Master of Arts in Theology

Note: This fact sheet does not include the program specific curriculum. To access the curriculum from the program's webpage, click one of the links below the section titled "Degrees Offered."

The Master of Arts (MA) in Theology prepares students to explore and explain the Catholic theological tradition. The program maintains rigorous requirements which empower students to teach theology in a classroom setting as well as lays the groundwork for them to pursue doctoral work in theology.

DEGREES OFFERED

- Master of Arts in Theology

PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Department of theology offers two degrees in its graduate program of theology. The Master in Theological Studies (MTS) provides a solid grounding in the Catholic theological tradition and is intended for those working in parish ministry in a Roman Catholic context. The Master of Arts (MA) in Theology has more rigrorous requirements and is intended to prepare students to teach theology in a classroom setting as well as preparing those interested in pursuing doctoral work in theology. The MA degree requires some different course work than the MTS degree; it also requires the completion of a thesis and a comprehensive examination, as well as foreign language requirements, none of which are required for the MTS.

The Master of Arts (M.A.) in theology degree prepares students to enter PhD programs in theology. In addition to the course work, the MA degree requires students to pass a reading proficiency exam at the conclusion of a one year of study in two foreign languages, one contemporary language (Italian, French, German, or Spanish) and one ancient (Biblical Greek or Latin). At the end of the two year program of study, MA students will also be required to pass a comprehensive exam over material from their two years of study. Finally, MA students are required to write a thesis on some topic of theology under the direction of a faculty member at Newman University.

Toward the beginning of each course, all students will meet for an intensive weekend of instruction at the main campus in Wichita. The remainder of the instruction will take place online through modules that are designed to be interactive and visually engaging through the use of video clips, PowerPoint presentations and other electronic media-rich formats. Students must also complete reading assignments, participate in discussion boards and submit short essays. This online delivery format makes the degree programs available to people throughout the region. It also affords students with busy schedules the flexibility to do coursework at a convenient time and to continue working while they complete the degree.

The programs have been endorsed by the Catholic Dioceses of Wichita, Dodge City, and Salina.

Admissions

Admission into the Master of Arts (M.A.) in Theology Program requires:

- The applicant must already possess a four-year Bachelor’s Degree (B.A. or B.S.) in Theology, Philosophy, History or a related field from an accredited college or university with a G.P.A. of 3.0 or higher.
- An official copy of the applicant’s transcript(s) verifying the completion of the above degree.
- A completed application form.
- A non-refundable $25 application fee to be included with the application fee. Checks are made payable to Newman University.
- Two confidential letters of recommendation, one of which should come from a former professor or some other academic or administrative professional (school principal or pastor) who can testify to your academic ability. Exceptions can be made for those who have been out of college for a number of years.
- A typed personal essay of not more than 700 words describing the applicant's interest in Theology and his or her reasons and goals for pursuing graduate study in this area. An academic writing sample of approximately 8-10 pages demonstrating skills in critical thinking, logical argumentation, and writing style from any field of study. The deadline for receiving all materials is July 31 for fall enrollment. Admissions decisions are normally mailed to applicants the first week of August.

EXPERT, ACCESSIBLE FACULTY

The Master of Arts in Theology program consists of a group of carefully selected scholarly and professional practitioners who creatively introduce students to emerging theory and current best practices.

Newman Graduates regularly cite close collaboration with talented, dedicated faculty as one of their most meaningful experiences at Newman.

Newman faculty members are more than just leaders in their field. They take an active and personal role in students' studies and progress, forming strong relationships with students through coursework, special projects and informal out of class discussions.

ACCREDITATION

Newman University is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools,

www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org.

FINANCIAL AID

With many scholarships, grants, work-study and company tuition assistance programs available, the cost of a degree from Newman University is comparable to that of state universities.

PROGRAM CONTACT

For more information about this program, visit the program's webpage on the Newman University website and click the link "Request more info".

To contact Newman University Admissions, office hours are 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday. For a personal appointment call 316-942-4291, ext. 2144 or e-mail admissions@newmanu.edu. Call us Toll-Free at 877-NEWMAN (639-6268) or visit our website at www.newmanu.edu.