

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER SEMINARY



CTIS 2024



# Contents

Leadership	2
Vision, Mission, & Structure	3
The Institute	4
Personnel	5
Students	6
Academics	7
Course Credit & Grading	9
Academic Year Calendar	10
Certificate in Theology	11
Diploma in Theology	13
Courses	15
Library	23
Application Guide	24

# Leadership



Board of Trustees (College of Consultors): H. Em. Cardinal William Goh, Msgr. James Yeo, Msgr. Stephen Yim, Msgr Peter Zhang Siqian, CDD, Fr. Terence Pereira, Fr Valerian Cheong, Fr Kenson Koh, Fr Jude David

CTIS Board of Management (photo): Msgr. James Yeo, Fr. John Chen Binshan, Mr. Anthony Seah, Mr. Lionel Tseng, Ms. Rose Yeo, Mr. Derrick Chee, Mr. Alvin Koh, Mr. Kenneth Ho

CTIS Academic Board: Msgr. James Yeo, Fr. John Chen Binshan, Fr. Valerian Cheong, Mr. Anthony Seah, Mr. Kenneth Ho, Mr. Arthur Goh

CTIS Examination Board:  
Fr. James Yeo, Mr. Simon Cheong, Mr. Simon Longman

# Vision, Mission, & Structure

## VISION

We aspire to be a premier Institute of Theology, preparing students for the new evangelisation, amidst the pluralistic cultures and religions of the region.

## MISSION

We are an Institute established for the systematic formation in Catholic theology, in faithfulness to Holy Scripture and the Magisterium of the Catholic Church.

### Board of Trustees

The Board of Consultors for the Archdiocese acts as the Board of Trustees for CTIS in matters pertaining to the administration of the Institute and to the appointment of key members.

### Board of Management

The Board of Management advises the Rector on matters pertaining to the legal, social, and academic status of CTIS as well as matters pertaining to finance and funding.

### Academic Board

The Academic Board attends to the quality of academic life; student matters, curriculum, and the award of certificates and diplomas. This Board also acts as a disciplinary panel for academic integrity.

### Examinations Board

The Examinations board ensures the integrity of assessment processes. It also functions as an appellate authority for matters concerning the conduct and grading of examinations.

### Institute Staff

### Rector

Oversees CTIS and its development, liaising with higher authorities, and fund raising.

### Vice Rector

Assists the Rector, and oversees developing the Mandarin department of CTIS.

# The Institute

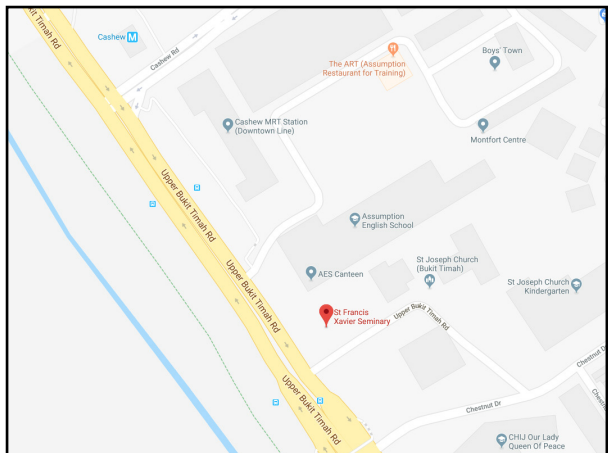


The Catholic Theological Institute of Singapore shares the same building as St. Francis Xavier Major Seminary located at:

618 Upper Bukit Timah Road, 01-01, Singapore 678214

Email:  
[admin@ctis.sg](mailto:admin@ctis.sg)

Telephone:  
6902 8700



# Personnel



- |                  |                        |
|------------------|------------------------|
| Ms. Clare Wang   | (Mandarin Coordinator) |
| Fr. John Chen    | (Vice Rector)          |
| Mr. Rex Fernando | (IT Officer)           |
| Ms. Teresa Hoe   | (Manager/Accountant)   |
| Ms. Cecelia Lee  | (Librarian)            |
| Msgr. James Yeo  | (Rector)               |
| Ms. Janice Ng    | (Student Manager)      |
| Mr. Arthur Goh   | (Academic Director)    |
| Mr. Randy Seow   | (Logistics Officer)    |

# Students



Our students comprise lay Catholics from all walks of life as well as candidates preparing for religious profession, or in training for the ordained ministry. The student community is a spiritual family of men and women, professionals and retirees, people across all age groups learning together.

