



THEOLOGY IS THE STUDY of the human experience of God and how it is expressed through religious traditions, doctrines, ethics and rituals of various communities around the world. Students examine how the Christian faith—including the Jesuit commitments to faith, peace, environmental and social justice and inter-religious dialogue—has come to be interpreted, expressed and embodied, and then put these faith convictions into conversation with a broad range of other religious beliefs.

Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Theology

Minors: Theology, religious education

The Xavier Advantage:

- ▶ Participate in service-learning semesters in India, Nicaragua, Ghana and Over-the-Rhine in Cincinnati.
- ▶ Get involved in Peace and Justice Programs, such as Pax Christi, Habitat for Humanity and St. Vincent de Paul, working toward the Jesuit ideal of becoming women and men for others.
- ▶ Hold leadership roles in the Center for Faith and Justice, and participate in liturgies and Xavier retreats.
- ▶ Discuss and learn more about the world's diverse faiths and other socially significant issues at the Edward B. Brueggeman Center for Dialogue.
- ▶ Practice-teach for one semester with expert teachers in outstanding Cincinnati Catholic schools, for minors in religious education.

Xavier theology graduates go on to:

- ▶ Cathedral Parish, Louisville, KY
- ▶ Over-the-Rhine Community Housing, Cincinnati
- ▶ Jesuit Volunteers USA
- ▶ Teach for America
- ▶ Boston College
- ▶ Princeton Theological Seminary
- ▶ Divinity School, University of Chicago
- ▶ Union Theological Seminary (NYC)

Learn more www.xavier.edu/theology

Ask us xuadmit@xavier.edu

Visit campus www.xavier.edu/visit



RECOMMENDED CLASS SCHEDULES BACHELOR OF ARTS [BA] IN THEOLOGY

These schedules serve as a guideline for progress toward a degree. Students should consult with their academic advisor.

First Semester	Sem. Hrs.
FRESHMAN YEAR	
ENGL 101 OR 115, Engl Comp/Rhetoric	3
Foreign Language elective	3
History I elective	3
Science elective	3
THEO 111, Theological Foundations	3
Total	15

SOPHOMORE YEAR	
THEO 251, Intro to Hebrew Scriptures	3
ENGL/CLAS/SPAN/FREN 205 Lit & Moral Imag	3
Mathematics elective	3
Social Science elective	3
THEO 209, The Christian Tradition I ¹	3
Total	15

JUNIOR YEAR	
Philosophy elective	3
Fine Arts elective	3
Theology elective	3
General elective ²	3
THEO 303, Christian Ethics ¹	3
Total	15

SENIOR YEAR	
Theology elective (non-Christian)	3
THEO 295, Senior Sem: Ideas & Methods ¹	3
Theology elective	3
General elective ²	6
Total	15

Second Semester	Sem. Hrs.
FRESHMAN YEAR	
Foreign Language elective	3
History II elective	3
Science elective	3
PHIL 100, Ethics as Intro to Phil	3
Literature elective	3
Total	15

SOPHOMORE YEAR	
THEO 252, Intro to Christian Scriptures	3
Mathematics elective	3
PHIL 290, Theory of Knowledge	3
Social Science elective	3
THEO 210, The Christian Tradition II ¹	3
Total	15

JUNIOR YEAR	
Science elective	3
THEO 290, Christian Doctrine Today	3
General elective ²	6
E/RS Focus elective	3
Total	15

SENIOR YEAR	
Theology elective	3
General elective ²	11
Total	14

Scheduling notes: ¹ Special section for theology majors

² Theology majors have at least 26 hours of general electives; it is recommended that these be chosen in one area as a second concentration, rather than as a wide dispersal of courses.

- Consult the undergraduate Core Curriculum requirements.
- The E/RS Focus elective requirement may be used to satisfy another element of the Core or the major.
- A minimum of 120 credit hours is required for the degree.
- Students are required to take 6 hours of approved courses representing two different disciplines to fulfill the Core Diversity requirement.

► For additional degree class schedule information, see www.xavier.edu/theology.

THE PROGRAM

Xavier's theology faculty members, who have completed doctorates at prestigious graduate programs in North America and Europe, are known as excellent teacher-scholars. The scholarship of the theology faculty has been recognized with 10 awards for excellence from the Catholic Press Association and the Cincinnati Editors Association. The faculty range of specialization allows for strong concentrations in biblical studies, Christian ethics, church history and the history of Christian thought, systematic theology and world religions.

With an overall University student-faculty ratio of 12 to 1 and individual advising sessions each semester, the expertise of the faculty is readily available.

While enrolled in the theology program, students will:

- ▶ Carry on critical and open discussions of fundamental theological questions that touch on the heart of life's mystery.
- ▶ Understand and analyze critically theological concepts and methods.
- ▶ Articulate and critique the sources, principles and convictions of the Christian tradition.
- ▶ Appreciate different religious perspectives and know how to enter into inter-religious dialogue.
- ▶ Call upon other branches of knowledge within theological reflection to enlighten understanding of theological and social questions.
- ▶ Determine personal religious/spiritual perspectives and the ethical implications of those perspectives.
- ▶ Examine creatively and intelligently cultural contexts in light of Jesuit commitments to faith, peace, environmental and social justice and inter-religious dialogue.

