

Duration: 48 months full-time

Content: The components of the degree are:

FULL TIME ROUTE

During year 1, students will take 120 credits of coursework from the following courses. A student's selection of courses will be determined in light of their subfield of research and in consultation with their assigned supervisor(s).

PD5006 Getting Started at the University of Aberdeen (0 credit points)

Plus 120 credit points, 60 per half session, to be chosen from the list below:

- DR502T Creation and Christian Ethics (30 credit points)
- DR504U Topics in Systematic Theology: God, Christ and Salvation (30 credit points)
- DR505C New Testament Studies in Process: Currents and Themes (30 credit points) *
- DR505M Israel's Scriptures at the Turn of the Common Era (30 credit points) *
- DR505T A History of Spiritual Formation Literature and Practices (30 credit points)
- DR551Q Great Thinkers in Theological Ethics (30 credit points)
- DR554U Topics in Systematic Theology: Spirit, Church, and World (30 credit points)
- DR556B From Creation to New Creation: The Great Themes of the Old Testament (30 credit points)
- DR555R Significant Figures and Places in Early Christianity (30 credit points) *
- DR555U Close Readings in Early Christian Literature (30 credit points) *

* These courses run in alternate years. Please note that only DR505M and DR555U are running in 2025-26.

DR5045/DR5545 Special Subject (15 credit points)

DR502X/DR552X Special Subject (30 credit points)

NB: students require special permission from the programme coordinator to take these Special Subject courses.

Biblical Languages options:

- DR508E Hebrew Language 1 (15 credit points)
- DR558G Hebrew Language 2 (15 credit points)
- LT1009 Latin 1 (15 credits)
- LT1507 Latin 2 (15 credits)
- DR103X Ancient Greek Language 1 (15 credits)
- DR153X Ancient Greek Language 2 (15 credits)

A maximum of 30 credits of Biblical Languages below level 5 may be chosen.

On approval by the Programme Coordinator and their supervisor, students may take any other Level 5 course that is necessary to prepare them for years 2-4 of their programme.

Dissertation

During year 1, students will also complete 60 credits of dissertation work:

DR505W: Research Skills and Dissertation Writing

PLEASE SEE OVER →

Proposal Revision Exercise

Finally, during year 1, students will complete a proposal revision exercise, which will not bear any course credit. This will be a supervised process of enhancing their PhD proposal in light of greater familiarity with primary evidence and secondary literature and enhanced research and writing skills.

Progression to Years 2–4

To progress beyond year 1, students must achieve the following:

- Coursework Average: 16 on CGS (by June)
- Proposal Revision Exercise: Pass (by June)
- Dissertation Mark: 17 on CGS (by August)
- Letters of Recommendation: From supervisor and 1 course instructor (by August)

Alternative Year 1 Exit Routes

If a student does not achieve the progression standards for entering years 2–4, or if a student discontinues the programme, the following alternative exit routes are available.

- PGCert: requires successful completion of 60 credits of coursework
- PGDip: requires successful completion of 120 credits of coursework
- MTh: requires successful completion of 120 credits of course and the dissertation (60 credits)

YEARS 2–4 (FTE)

Overview

Years 2–4 of the Integrated PhD proceed just as would the standard PhD in Divinity, including supervised independent research, the requirement to successfully complete progression exercises (PGR1 by end of year 2, and PGR2 by end of year 3), submission of a written 100k-word thesis, and *viva voce* defense of the thesis.

Alternative Years 2–4 Exit Routes

If a student discontinues the programme either because of withdrawal or unsuccessful progression, one of the following exit routes may be taken:

- MTh see Alternative Year 1 Exit Routes
- MTh by Research requires successful completion and defense of a 40k-word thesis
- MPhil: requires successful completion and defense of a 70k-word thesis