Although hailing from different backgrounds, they converge at CTIS in the shared calling to equip themselves for the apostolate of Christ, and represent the rich diversity God has gifted to the Church in Singapore.

CTIS students believe that growth in theological understanding is important for living the Christian Tradition. They are convinced that the good practice of religion needs to be supported and informed by good theology. A solid intellectual appreciation of the Christian faith not only enables students to link faith with life; it allows the living Tradition to be shared for the life of others, and guides them towards the transformative vision of the Kingdom of God. Despite busy schedules, CTIS students commit themselves to a disciplined way of learning about God, the Church, and their mission as followers of Christ.



# Academics

## Why study Theology?

Theology (from the Greek *theos*, “God” and *logos*, “meaning”) holds a central place in the life of the Catholic Church. With theology Christians develop greater understanding of their own faith and explain that faith to others. Education in theology is indispensable for evangelisation, which is to bring the good news of Jesus Christ to the society in which we live.

Catholic theological tradition has explored important issues such as the nature of God, revelation in Jesus Christ, the nature of the person, human identity and existence, our origins and destiny, making life choices, the relationship between the Church and the world, and God’s mysterious and abiding presence in the Holy Spirit. The discipline of theology can be organised around broad categories: Scripture Studies, Doctrinal or Systematic Theology, Moral Theology, Church History, and Pastoral Theology.



## **Educational Principles**

The Church highly esteems the growth of the human intellect as a natural complement to spiritual development. Christians learn to connect their own religious experience with knowledge of doctrine and the scriptures. St. Anselm of Canterbury described theology as “faith seeking understanding” - adopting the spirit of this dictum, CTIS provides the educational space and curriculum for students to seek a mature understanding of the faith they profess. In partnership with the St. Francis Xavier Major Seminary, CTIS structures its courses for candidates for ordination and the religious life as well as lay students. In addition to contact time with lecturers and in-class study, students take responsibility for their own learning journey, keeping up with course readings, submitting written assignments, and allocating sufficient time for self-study, research, and project work.

Students are encouraged to work in groups to reap the benefits that learning in a community brings. CTIS recommends that students assimilate their learning into personal reflection and spiritual direction, to fruitfully unite religious knowledge with the growth of faith and life-action.

## **Entry Requirements**

A minimum academic qualification of GCE-A level or equivalent is required to apply for CTIS programmes. Further suitability will be determined through the application process. Students are expected to be fluent in either English or Mandarin. Class instruction and examinations will be carried out in the respective programmes in these languages. Each applicant is required to obtain a letter of recommendation for study at CTIS from their respective parish priest or local Ordinary.

# Course Credit & Grading

## Credit

CTIS programmes confer a certification after the completion of a prescribed list of subjects or courses. Each course has a credit value to indicate its work load. One credit (cr) corresponds to 16 lecture-hours. Lecture-hours allocated to a course do not include the time needed for assigned take-home reading and self-directed study, which the student must factor in when deciding how many courses to take per semester.

Lecture-hours correspond to time spent in class engaged in the activities associated with the respective course. These activities include but are not limited to: group work, team research projects, practicum, presentations, seminar or tutorial work, and lecturer-directed examination preparation. The time taken for the final examination of a course is not included in its lecture-hours.

## Grading

All students undergoing assessment in each unit will be graded using the following table.

A	90% and above
B	80 to 89%
C	70 to 79%
D	60 to 69%
E	50 to 59% (Fail, eligible for re-examination)
F	49% and below (Fail, required to retake subject)

# Academic Year Calendar 2024

## January

- 11 New Students' Briefing
- 12 Opening Mass for AY2024
- 15 Classes begin

## February

- 09 Chinese New Year
- 12 Chinese New Year (*observed*)
- 14 Ash Wednesday (*no classes*)

## March

- 09 Graduation 2024
- 09-17 Mid-term break \*
- 28-31 Easter Triduum break

## April

- 06 Application for Second Semester 2024 begins

## May

- 01 Labour Day (PH)
- 09 Ascension (*no classes*)
- 05 Information Night
- 20-24 Exam Week
- 25 Mid-year break begins

## June

- 10 Application for Second Semester 2024 closes

## July

- 12 New Students' Briefing
- 15 Classes begin

## August

- 09 National Day (PH)
- 15 Assumption (*no classes*)

## September

- 01-08 Mid-term break \*

## October

- 05 Application for First Semester 2025 begins
- 31 Deepavali (PH)

## November

- 1 All Saints Day (*no classes*)
- 07 Information Night
- 18-22 Exam week
- 23 End-year break begins

## December

- 09 Application for first semester 2024 closes

Morning class times for seminarians and religious are from 9:15 am to 1:15 pm.  
Evening class times for lay students are from 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm.