RESOURCES

The theology department is housed in Hinkle Hall, the campus facility that's modeled after the Xavier family castle in Navarre, Spain.

Theology students have opportunities to hold leadership roles in the Center for Faith and Justice, and to participate in liturgies and Xavier retreats. The Center for Faith and Justice also sponsors speakers and special events throughout the year, providing opportunities for fellowship and dialogue.

Additional practical experience is available through service-learning semesters in India, Nicaragua, Ghana and Over-the-Rhine in Cincinnati.

Student organizations such as Pax Christi, Habitat for Humanity and St. Vincent de Paul are part of the Peace and Justice Programs, housed in the Center for Faith and Justice and providing myriad opportunities to work toward the Jesuit ideal of becoming women and men for others.

Semester-long placement with expert teachers in outstanding Cincinnati Catholic schools is provided for students who choose to minor in religious education.

The **Edward B. Brueggeman Center for Dialogue** at Xavier University is a leader in interfaith relations locally and beyond, providing a forum for addressing the critical issues of our age. Interreligious dialogue is a primary focus, but conversations also

OUTCOMES

The theology major prepares students for careers as teacher, religious education coordinator (integrating religious education into total parish life), liturgist (coordinating parish liturgy), campus minister, religion feature writer or pastoral associate.

The theology major also prepares students for the priesthood or religious life.

Theology graduates hold the following positions:

- Campus ministry director, College of Mt. St. Joseph
- Youth faith formation director, Cathedral Parish, Louisville, KY
- Executive director, Congregation-based Community Organization (DART) in Dayton
- Head of volunteer and resource mobilization, Over-the-Rhine Community Housing, Cincinnati
- Secondary school religion teachers in Kentucky, Maryland, Ohio, Indiana
- Participants in Jesuit Volunteers USA, Dominican Volunteers USA, Teach for America and AmeriCorps

With additional graduate study or professional training, students are prepared to become theology professors, Catholic school administrators, hospital administrators or to assume a variety of leadership positions in the life of the church.

Theology students have gone on to graduate and professional programs at:

- Boston College
- Princeton Theological Seminary
- Divinity School, University of Chicago
- Union Theological Seminary (NYC)
- Yale University
- Loyola Marymount University (CA)
- School of Medicine, University of Cincinnati
- The Athenaeum of Ohio

include other academic disciplines, representatives from the business community, government and civic society.

The work of the Center includes conferences, research and publications, and interfaith and inter-religious activities at Xavier such as the Christian/Jewish/Islamic "Artistic Expressions of Faith" series and the landmark "A Blessing to One Another: Pope John Paul II and the Jewish People" exhibition.

THE COLLEGE & THE CITY

The College of Arts and Sciences is the oldest and largest college at Xavier University. Its goal is to provide excellent liberal arts education in the Jesuit tradition that prepares students for careers, professional or graduate school, and life in a global society.

Centrally located in the heart of the Midwest and set along the Ohio River, Cincinnati is a thriving city, offering college students in the region a wide range of opportunities for internships and careers. Culture and entertainment ranges from the Cincinnati Art Museum to the Cincinnati Reds. Affordable and accessible,

Cincinnati is rated one of the "most wired" U.S. cities (*Forbes Magazine*), most sociable city in the world (mashable.com), and one of the top 15 U.S. cities to live and work (*Fortune Magazine*).

CORE CURRICULUM

The foundation of Xavier's success is its commitment to its Jesuit heritage. The Core Curriculum embodies Xavier's mission and philosophy of education and serves as a valuable foundation for all undergraduate students. Within the Core, the four-course Ethics/Religion and Society (E/RS) Focus fosters students' understanding of socially significant issues through study of the humanities, especially literature, philosophy and theology, as well as the social and natural sciences. Along with courses in their major, Xavier students also take Core courses in: cultural diversity, English composition, fine arts, foreign language, history, literature, mathematics, philosophy, science, social science and theology.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Core Curriculum: Minimum 64 credit hours

Major in theology: 36 semester hours of theology courses, including three hours from a non-Christian religious traditions elective, and nine hours from elective courses in theology.



XAVIER AT A GLANCE

Founded in 1831, Xavier University is a Jesuit Catholic university in Cincinnati, Ohio, annually ranked among the nation's best universities. Its three colleges offer 85 undergraduate majors, 54 minors and 11 graduate programs to 7,019 total students, including 4,368 undergraduates.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

OFFICE OF ADMISSION

Phone: 513-745-3301
877-XUADMIT (982-3648)
Fax: 513-745-4319
Email: xuadmit@xavier.edu
Web: www.xavier.edu

DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY

Sarah J. Melcher, PhD, Chair
Phone: 513-745-2043
Email: melcher@xavier.edu
Web: www.xavier.edu/theology
On Campus: 310 Hinkle Hall



XAVIER
UNIVERSITY

Office of Admission
3800 Victory Parkway
Cincinnati, Ohio 45207-5131