Why study Theology at Benedictine?

Theology plays a particularly important role in the search for a synthesis of knowledge and the dialogue between faith and reason. It serves all other disciplines in their search for meaning, not only by helping them to investigate how their discoveries will affect individuals and society, but also by bringing a perspective and an orientation not contained within their own methodologies (Ex Corde Ecclesiae §19). Theology students at Benedictine become interfaith leaders conversant in the theory and practice of interfaith engagement.

When you choose to study Theology at Benedictine University, you become part of the Catholic, Benedictine tradition of a broad liberal arts education founded on a clear understanding of the relationship between faith and reason. This synthesis is the basis of western civilization, and the program gives you a broad preparation not just in understanding theology, but also in applying it to your life in the world and whatever profession you choose.

Theology at Benedictine is designed for people who will pursue careers in law, business, education, science or communications. It focuses on analyzing the foundational principles of Catholic theology and applying them to life choices in the 21st century.

Studying theology at Benedictine offers you:
- Ideal student-to-faculty ratios.
- The living tradition of Benedictine monasticism and intellectual life.
- A small university community atmosphere.
- A safe, beautiful suburban setting near the rapidly expanding business corridor with easy access to Chicago.
- A highly dedicated and knowledgeable faculty.
- Opportunities for interreligious dialogue and service.

What careers are available with a degree in Theology?

Theology is relevant to any career that requires critical-thinking, analysis, writing and teamwork. Theology is also associated with ministry, and the program at Benedictine prepares you to work in ministry or for a graduate program in theology. This major relates theology to every aspect of lay life: politics, economics, education and science, so your career choices are augmented, not limited, by this major. You will also have 24 semester credit hours of electives available to specialize in another field, such as business or science.

The Theology major provides the communication skills and general knowledge you need to succeed in a wide variety of careers. It will help you choose a good way to make a living as you construct a good human life.

How does the program work?

If you decide to pursue a major, minor or emphasis in Theology, you will begin with two introductory courses: Faith and Science and Theology of Love, Theology of Freedom or Theology of Justice. These core courses cover, to a greater or lesser extent, all aspects of the traditional areas of Catholic theology (scripture, systematic theology, sacramental theology, historical theology and moral theology). Together the four courses comprise the basic Theology emphasis.

Students who opt to major or minor in Theology build on this foundation with a Scripture course and Interreligious Dialogue. Students then choose Theology elective courses that suit their interest and career goals. These courses include Benedictine Wisdom, Business Ethics, Jesus Christ, The History of Christian Thought and Catholic Social Teaching.
## Recommended Program
### Bachelor of Arts in Theology

### FRESHMAN
- Theological Foundations elective: 3 units
- Writing Colloquium: 3 units
- Mathematics: 3 units
- Social Scientific I: Individuals/Organizations/Societies (QIO) course: 3 units
- Language: 3 units
- Faith and Science: 3 units
- Research Writing: 3 units
- Speech Communication: 3 units
- Life Scientific (QLS) course: 3 units
- Language: 3 units
- Total: 15 units

### JUNIOR
- Theological Ethics elective 2: 3 units
- U.S. Multicultural Literature: 3 units
- Social Scientific II: Political/Global/Economic Systems (QPE) course: 3 units
- Physical Scientific (QPS) course: 3 units
- Elective: 3 units
- Scripture elective: 3 units
- Theological Foundation elective: 3 units
- Computational/Mathematical/Analytical (QCM) course: 3 units
- Catholic and Benedictine Intellectual Traditions (IDS 201-204): 3 units
- Language: 3 units
- Total: 15 units

### SOPHOMORE
- Theological Ethics elective 1: 3 units
- Philosophical (QPL) course: 3 units
- Language: 3 units
- Elective: 3 units
- Total: 15 units

### SENIOR
- 300-level Theology elective: 3 units
- Theology elective: 3 units
- Artistic/Creative (QCA) course: 3 units
- Electives: 6 units
- Theology: Senior Seminar: 3 units
- Theology elective: 3 units
- Electives: 9 units
- Total: 15 units

### Theology Minor
You may also minor in Theology (21 semester credit hours). Please see your academic advisor for more information.

Theology minors must complete, with a grade of “C” or better, 21 semester credit hours including: THEO 101; THEO 102; THEO 103; THEO 104; a Scripture course; THEO 235; 9 semester credit hours at the 200 level or above and 3 semester credit hours at the 300 level.