\*Mid-term break for morning classes in Semester 1 is from March 16 to 24 and in Semester 2 is from September 14 to 22. Please confirm the timetable details with CTIS office

# Certificate in Theology

The Certificate in Theology (Cer.Th) programme provides an introduction to the study of the Christian faith in the context of the contemporary Church.

It is a 12-credit programme that aims to bring students to a first contact with theological study that relates to the central concerns of Christian faith. It is anticipated that students completing the Certificate in Theology will become more informed about the faith of the Catholic Church and more confident in themselves as believers living the faith in the world today.

The Certificate in Theology is a platform for students to begin considering further studies in theology through CTIS or other institutes of higher theological learning.

Students who complete the Certificate in Theology programme and wish to take their studies further at CTIS may: (a) opt for the Diploma

in Theology extension programme, or (b) register for other individual courses, provided respective course prerequisites are met. Students may consult the Academic Director to explore these options.

## Regulations

### 1. Entry Criteria

The Certificate in Theology programme has the option for part-time or full-time study. Students may enroll after successfully completing the CTIS application process. Participation in this programme will be governed by the CTIS Academic Code.

Those who enroll in this programme as auditing students will not be eligible for assessment. Auditing students will receive a letter of attendance for attending all prescribed units.

## 2. Prescribed Courses

CE001 Introduction to the Bible

CE002 Salvation History

CE003 Christian Philosophy

CE004 Introduction to Theology

CE005 Foundations in Moral  
Theology

CE006 The Second Vatican  
Council

## 3. Duration

The standard duration for this programme is two semesters of full-time study. One academic year has two semesters. Students opting for part-time study must take at least one course per semester, and are permitted to complete the Certificate in Theology within six continuous semesters from the date when they began the programme.

## 4. Comprehensive Examination

There is no final comprehensive examination for this programme.

## 5. Graduation

Successful completion of the prescribed courses - with a minimum D grade average - is required in order for a student to graduate with the Certificate in Theology.

## 6. Cost

The subsidised rate for the Certificate in Theology programme is SGD \$1500.

## 7. Enrollment

CTIS enrolls students for the Certificate in Theology programme twice a year. Students may begin the programme in either the first or second semester of the academic year. Refer to the CTIS office for timetable details. Completing the Certificate in Theology programme, or its equivalent, is a prerequisite for registering in other CTIS courses.

# Diploma in Theology

The Diploma in Theology (Dip.Th) is an extension programme to the Certificate in Theology offering a more comprehensive immersion in the study of the Christian faith in the context of the contemporary Church.

It is a 12-credit programme that is offered to students who have completed the Certificate in Theology programme or its equivalent. The Diploma in Theology programme is particularly suited for more experienced students who wish to build upon their prior studies. Although it is intended for those who are preparing for or are already involved in some form of Christian ministry, the Diploma in Theology programme can also serve others who wish to enroll for personal enrichment.

The Diploma in Theology programme is a platform from which students can seriously consider further studies in theology through CTIS or other institutes of higher theological learning. Students who complete the Diploma in Theology programme

and wish to take their studies further at CTIS may extend their study in elective courses offered as part of the St. Francis Xavier Major Seminary's programme.

## Regulations

### 1. Entry Criteria

The Diploma in Theology extension programme has the option for part-time or full-time study. Students may enroll after successfully completing the Certificate in Theology programme or its equivalent. Participation in this programme is governed by the CTIS Academic Code.

Those who enroll in this programme as auditing students will not be eligible for assessment. Auditing students will receive a letter of attendance for attending all prescribed units.

## 2. Prescribed Courses

DP001 The Church

DP002 Basic Christology

DP003 Introduction to Christian  
Spirituality

DP004 The Sacraments

DP005 Introduction to Liturgy

DP007 Social Ethics

## 3. Duration

The standard duration for this programme is four semesters of full-time study. One academic year has two semesters. Students opting for part-time study are permitted to complete the Diploma in Theology within six continuous semesters from the date when they began the programme.

