

Certificate of Theological Studies

Entering Students of the 2023-2024 Academic Year

At Lutheran Brethren Seminary, we are eager to serve men and women sensing a call to pursue theological education in order to serve more effectively as laypersons. The Certificate of Theological Studies (CTS) is a non-degree program that offers the student a wonderful opportunity to experience the equivalent of one year in seminary in order to develop a deeper understanding of his/her faith and to explore God's leading in his/her life for future ministry.

Candidates for the Certificate of Theological Studies might include the following: adult learners who are interested in full or part-time study, those preparing for specific local or overseas cross-cultural mission assignments, or college students who wish to attain theological and biblical grounding for future study or vocation. In addition to the prerequisite core courses, the CTS offers many choices in biblical and theological electives with emphases in Lay Ministry, Bible and Theology, and Mission. If full-time study is possible, a student may complete a CTS program in one year.

As with all other programs at LBS, CTS courses are taught at the graduate level. If a student should later be admitted to an LBS degree or diploma program, all of the credits earned in the CTS may be applied.

Program Outcomes

- A. Interpret and apply the Bible with a Christ-centered focus.
- B. Demonstrate skills for the doing of ministry in a chosen emphasis (Lay Ministry, Bible & Theology, or Mission).
- C. Exhibit attitudes characteristic of servant leaders in local and global mission.

General Education Prerequisites for the Certificate in Theological Studies (32 credits)

At a minimum, the student must meet the following general education prerequisites or their equivalents prior to admission into the program:

Communications (6 credits)

Speech	3 credits
English Composition	3 credits

Behavioral/Social Science (12 credits)

Western Civilization, I, II	6 credits
General Psychology	3 credits
Introduction to Sociology	3 credits

Humanities/Fine Arts (6 credits)

Introduction to Philosophy	3 credits
Literature	3 credits

Natural Science/Math

3 credits

The following are also required either prior to or following admission:

Humanities Electives	5 credits
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Total General Education Prerequisites

32 credits

The Certificate in Theological Studies is granted to students who have completed the 32 credits of general education prerequisites prescribed above, plus an additional 30 credits (11 core required credits, 19 credits in electives) as outlined in the CTS program of study.

Certificate of Theological Studies (30 credits)

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**The following core courses are required of all students in the CTS program.
11 credits**

PT 900	Introduction to Seminary Education	1
EB 635	New Testament Introduction I	2
EB 636	New Testament Introduction II	2
EB 611	Torah & Covenant History	3
ST 821	Systematic Theology I	3

In addition to the above core requirements, students will complete the program with electives from other courses listed in the spring and fall schedule. (See the 2021-2022 Tentative Course Offerings. For other course options in the catalog that are not in the Fall/Spring schedule, consult with your assigned faculty advisor or the Registrar.) **19 credits (see below)**

For students wanting a CTS with an emphasis in Lay Ministry, we especially recommend including electives from the following:

PT 901	Homiletics	3
PT 907	Spiritual Care	3
PT 908	Pastoral Theology	3
PT 932	Theology & Practice of Evangelism	3
PT 920	Worship (offered every other year)	2
Electives	See Course Listing	5

For students wanting a CTS with an emphasis in Bible & Theology, we recommend including electives from the following list:

HT 715	Church History	3
HT 722	Survey of American Christianity	3
EB 613	Old Testament Poetry & Wisdom	3
ST 823	Systematic Theology III	3
Electives	See Course Listing	7

For students wanting a CTS with an emphasis in Mission, we recommend including electives from the following list:

WM 751	The Church in Mission	3
WM 755	Cross-Cultural Communication in Mission	3
WM 757	World Religions and New Religious Movements	3
PT 932	Theology & Practice of Evangelism	3
Electives	See Course Listing	7

