

The Department of Theology and Religious Studies

Theology and Religious Studies Major

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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, place 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.

Required Major Credits (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).

Course	Title	Credits
THL 1000	Faith, Reason, and Culture	3
	Theology Major Seminars	6
THL 6300	Research Seminar	3
THL 6500	Advanced Seminar	3
	Theology Tracks for Primary Major	12
	THL Elective	3



Core Curriculum Requirements (38 credits)

Theology and Religious Studies Primary Majors meet the following core requirements in the major and therefore are omitted from the summary below:

- Core Theology - THL 1000 (3 cr)
- Upper-Level Theology (3 cr)

Course	Title	Credits
ACS 1000	Ancients	3
ACS 1001	Moderns	3
PHI 1000	Knowledge, Reality, Self	3
ETH 2050	The Good Life:Eth & Cont Prob	3
	Mathematics or Statistics (1 course)	3
	Natural Science (2 courses with laboratory)	8
	Literature and Writing Seminar (1 course)	3
	History (1 course)	3
	Social Sciences (2 courses)	6
	Fine Arts (1 course)	3
	Language Requirement (Proficiency)	
	Diversity Requirement (2 courses)	

Free Elective Requirement (54 credits)

Students with a Theology and Religious Studies primary major have fifty-four (54) required free elective credits.

Degree Credit Summary

- **Major Credits:** 30 credits
- **Core Credits:** 38 credits
- **Free Electives Credits:** 54 credits
- **Total Required Credits:** 122 Credits

Note: The above credit totals are based on the minimum number of required credits in each degree area. The minimum number of required credits in each area listed above must be met. Credits taken beyond the required minimum for one area may not be applied to another area.

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).

Course	Title	Credits
THL 1000	Faith, Reason, and Culture	3
	Theology Major Seminar	3
THL 6300	Research Seminar	3
THL 6500	Advanced Seminar	3
	Theology Tracks for Secondary Major	9
	THL Elective	3