major emphasizes a broad understanding of Christian and non-Christian theological and religious traditions. It is a stand-alone program, and students may take it in conjunction with another major (i.e., the traditional “double” major).

Program Notes:

- Total number of elective courses from outside the TRS Department (including courses taken overseas) must not exceed nine credit hours.
- Theology majors are required to select a concentration that will give shape and focus to the major.
- Students must also take 1 Portfolio Course: THL 6600 (0 cr).

Required Courses:

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<th>Item #</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>THL 1000</td>
<td>Faith, Reason, and Culture</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Theology Major Seminars</td>
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<td>THL 6300</td>
<td>Research Seminar</td>
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<td>Theology Tracks for Primary Major</td>
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<td>THL Elective</td>
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SECONDARY MAJOR (24 credits)

The secondary major highlights the interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary nature of theological inquiry and of the study of religion. It must be taken in conjunction with another major and completed concurrently with it.

Program Notes:

- Total number of elective courses from outside the TRS Department (including courses taken overseas) must not exceed six credit hours.
- Theology majors are required to select a concentration that will give shape and focus to the major.
- Students must also take 1 Portfolio Course: THL 6600 (0 cr).

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Category Descriptions

Theology Major Seminars

Credits: 6

Take THL 5001 and THL 5002 (6cr)

Theology Tracks for Primary Major

Credits: 12

Select 1 focus track of four courses from the options below (12 cr)

Theology and Culture

Theology and Culture - take four courses with the number THL 5004 (12 cr).

Catholic Studies

Catholic Studies - take four courses with the number THL 5003 (12 cr).
Global Religious Experience

Global Religious Experience - take four courses with the number THL 5005 (12 cr).

Self-Designed Studies

Self-Designed Studies - take any four THL courses with the CTHL attribute (12 cr).

THL Elective

Credits: 3
Select THL 6001 or any one course with the CTHL attribute (3 cr).

Theology Major Seminar

Credits: 3
Take THL 5001 (3 cr)

Theology Tracks for Secondary Major

Credits: 9
Select 1 focus track of three courses from the options below (9 cr)

Theology and Culture

Theology and Culture - take three courses with the number THL 5004 (9 cr).

Catholic Studies

Catholic Studies - take three courses with the number THL 5003 (9 cr).

Global Religious Experience

Global Religious Experience - take three courses with the number THL 5005 (9 cr).

Self-Designed Studies

Self-Designed Studies - take any three THL courses with the CTHL attribute (9 cr).