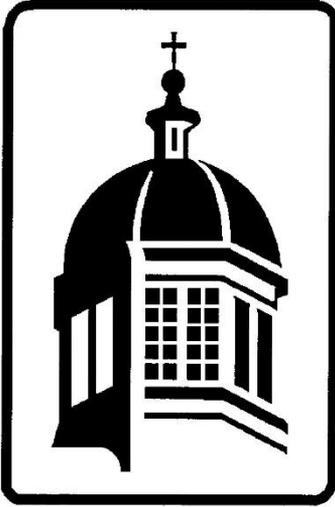


# ST. AUGUSTINE'S SEMINARY OF TORONTO

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## INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY

**Master of Religious Education**  
**Master of Theological Studies**  
**Conjoint Certificate in Theological Studies (Post-Baccalaureate)**  
**Diploma in Theological Studies**  
**Diploma in Lay Ministry**

# Online Education at St. Augustine's Institute of Theology

*St. Augustine's students may take up to 10 online distance education courses in St. Augustine's Master of Religious Education and Master of Theological Studies degree programs. The Diploma in Theological Studies may be completed fully online. The Diploma in Lay Ministry may also be completed fully online with the exception of the capstone course.*

St. Augustine's students have the opportunity to attend classes at our main campus sites (2661 Kingston Road and 121 St. Joseph Street), through online distance education courses, at St. Augustine's approved extension site in Aurora, Ontario, and the other Toronto School of Theology Member Colleges approved extension sites throughout Ontario.

With our accreditation from the Association of Theological Schools [A.T.S.] in Canada and the United States, our online course options have increased. **For both comprehensive Distance Education Programs** (*the Master of Religious Education and the Master of Theological Studies*) **the total number of courses that may be taken at approved extension sites and/or through online distance education courses must not exceed 10 (50% of the program). The remaining 10 courses or 50% of the program must be taken at the main campus sites.** St. Augustine's students also have the option to complete the entire program by taking all their courses at the main campus sites.

Similarly, Diploma in Lay Ministry students can take 9 of the 10 courses online. The capstone course 'Lay Ministry in the Diocesan Church' however, must be completed in the classroom. The Diploma in Theological Studies can be completed fully online.

We trust that these options allow our students a greater flexibility in determining their optimal learning setting. Please do not hesitate to contact your Academic Advisor for course matters.

# Conjoint Degree Options

## Master of Religious Education

**Purpose:** The Master of Religious Education (M.R.E.) degree program is designed to equip persons for professional leadership in educational ministry within the Catholic ecclesial tradition. The primary goals for this degree program are: to give the student the capacity for critical and constructive theological reflection regarding the content and processes of educational ministry in the Catholic Church; to build an understanding of educational, social, and behavioural sciences that ground educational practice within the various cultural contexts in which educational ministry occurs; to provide the occasion for personal and spiritual growth; and to equip the student with skills in teaching religion and in designing, administering, and assessing educational programs.

**Goal:** The M.R.E. program at St. Augustine's Seminary prepares candidates for educational ministries and leadership positions within the Catholic ecclesial tradition. Students encounter and deepen their understanding of key aspects of the Catholic theological tradition.

1. **Religious Heritage:** The areas of study in this Tradition include biblical, historical, pastoral, systematic, and moral theology.
2. **Personal-Spiritual Growth:** Students integrate this knowledge into a personal response of faithful love for Jesus Christ, which is expressed in their loving service to his Church and all people.
3. **Cultural Context:** Students encounter and engage the principles of educational ministry within the Roman Catholic Church and, in particular, within the Catholic school system and its contemporary cultural contexts.
4. **Ministry and Public Leadership:** In the M.R.E. program students build on their understanding of the educational, social, and behavioural sciences which ground educational practice. Students develop the capacity for critical and constructive theological reflection regarding the content and processes of Catholic educational practice. They enrich and strengthen their theological understanding and leadership skills necessary to be effective educators in the Catholic faith.

*\*Course Reduction Policy: Students who possess the required qualifications may be eligible for Advanced Standing in the Master of Religious Education program. Please contact the Director of the Institute of Theology for additional details.*

# Master of Theological Studies

**Purpose:** The Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) degree program provides a basic understanding of the theological disciplines for general educational purposes. The M.T.S. offers a survey knowledge of the various theological disciplines, while requiring focus and depth in one specific area.

**Goal:** The M.T.S. program at St. Augustine's Seminary provides the opportunity for students to deepen their faith as they acquire greater understanding of the key elements of the Catholic theological tradition.

**Program Outcomes:** By completing a broad range of academic theology courses which provide both foundational and advanced theological knowledge, students of the M.T.S. degree will have prepared themselves to serve the Church's scholarly and educational mission. They will be enabled to analyze more surely and discern more confidently between current intellectual fashions or party identities in the contemporary life of the Church and the deeper shape and substance of Catholic faith and tradition.

Through consultation with the Academic Advisor, students will select a particular area of theological focus within which to conduct in-depth research through course work and either the writing of a thesis or the completion of a summative exercise, depending on the year of matriculation. This experience will help students develop the academic skills necessary to present original scholarly research in their chosen area of concentration.