## 4. Comprehensive Examination

There is no final comprehensive examination for this programme.

## 5. Graduation

Successful completion of the prescribed units - with a minimum D grade average - is required in order for a student to graduate with the Diploma in Theology.

## 6. Cost

The subsidised rate for the Diploma in Theology extension programme is SGD\$150 per credit. The total cost for this programme is SGD \$1800.

## 7. Enrollment

CTIS enrolls students for the Diploma in Theology extension programme twice a year. Students may begin the programme in either the first or second semester of the academic year. Refer to the CTIS office for timetable details.



# Courses



## CE001 Introduction to the Bible

Graded 32 hours (2 cr)

An overview of biblical study, that will familiarise newcomers to exegesis as the method for scriptural interpretation. The course will include an introduction to the Ancient near East and the formation of the Old Testament Books. Next it will focus on the New Testament, with particular attention on the Synoptic Gospels. The course will conclude with the 'Jesus of History', drawing on the results of form critical research in recent years.

## CE002          Salvation History

Graded 32 hours (2 cr)

In this course, the mystery of salvation is presented through the great biblical narrative and explore the theological themes of divine election, covenant, and Israel's experiences of fidelity and infidelity to God. Students will reflect on their own faith journey against the Christian story of hope, to make faith the foundation and inner principle of their personal lives.

## CE003          Christian Philosophy

Graded 32 hours (2 cr)

This course will introduce students to rigorous inquiry through the main branches of philosophy, as well as how various thinkers through the ages have attempted to arrive at answers. Students will also be taught basic philosophical methods and concepts that form the precursor to reading theology.

## CE004          Introduction to Theology

Graded 32 hours (2 cr)

Theology is the exercise of faith seeking understanding. (St. Anselm) This course provides the basic tools and foundations needed to critically reflect on the experience of faith and for the study of theology within the framework of the Christian tradition in fidelity to the Apostolic faith. It will cover fundamental theology: namely, the possibility, nature and reality of divine revelation, the credibility of faith and reason, the nature and basis of theology and the relationship between Scripture and Tradition. It will also introduce in brief, the major sub-disciplines within theology - christology, trinity, ecclesiology, sacramentology and so forth.

## CE005 Foundations in Moral Theology

Graded 32 hours (2 cr)

This course presents the core moral teachings of the Catholic Church. Students will be assisted to understand what constitutes a moral act, the complexities of making moral decisions, and to see moral living as a response to the call to live out one's Christian discipleship.

## CE006 The Second Vatican Council

Graded 32 hours (2 cr)

An introduction to the Second Vatican Council as an historical event within the context of the conciliar tradition. Students will become acquainted with the events and personalities of the council from its announcement in 1959 by Pope John XXIII to its closing by Pope Paul VI in 1965. This course will also present highlights of the sixteen documents promulgated by the council, with detailed reading of selected texts and discussion of their interpretation for the life of the Church today.

## DP001 The Church

Graded 32 hours (2 cr)

Requirement: CE004 or equivalent

Ecclesiology concerns the self-understanding of the Church. Students will be introduced to the various perspectives in ecclesiology today. Topics include the images of the Church; the influences and the consequences of the Second Vatican Council and its understanding of the Church; the papacy; and the Church seen as communion. This course will include a detailed reading of *Lumen Gentium*, the Constitution on the Church.

## DP002          Basic Christology

Graded 32 hours (2 cr)

Requirement: CE004 or equivalent

Christology is the study of Jesus of Nazareth who is confessed by the Church as the Christ. This course provides a reasoned account of faith in Jesus as the Christ of God. Faith in Jesus Christ as God-man is foundational for the study of the other treatises of systematic theology. After an introduction and an overview of the different Christologies available today, students will inquire into the quest for the historical Jesus, a necessary pre-requisite to establish the continuity between the Christ of faith and the Jesus of History. The remaining sections of the course will deal with the implicit Christological claim of Jesus of Nazareth and the explicit Christological claims of the early Church. Finally, we will examine the Christological developments of the Post-Apostolic Church paying special attention to the heresies, the teaching of the Church Fathers and the Christological Councils.

