

**Cornerstone Christian University School of Theology**  
Maitland, FL

**Field experience may be credited as practicum and PL may also apply as credits**

**Doctor of Philosophy in Theology Program 64 credit hour**

This is 64 credit hours of Theology program. Completing this track will lead to a Doctor of Philosophy in Theology Degree.

**The purpose**

Doctor of Philosophy in Theology (PHD) program is to provide the candidate with an advanced competencies and biblical insights through the teaching, preparation and observation for those actively involved in vocational Christian ministry of education.

Graduates of the (PHD) program will be prepared to:

- Demonstrate an advanced understanding and integration of ministry in relation to the biblical, theological, academic, and educational disciplines.
- Articulate and apply a comprehensive and critical philosophy of ministry.
- Demonstrate advanced competencies in the areas of critical thinking, Research and Writing, Biblical Theology, Biblical Communication, Administration/Education Leadership, and Great Commission Strategies.
- Plan, implement, and critically evaluate major undertakings in ministry toward the fulfillment of the Great Commission and the Great Commandment.
- Evaluate personal, spiritual, and professional development and design a plan for lifelong learning.

An Online PHD Degree Based on Biblical Principles and Values, Designed Specifically for Religious Education

The Doctor of Philosophy in Theology degree provides individuals with the opportunity to develop advanced business skills using the flexibility and convenience of distance education. The curriculum consists of 64 hours of study and provides a solid foundation in major business functional areas. Ethical business leadership, information literacy, speaking, writing, and interpersonal skills are emphasized throughout the curriculum. This program is available to qualified PHD candidates both in North American and internationally.

**Graduates of the Theology program will be prepared to:**

- Demonstrate an advanced understanding and integration of ministry in relation to the biblical, theological, academic, and educational disciplines.
- Articulate and apply a comprehensive and critical philosophy of ministry.

- Demonstrate advanced competencies in the areas of critical thinking, Research and Writing, Biblical Theology, Biblical Communication, Administration/Education Leadership, and Great Commission Strategies.
- Plan, implement, and critically evaluate major undertakings in ministry toward the fulfillment of the Great Commission and the Great Commandment.
- Evaluate personal, spiritual, and professional development and design a plan for lifelong learning.

### **Degree Learning Format**

The CCU PHD degree is a completely 100% online learning experience.

Enrolled students will use the CCU online course management system which allows students to interface online with their professor and other students. Each course lasts approximately 9-12-16 weeks. During the course students will be expected to read and research materials, participate in online discussion formats, participate in team assignments and projects, complete individual assignments and projects, and complete online assessments. This type of learning will allow professors and students interact in truly global environment. A truly unique aspect of the CCU Online PHD program is the integration of Christian Ethical principles and values in to each course. Each week there will be an application of Christian based ethical values and their relation to the topics and learning objectives being covered.

### **Course requirements**

<b>#</b>	<b>Course #</b>	<b>Course Description</b>	<b>Credits</b>
1	RES704	Introduction to Theological Research	(4 Credits)
2	HRM734	Introduction to Biblical Hermeneutics	(4 Credits)
3	THE744	Reasonable Faith: Christian Truth and Apologetics	(4 Credits)
4	THE754	Systematic Theology I	(4 Credits)
5	THE764	Systematic Theology II	(4 Credits)
6	THE774	Toward the Old Testament Theology	(4 Credits)
7	ETC784	Toward the Old Testament Ethics	(4 Credits)
8	THE798	Christian Theology	(8 Credits)
9	PHL804	Becoming Intellectually Virtuous	(4 Credits)

10	ANT825	Cultural Anthropology	(5 Credits)
11	THE855	Theological Issues and Contextualization	(55 Credits)
12	THE900A	Doctoral Research Proposal	(3 Credits)
13	THE900B	Doctoral Research Dissertation or Project Writing	(12 Credits)

### Course Description

1. Course Title: Introduction to Theological Research (4 Credits)  
 Course #: RES704  
 Course Description: Preparation for academic theological research on the graduate level, with special attention given to library resources. The skills needed to integrate new theological information with established patterns of understanding and to communicate the results of research in standard form.  
 This course will give students of religion and theology the ability to conceptualize, develop, and write a paper, thesis, or dissertation step-by-step for students' quality research papers demands that fits the standards of contemporary scholarship.
2. Course Title: Introduction to Biblical Hermeneutics (4 Credits)  
 Course#: HRM734  
**Course Description:** Biblical Hermeneutics has become a standard text for a generation of students, pastors, and serious lay readers. This course has been substantially revised and updated, allowing the students to fine-tune and enrich their discussions on fundamental interpretive topics. The role of biblical theology in interpretation \* How to deal with contemporary questions not directly addressed in the Bible \* The New Testament's use of the Old Testament \* The role of history in interpretation The book retains the unique aspect of being written by two scholars who hold differing viewpoints on many issues, making for vibrant, thought-provoking dialogue. What they do agree on, however, is the authority of Scripture, the relevance of personal Bible study to life, and why these things matter.
3. Courses Title: Reasonable Faith: Christian Truth and Apologetics (4 Credits)  
 Course#: THE744  
 Course Description: Christianity is increasingly being challenged by new religions and cults, as well as by the secularization of our culture. In this class, you will learn to explain what you believe and defend the great truths of our faith.  
  