**Thesis/Summative Exercise:** The M.T.S. program will require all students beginning studies in September 2012 to complete either a two-credit thesis or a summative project in consultation with the Academic Advisor.

## **Conjoint Certificate Options**

### **Conjoint Certificate in Theological Studies (Post-Baccalaureate)**

**Purpose & Goal:** To introduce university graduates to a new academic discipline that corresponds to the introductory level of a second-entry program. It aims to provide such students with a means to complete a limited sequence of courses in Christian studies that will give them a strong educational foundation in the field.

## **Non-Conjoint Diploma Options**

### **Diploma in Theological Studies**

**Purpose:** To provide a program in theology in order that the student, who does not wish to pursue a degree, may investigate at greater depth and in a structured learning situation, the Catholic tradition of faith.

**Goal:** To assist theology students in developing their faith by course content and through interaction in a structured learning situation.

**Please Note:** *This program may be completed fully online.*

### **Diploma in Lay Ministry**

**Purpose:** To offer to those already serving or hoping to serve as Lay Ministers the chance to enhance their ministry through theological education. This is not a certification program but rather a coordinated combination of introductory courses.

**Goal:** To provide a theological foundation allowing the student to focus on areas related to his or her personal ministerial goals.

**Please Note:** *This program may be completed fully online with the exception of the capstone course as it is not offered online.*

# Course Descriptions

## Biblical Courses:

### **SAB1003H – Introduction to Old Testament**

This course provides an introduction to the Old Testament or Hebrew Bible and its three main canonical divisions with an emphasis on theological interpretation. Students will be familiarized with the biblical books and their historical context. The course also explores the history of biblical interpretation with an application to Old Testament texts.

### **SAB1081H – Introduction to New Testament**

Survey of New Testament world, authors, theologies. Introduction to the historical-critical and other methods of exegesis. Focus on the relation of hermeneutic to Christian theological traditions; determining the senses of Scripture, the intent of the author, the structures in the texts, the stance of the reader.

## Church History Courses:

### **SAH2224H – 20th Century Church History, 1900-1960**

Sketches four (4) major cultural challenges facing the Pre-Vatican Church. Explores various individual attempts to find creative solutions to these problems, as well as the main official responses from the Magisterium.

### **SAH2420H – History of Christianity to 1600**

An exploration of the roots of early Christian communities, the Constantinian era, church councils, cultural pluralism and Eastern churches, the investiture controversy, the medieval parish, conciliar development, early reform, and Protestant Reformers.

### **SAH2427H – Catholic Christianity Since the 17th Century**

An exploration of the roots of Catholic Reformers. 17th Century missions and science, the French Revolution, papal reaction. Christian Democracy, nouvelle théologie, Vatican II and the Canadian Church.

## Systematic Theology Courses:

### **SAT1101H – Foundations of Theology**

This course considers basic and critical themes in theology to help the student understand the principles, sources, resources, matter and scope of Roman Catholic theology in order to place his or her theologizing upon a more secure foundation.

### **SAT2222H – Mystery of the Trinity**

This course explores the mystery of the Triune God with its Biblical sources and Patristic development and provides an examination of the development of the understanding of the Immanent Trinity, with attention paid to particular issues, e.g. Filioque, notion of 'Person'. Also stressed is the development of a Trinitarian spirituality with some attention given to the mystics.

### **SAT2223H – The Christian God**

This course examines selective themes and fundamental questions in Trinitarian Theology from a Catholic perspective as found in the New Testament, Ecumenical Councils, the Fathers and Scholastics, and to some extent, in modern times. This prepares the ground for making a few important inquiries in light of contemporary concerns from a systematic perspective.

### **SAT2242H – Christology**

Answering Jesus' question: "Who do people say I am?", this course uses Old Testament expectations, New Testament data, Conciliar definitions and contemporary issues.

### **SAT2401H – Ecclesiology**

The mystery of the Church as seen in the light of Vatican II. Her foundation in Christ in Scripture and history that gives rise to her structure, mission, and four Marks. Mary as the Mother of the Church and eschatological icon.

### **SAT2433H – Sacraments**

Theological reflection on the sacramental life of the Church in the context of worship and education in sacramentality.

### **SAT2600H – Theological Anthropology**

Exploration of the following themes in the light of Christian revelation: creation, community, body and soul, humanity as male and female, sin, grace, eschatology.

### **SAT2601H – Ecumenism**

This course explores historical sources of division among Christian churches, origins of the modern ecumenical movement, the commitment of the Roman Catholic Church to Christian unity, and growing agreement in sacramental life. Special attention is given to implications for catechesis and pastoral care of inter-church families.

### **SAT3850H – Christianity and World Religions**

Studying the forms of religious awakenings in the great religions of the world, this course is meant to show both a way to deepen our own religious experience, and a pathway to interfaith dialogue. The focus will be on the scriptures, traditions and practices in these religions.

