

THEO 5003: Graduate Thesis II

2nd Term 2024-2025; Friday 9:30 am – 12:15 pm

Course Instructors:

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I. Aim of the Course

This course is designed to facilitate M.Div./BD students in their graduate thesis writing. Students are to write a graduate thesis of 20,000 words under the supervision of their individual thesis supervisor. They are expected to submit their thesis on time by the end of May 2025. **It is important to note that late submission may lead to a delay in graduation.**

II. Learning Outcomes:

Following the instruction by and timetable set by this course and the guidance of individual thesis supervisor, students are expected to meet the following learning outcomes:

1. Knowledge Outcomes:

- In-depth understanding of the chosen topic in theological studies;
- Research on and organization of primary and secondary materials;

2. Skills Outcomes:

- Developing a concrete, relevant, and sounded research topic;
- Conducting an independent research;
- Demonstrate a basic academic writing skill;

3. Attitude Outcomes:

- Familiar with and aware of survey research and publication ethics.

III. Learning Activities

A) Lectures:

Lectures/individual advisory meetings/group seminars are scheduled in some weeks. The eLearning system Blackboard/group email will serve as a discussion and information exchange forum.

B) Seminars:

Students will be divided into two groups for the seminars.

C) Meetings with thesis supervisor:

Students shall meet/communicate with their individual thesis supervisor no less than two times during the first semester.

D) Additional meeting by appointment:

Outside of the scheduled lectures and seminars, students are welcome to make an appointment for individual or group discussion/meeting with the course instructor.

E) Class schedule:

Week	Content	Working Plan
#1 10/1		
#2 17/1		
#3 24/1		Submission of the 2nd chapter begins on 3/2
31/1	Lunar New Year Holiday	
#4 7/2	Seminar * Group discussion of the 2nd chapter	Follow the same discussion format as Faculty Student Seminar:
#5 14/2	Seminar: * Group discussion of the 2nd chapter	Presentation: 5 mins Response: 3 mins Presenter's response: 3 mins Class discussion: 10 mins Instructor's feedback: 4 mins
#6 21/2	Seminar: * Group discussion of the 2nd chapter	
#7 28/2		Submission of the revised 2nd chapter to supervisor and course instructor
#8 7/3	Reading Week	
#9 14/3		
#10 21/3	Chuen King Biblical Lecture	
#11 28/3		Submission of the 3rd chapter and the rest of the thesis begins on 3/4
4/4	Qing Ming Festival	
#12 7/4 (Mon)	Seminar: * Group discussion of the 3rd chapter and the rest of the thesis	Follow the same discussion format as Faculty Student Seminar:
#13 11/4	Seminar: * Group discussion of the 3rd chapter and the rest of the thesis	Presentation: 5 mins Response: 3 mins Presenter's response: 3 mins Class discussion: 10 mins Instructor's feedback: 4 mins
#14 14/4 (Mon)	Seminar: * Group discussion of the 3rd chapter and the rest of the thesis	
18/4	Good Friday	

#14 30/4		Submission of revised first draft to supervisor and course instructor
May	Individual Discussion if needed	Revise first draft
31/5		Submission of final draft to office
Early June	Theology Salon	Eight selected presenters will share their research and methodology. They are selected from a diversity of fields and topics.
30/6		Final grading

IV. Assessment Scheme (based on Paper-Grading Rubric System)

1. Chapter 2 (any chapter, 8-10 pages) 35%
[Assessment: Argument, Counter-Arguments, Organization, Writing Style, Citation]
2. Chapter 3 and the Rest of the Thesis 35%
[Assessment: Argument, Counter-Arguments, Organization, Writing Style, Citation]
3. Participation 30%
Two Responses to a classmate's work (10% each); full attendance in class; active participation in classroom discussion.

* The presentation version will account for at least half of the total score. Please note that marks will be deducted for late submissions.

(The assigned course instructor will suggest a final grade to the supervisor based on the assessment scheme, but the supervisor may adjust the grade according to the academic potential of the research thesis and individual learning paces.)

V. Other Instructions

- Student shall invite a **full-time Divinity School teacher** to be his/her thesis supervisor. Exceptional case must be approved by the Graduate Thesis course instructor.
- Presentation and group discussion of thesis proposal follow the same pattern of the Faculty-Student Seminar.
 - Students shall present according to the presentation schedule.
 - For the rundown of each presentation, see Class Schedule above.
 - Presenters shall submit their works 4 days before the presentation (If the presentation is on Friday, the paper should be submitted on Monday; If it's Monday, it's the last Thursday).

- Respondents are required to submit a one-page written response the day before the presentation.
- VeriGuide submission is not required until the final complete draft in May 2025.
- All assignments shall be submitted to Group Discussion Forum on Blackboard.
- If students encounter issues with timely assignment submissions, please consult the procedures and guidelines outlined in **the Policy for Late Assignment Submission** available on Blackboard. This course's deduction policy will adhere to the document above.
- File name format

Assignment	File name
Chapter 2	GT_2CH_YAM Ho Yan
Revised Chapter 2	GT_2CH_YAM Ho Yan (rev)
First Draft	GT_1D_YAM Ho Yan
Revised First Draft	GT_1D_YAM Ho Yan (rev)
Response	GT_2CH_YAM Ho Yan_Response