



GRADUATE STUDIES

Theology



FAITH ENGAGING CULTURE THE AUGUSTINIAN TRADITION

Enriched by the tradition of St. Augustine, Villanova's Theology programs draw upon the legacy of St. Augustine's passionate pursuit of truth. It is a purposeful endeavor that contemplates the union of mind and heart; it reflects on the relationship between faith and reason; and, in dialogue with contemporary culture, it builds unity in the midst of diversity.

Our graduate programs recognize the time-honored task of theology as "faith seeking understanding" both as a process that takes place in specific cultural and ministerial contexts and as a challenge to render faith intelligible, meaningful and relevant in diverse contemporary cultural contexts – both local and global.

VERITAS, UNITAS, CARITAS

We build our programs upon the vision of the Augustinian tradition to foster unity (*unitas*), truth (*veritas*) and compassion (*caritas*), recognizing that what we believe has implications in relation to the lives of others in our own society and across the globe, the planet, and diverse religious traditions and cultures. Our courses aim to nourish theological, religious and ministerial literacy as an indispensable resource helping us to understand ourselves in order to empathize with one another and contribute to shaping a more just, compassionate, inclusive and peaceful global society.

COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

We believe that diversity and inclusion practices are unique and central tasks of theology and the study of religion at their best. They protect differences while simultaneously bridging them. Thus, we recognize them as integral components of our mission and as essential elements of the ongoing intellectual, social and spiritual development, in community, of every one of our members, consonant with the vision of an inclusive church.

WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY

"We are a community of learners because of the mutual respect we have for each other's voices and perspectives. We are working to become a community, rather than competitors, and in such a space, every one of us can flourish."

- Elisha Chi, *current doctoral student*



CHOOSE YOUR COURSE OF STUDY

Doctorate (PhD) in Theology

The doctoral program is rooted in the Augustinian tradition and explores the intersection of Catholic theology and culture. Students in the program:

- Investigate the implication of theological knowing and cultural expressions of that knowledge, as well as the influence of culture on theology
- Study these relations from multiple theological perspectives
- Prepare themselves to master two of these perspectives for conducting interdisciplinary, integrative research; for college level teaching; and for work beyond the academy

Master of Theological Studies

- The Master of Theological Studies is a standalone, comprehensive terminal degree or a step toward the PhD
- Designed for students who seek advanced theological training in preparation for doctoral work, teaching or ministerial work

Master of Arts in Theology

- The Master of Arts in Theology degree meets a plurality of professional needs
- Beneficial for students with interests in broad theological areas
- Prepares students for careers in secondary school education or lay ministry work

Master of Arts in Ministry and Theology

- Study pastoral ministry and its theological dimensions within the Augustinian tradition of learning with the heart and the mind
- Integrate faith into a life supported by the academic and ministerial environment of Villanova
- Prepare to become a responsible lay minister, educator and leader

Joint Programs

Villanova Theology joint programs combine degree and non-degree programs across disciplines, in particular, the MA in Theology with Certificate and Master's Programs in the Humanities and the Social Sciences.

Certificates

Students may complete a certificate on its own or in conjunction with a master's degree within or outside of our department. Certificates include:

- Theological Studies
- Interdisciplinary Theological Inquiry
- Pastoral Ministry

AFFORDABLE EDUCATION

- Theology students receive a special tuition discount of 25%. Augustinian Volunteers receive a 50% tuition discount.
- A limited number of fully funded doctoral students are admitted each year. Assistantships and internships are available for full-time master's students.
- Villanova offers special tuition reductions for current teachers and school administrators: 40% for those employed by Catholic schools and 20% for those employed by non-Catholic schools.

WHY VILLANOVA?

- Villanova's Augustinian Catholic intellectual tradition is the cornerstone of an academic community dedicated to service
- Located on a beautiful green campus 20 minutes from Philadelphia
- Small class sizes and personal attention allow you to build lasting relationships with faculty mentors
- Make lifelong connections through collaborative learning with fellow graduate students
- Opportunity to nourish your spiritual life and integrate your faith into the academic, social and liturgical environment of Villanova

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO APPLY:

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