## **Moral Theology Courses:**

### **SAT1905H – Moral Theology**

An introduction to Catholic moral theology, including the fundamental theological meaning of the moral life, a brief survey of the history of Catholic moral thought, the sources of moral knowledge and action: reason, faith, and the role of the magisterium; freedom and law; conscience, virtue, grace and sin; and the elements of moral action - object, intention, and circumstances. Particular attention will be given to the teaching of the 1993 Encyclical Letter *Veritatis Splendor*.

### **SAT3932H – Human Sexuality and Marriage**

This course is a critical consideration of Catholic moral teaching on human sexuality, marriage and related issues in light of a new evangelization. With *Veritatis Splendor* and Pope John Paul's *Theology of the Body* as guides, the course invites a deeper understanding of our identity as unique sons and daughters of the Father, created as the *imago dei* – and called to make an embodied and fruitful gift of self.

### **SAT3926H – Social Justice**

Exploration in historical perspective of major themes in the Catholic Church's social doctrine by reading magisterial documents in seminars. Relationships between ecclesiology and justice issues, and crisis in contemporary Catholic social thought.

### **SAT3942H – Papal Teaching on Social Justice**

The course is intended as an introduction to Catholic Social Teaching (CST). Drawing principally on magisterial sources, it will survey the main themes of CST: the Church's social mission, the principles of CST, the family, work, economic life, the political community, the environment, and war and peace. For each theme, applications will be made to contemporary social challenges, encouraging student discussion of the role that CST can play in responding to these challenges.

## **Pastoral Theology Courses:**

### **SAP1541H – Families of the World in Classroom and Parish: Understanding for Education and Service**

Families come to Canada from every society of the world, bringing their diverse relationships, roles, structures and understandings. Clergy, teachers and parish workers need an awareness of what those might be in order to serve individuals and families from diverse cultures and socioeconomic backgrounds. Whether in pastoral work, in teaching family life education or in other forms of service, awareness of possibilities and questions will be useful.

### **SAP3606H – Lay Ministry in the Diocesan Church**

Designed for the Lay Ministry in the Roman Catholic Church. Topics include an overview of theology, sociological context; Church context and pastoral aspects; an overview of lay ministry opportunities in the Church/world; ecclesiological and sacramental principles, and the rights and obligations of lay ministers.

## **Religious Education Courses:**

### **SAP3420H – Religious Education Practicum and Globalization**

The M.R.E. Practicum offers participants the opportunity to reflect upon and integrate the theological, philosophical, historical, and pedagogical areas of study, to practice their knowledge and skills, to profit from a supervised peer-supported group and learn to relate their teaching practice to a post-modern globalized reality. This is a required core Religious Education course for St. Augustine's M.R.E. candidates.

### **SAP2471H – Psychology of Faith Development**

A reflection upon the role of psychology in religious education as a way to understand faith development (James W. Fowler) and/or human transcendence (Bernard J. F. Lonergan). Some time will be given to Ignatian and Carmelite spirituality as examples of structuring spirituality.

### **SAP2401H – Conversion and Education**

Study of foundational pastoral, methodological, and theological dynamics for authentic Catholic education. Focus on education's role to inform, form and transform. Conversion in the context of a global, techno-logical world in dialogue with Vatican II and significant post-Conciliar documents.

### **SAP3256H – Spirituality and the Catholic Educator**

Importance for the Catholic educator of attentiveness to the spiritual in oneself and others. Historical and contemporary understandings and expressions of spirituality as lived reality. Spiritual formation in a global, technological world. Contribution of modern theologians, including Rahner and Lonergan.

### **SAP3257H – Spirituality of Work: Faith Life in Your Profession**

This course provides the perspectives within which the participants can identify five (5) variables in their work, craft or profession that become the basis for developing a spirituality that could be deepened by the Christian tradition.

## **Religious Education Electives:**

### **SAH3473H – Issues in Catholic Education in Ontario**

This course provides an historical analysis of the evolution of Catholic elementary and secondary schools in Ontario from the 1830's to the present. In addition, students will study the development of separate school boards and legislation.

### **SAP3601H – The Ministry of the Evangelization of Adolescents**

A scientific approach to the evangelization of adolescents in the contemporary context enables participants to understand their pastoral role and to develop and execute an effective ministry with youth.

## **Philosophy Courses:**

### **SAT1711H – Introduction to Thomas Aquinas**

This course is an introduction to the thought of St. Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274), the most influential Catholic theologian of the last millennium. No previous knowledge of Aquinas or of philosophy is presumed. We will start by looking at Aquinas' program of remaking Christian theology in light of the best philosophy and science of his day; then we will examine his views on human action, human nature, human knowing and philosophical theology.

## Accessing the Institute of Theology Webpage

1. Type [www.staugustines.on.ca](http://www.staugustines.on.ca) into your web browser.
2. Click on the ‘**Current Students**’ tab found at the top of the webpage.
3. Click on the ‘**Institute of Theology**’ tab.
4. Scroll down to view the programs found on the left-hand side of the webpage. Please then click on the individual programs for additional information.

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St. Augustine’s Seminary Motto  
*“As the Sun [reigns in the Heavens], may Charity  
alone reign [in our Hearts]”*

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