## DP003          Introduction to Christian Spirituality

Graded 16 hours (1 cr)

Students are presented with an introduction to Christian Spirituality, how to cultivate and practice spirituality to nourish one's spiritual journey. Will touch on certain types of spirituality and hopefully to discover your spirituality.

## DP004            The Sacraments

Graded 32 hours (2 cr)

Requirement: CE004 or equivalent

Christ is the sacrament of the Father, the Church is the sacrament of Christ. Through the Church, Christ our Saviour shares with us the love of the Father in a visible way, through the seven signs: the sacraments. Filled with the Spirit in Baptism and Confirmation, we are made sons and daughters “in power”, witnessing to the whole world the love of the Father. This course will include a survey of the canons concerning these two sacraments of Christian initiation. (cc. 840-896)

## DP005            Introduction to the Liturgy

Graded 16 hours (1 cr)

Students are introduced to the main literary sources for liturgy and to various methods of approaching them that are found in secondary sources. Focus will be on the primary liturgical documents, although secondary documents pertaining to the liturgy will also be discussed. The time period under consideration extends from the first centuries of Christianity to the Second Vatican Council. Students will review the history of liturgical books and developments in liturgy as a means of more deeply appropriating the tradition that underlies the liturgical books in use today.

DP007          Social Ethics

Graded 32 hours (2 cr)

Requirement: CE005 or equivalent

Christians are protagonists in our fast changing world. This course will explore the social doctrine of the Church and enable students to address today's world in harmony with the plan of God to make the world one family. Topics discussed include: how the human person as the centre of social life is to be understood; the meaning of political activity; how justice is implemented; which economic policies foster human dignity and which ones harm it; and how peace should be promoted and human societies be organised so that basic human rights are respected and fostered.

# Elective Courses



Students that have completed the Certificate in Theology may attend elective courses of the seminary programme in the mornings, with approval from the Academic Director.

Please contact the CTIS Office for more information regarding morning courses.



Taiwanese musicologist Su Kaiyi was invited by CTIS for 2-day seminar in Oct 2019.



A visit by Fr Thomas Montanaro, LC from Regina Apostolorum in Jan 2019.



# Library



The CTIS Library offers students the support needed for research and references in their academic work. Our library is situated on the first and second floors and is open to the public. Library membership is available to non-CTIS students. Please enquire with the Librarian on being a library member.

CTIS Librarian:                    Cecelia Lee ([library@ctis.sg](mailto:library@ctis.sg))

Library hours:                    Mondays to Fridays, 9:30 am to 6:30 pm  
Closed on Saturdays, Sundays & Public Holidays

# Application Guide 2024

CTIS will offer the Certificate in Theology, and the Diploma in Theology programmes for this academic year. Prior courses attended offers CTIS some indication of your past study experience. They do not factor in the decision for admission.

Interested applicants are required to submit in hard copy:

1. The application form. Also available on the CTIS application web page.
2. A recommendation letter from a Catholic priest. The template for the recommendation letter is included in this brochure.
3. Diploma of highest education received (certified true copy).
4. A 500-1000 word typewritten essay. Describe what led you to enrol, and what you expect from your learning experience at CTIS.

<http://www.ctis.sg/application>

Only complete applications submitted on or before the enrolment period closes will be processed.

Please post all applications to:

Ms. Janice Ng  
CTIS Admissions  
St. Francis Xavier Seminary Building  
618 Upper Bukit Timah Road, #01-01  
Singapore 678214

Info Night for Semester 1: November 9, 2023 (Thu) @ St Ignatius Room

Registration Closing Date for Semester 1: December 9, 2023

Info Night for Semester 2: May 16, 2024 (Thu) @ St Ignatius Room

Registration Closing Date for Semester 2: June 8, 2024

## **Audit Students**

Audit students are not required to fulfill course requirements and will not undergo assessment. A letter of participation will be awarded for adequate attendance. If audit students wish to obtain CTIS certification at a future time, they will have to take courses again as full-time or part-time students. Audit students have a two semester window to attend the course signed up for, starting from the date of application.

For admission inquiries please contact us:

Student Manager:        Ms Janice Ng  
Telephone:                6902 8705  
E-mail:                     [janiceng@ctis.sg](mailto:janiceng@ctis.sg)







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618 UPPER BUKIT TIMAH ROAD, SINGAPORE 678214