 This course is designed for graduate students in the Christian Apologetics program, Theology, as well as pastors, youth pastors, parents, teachers, and others who desire to influence youth, to learn how to effectively teach apologetics to junior high and high school students. This class will explore why apologetics is important for youth, how to best motivate students to learn apologetics, and consider practical teaching methods for engaging students with apologetics material.

4. Courses Title: Systematic Theology I (4 credits)  
Course #: THE754  
Course Description: This course prepares you to clearly communicate what you believe and why you believe it. Designed to help you develop a personal, practical and applied systematic theology.  
This is a theological studies methods course. Its primary purpose is to teach you skills for developing a Christian mind, by helping you construct a solid foundation for thinking through life's most important issues. We will begin by establishing the reality and nature of truth and then learn that rightly interpreted Scripture is the final arbiter of truth. You will learn the about various sources for theology and the way that different people use and misuse these sources. This course endeavors to enable people to think theologically and construct a biblical worldview that makes the Christian's witness relevant to all people in need. This course is a prerequisite to all other required courses of theology.
5. Courses Title: Systematic Theology II (4 credits)  
Course #: THE764  
Course Description: This course prepares you to clearly communicate what you believe and why you believe it. Designed to help you develop a personal, practical and applied systematic theology.  
This is a theological studies methods course. Its primary purpose is to teach you skills for developing a Christian mind, by helping you construct a solid foundation for thinking through life's most important issues. We will begin by establishing the reality and nature of truth and then learn that rightly interpreted Scripture is the final arbiter of truth. You will learn the about various sources for theology and the way that different people use and misuse these sources. This course endeavors to enable people to think theologically and construct a biblical worldview that makes the Christian's witness relevant to all people in need. This course is a prerequisite to all other required courses of theology.
6. Courses Title: Toward the Old Testament Theology (Walter) (4 credits)  
Course# THE774  
Exploring the difficulty in determining the true nature, method, scope, and motivation for Old Testament theology, this book proposes the promise of God as the center of Old Testament theology and applies the solution to each of its eras.
7. Courses Title: Toward the Old Testament Ethics (4 credits)  
Course#: ETC784  
This course presents Romans in a way that best helps those understand the way to salvation. It answers the great question, "How can a man be righteous before YHWH?"
8. Courses Title: Christian Theology (8 credits)  
Course #:THE798

Course Description: This is a theological studies methods course. Its primary purpose is to teach you skills for developing a Christian mind, by helping you construct a solid foundation for thinking through life's most important issues. We will begin by establishing the reality and nature of truth and then learn that rightly interpreted Scripture is the final arbiter of truth. You will learn the about various sources for theology and the way that different people use and misuse these sources. This course endeavors to enable people to think theologically and construct a biblical worldview that makes the Christian's witness relevant to all people in need. This course is a prerequisite to all other required courses of theology.

9. Course Title: Becoming Intellectually Virtuous (5 credits)  
Course #: PHL805  
Course Description: Religion and religious ideas are central to all cultures and societies, including our own. This course will look at the broad range of cultural forms we have come to call religion, examine how these forms shape cultures and societies, and finally, by examining what these forms have in common and how they differ, we will determine what it is we study when we study religion.  
This course is an introduction to epistemology by taking an extended look at the idea of knowing within the context of the intellectual virtues. This then surveys current views of foundationalism, epistemic justification and reliabilism. Finally it examines the relationship of epistemology to religious belief, and the role of emotions and virtues in proper cognitive functioning.
10. Course Title: Cultural Anthropology (5 Credits)  
Course #: ANT825  
Course Description: The late Paul G. Hiebert (1932-2007) was distinguished professor of mission and anthropology at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and previously taught at Fuller Theological Seminary. He also served as a pastor and missionary to India. He received his PhD from the University of Minnesota and was the author or coauthor of numerous articles and books in the fields of anthropology and missions.
11. Course Title: Theological Issues and Contextualization (5 Credits)  
Course #: THE855  
Course Description: Contextualization is the art of translating ideas into a particular situation, place or culture. It is fundamental to communication, which makes contextualization essential in missions. This textbook pulls together and maps the variety of evangelical approaches to contextualization.
12. Course #: THE900A: Doctoral Research Proposal (3 Credits)
13. Course: Doctoral Research Dissertation or Project of about 350-400 pages (12 Credits)  
Course #: THE900  
Description: This dissertation project must be a significant original work in nature, which will seek to make a contribution to the world of Educational world. This final course culminates the entire course of studies and research required by this program. This is a

very involved endeavor and will require an undivided attention. The research project comprises two part—a quantitative and a qualitative research. Both parts must demonstrate doctorate level quality of work in respect to magnitude of effort and the end product for such program.

Student allowed choosing their own research topic and getting it approved by the Dissertation Review Board. Upon the approval of the research topic, a proposal containing the first three chapters, table of content and partial bibliography must be submitted to The Dissertation Review Board.

The Review Board will review the research proposal. The board will either approve it, approve it with recommendations, or denied it. If the dissertation is denied, a separate fee will be required for revisions. Students are solely responsible to present the research project as required the first time to avoid any denial proposal and extra fee.

Upon the final review and grading of the final research project, the student will submit two bound copies to the school. One will be graded, endorse, and return to the student and one copy will remain the property of the school.