

A Description of the Master's Degree Programme of Theology at Tbilisi Theological Academy and Seminary

The Master's Degree programme is conducted by 9 academic members of the staff and 18 invited teachers.

The number of credits is 155, with 25 credits in each of the semesters, on average. Each of the academic years consists of 50-55 credits.

The requirements for the admittance to the educational programme are:

A recommendation letter from the Spiritual Father

A document verifying the acquisition of higher education

Internal examinations are assigned in the following subjects:

The Holy Scriptures (oral)

Foundations of the Christian Teaching (oral)

The Georgian Language and Literature (written)

History of Georgia (oral)

Foreign Languages (a test – English (B1), Russian (B1), German (A1), Modern Greek (A1).

The lower margin of the scores in the internal examinations is 51, the upper margin – 100.

The quota for the admittance of the students is 25.

Within the framework of the educational programme, hours for lectures and seminars are included which encompass multiple methods and activities of this educational institution:

Independent work at the book; discussions/debates; preparation for the seminars/colloquiums

of the semester and making reports in them; a method of explanation and elucidation; preparation for presentations; final examinations of the semester.

The students' achievements are assessed according to a system of 100 scores which unifies the score of the mid-semester assessment, the scores gained in colloquiums and seminars, attendance to the lectures and the final assessment. In order to be admitted to the examinations, the students must have no less than 11 scores.

The academic process is carried out in three trends in the Master's Degree programme:

Module of Biblical Studies;

Module of Dogmatics and Patristics;

Module of History of the Church and Canonical Law;

In the first semester of studies, the three of these modules comprise general subjects. The following subjects represent the core of the academic work: The Holy Scriptures (The Old Testament and The New Testament), History of the Church of Georgia, Old Georgian, Academic Writing, Introduction to the Holy Scripture.

From the second semester of the first year, the educational process is continued according to the modules. The students opt the module they are willing to do a month before the end of the first semester. Each module consists of both individual and general subjects. In the second semester of the first year, general subjects are: The New Testament; The Old Testament; Classical Greek. Individual subjects in the respective modules are: a) Biblical Studies: Textology; Biblical Archaeology; Old Georgian. b) Dogmatics and Patristics: Dogmatic

Theology; Old Georgian; History of the Church of Georgia. c) History of the Church and Ecclesiastical Law: History of the Church in the Period of Persecution; Academic Writing; History of the Church of Georgia. In the subsequent three semesters (III-V); from the general curriculum, the following subjects are taken: Classical Greek, Dogmatics, Liturgics and, also, individual subjects in their respective modules. These are: Biblical Translations and Editions; Canonical Law; Latin; History of the Church in the Period of Ecumenical Councils; History of the Church from the 9th Including the 15th Centuries; Comparative Theology; Practical Liturgy; History of the Oriental Churches, Patristics. The sixth semester is assigned for independent work at a qualification paper.

The method of teaching comprises hours for lectures, seminars, independent work, colloquiums, discussions and a methodology of teaching based on problems.

Upon the graduation, the students are equipped with knowledge and skills in the following:

A deep and systemic knowledge which enables them to develop original ideas and perceive the ways of solvation of individual problems; they are equipped with skills necessary for using their knowledge in practice, for making conclusions, communication, deepening the gained knowledge, executing scientific research.

The course of education is considered complete when the students defend their qualification papers upon which they are conferred with the Master's academic Degrees. Holding the aforementioned qualification diploma, the students are entitled to continue their studies in the Doctorate programme of the same educational institution.

Master's Degree Programme (Academy)

The Programme of the First Year

Module a) History of the Church and Ecclesiastical Law; Module b) Dogmatics and Patristics; Module c) Biblical Studies.

Semester I				
Nº	Subjects	Hours (by weeks)	Hours (in each of the semesters)	credits
1	Introduction to the Holy Scripture	3	45	5
2	The New Testament I	4	60	5
3	The Old Testament I	4	60	5
4	Academic Writing I	2	30	5
5	Old Georgian	3	45	5
		Total	Total	Total
		17 hours	255 hours	25 credits

Semester II Module b) Dogmatics and Patristics				
Nº	subjects	Hours (by weeks)	Hours (in each of the semesters)	credits
1	The New testament II	4	60	5
2	The Old Testament II	4	60	5
3	Dogmatic Theology I	3	45	5
4	Academic Writing II	2	30	5
5	Patristic Legacy I	3	45	5
		Total	Total	Total
		18 hours	270hours	25credits

Semester III Module b) Dogmatics and Patristics				
Nº	Subjects	Hours (by weeks)	Hours (in each of the semesters)	credits
1	Dogmatic Theology II	3	45	5
2	Classical Greek	4	60	5
3	Patristic Legacy (the IV-V Centuries) II	3	45	5
4	Ascetics, “The Ladder of Divine Ascent” by Saint John of Sinai	3	45	5
5	Comparative Theology	3	45	5
		Total	Total	Total
		16 hours	240 hours	25 credits

Semester IV Module b) Dogmatics and Patristics				
Nº	Subjects	Hours (by weeks)	Hours (in each of the semesters)	Credits
1	Patristic Legacy (the IV-V Centuries) III	3	45	5
2	Dogmatic Theology III	3	45	5
3	Classical Greek	3	45	5
4	History of the Church	3	45	5
5	Liturgical Theology I	3	45	5
		Total	Total	Total
		15 hours	225 hours	25 credits

Semester V				
Module b) Dogmatics and Patristics				
Nº	Subjects	Hours (by weeks)	Hours (in each semester)	credits
1	Patristic Legacy (the V-VIII Centuries) IV	3	45	5
2	Theological Works of Saint John of Damascus (seminar)	3	45	5
3	Patristic Literature in English Translation	3	45	5
4	Liturgical Theology II	3	45	5
5	History of Philosophy	3	45	
		Total	Total	Total
		15 hours	225 hours	25 credits

Semester VI		
Module b) Dogmatics and Patristics		
1	Master's Degree Paper	30 credits
<p>Credits: 155 Workload in class: 1215 academic hours Total workload: 3195 astronomical hours</p>		