

CHRISTIAN THOUGHT MAJOR (M)

The world needs leaders who have thought about the Christian faith and how best to share the Gospel with people living in an age of distraction. Christian thought is devoted to the study of the history of Christianity, Christian doctrine, Christian philosophy, apologetics, and ethics. The major and minor provide the opportunity to study the structure of Christian belief and practice. Students are equipped in mind and spirit for service to Christ in the Church and world. These programs are suitable for anyone with an interest in theology and philosophy and a sincere desire to carry out the Great Commission.

Program Learning Outcomes

- Students will acquire a deep understanding of what it means to pursue work as a vocation, and will be aware of the spiritual and ethical implications.
- Students will develop a mature understanding of the Christian faith informed by relevant history, philosophy, and comparative religion.
- Students will improve their ability to identify worldview assumptions, to explore their implications, and to evaluate their strengths and weaknesses from a Christian perspective.
- Students will acquire critical distance from the prevailing assumptions in their culture and gain the vocabulary and analytical tools required to assess them.
- Students will understand a variety of important non-Christian perspectives and will learn how to communicate effectively with non-Christians.
- Students will become proficient in witnessing their faith and defending it within their vocation.

Curriculum

Code	Title	Hours
Core Requirements (https://catalog.cuw.edu/undergraduate/university/acad-prog/trad/core/)		45
Major Requirements		33
Electives		48
Minor: Required (minimum 18 credits)		
Total Hours		126

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Required Core Courses		
REL 201	Old Testament	
REL 204	Biblical Theology	
Any REL course with a number above 204 ¹		
Required Courses		
HIST 208	History of Christianity	3
HIST 475	The Reformations	3
PHIL 334	Christ and Culture	3
PHIL 325	Christian Apologetics	3
REL 203	New Testament	3
REL 310	Religion in America Today	3
REL 376	Christian Ethics	3

Research Methods Class

HIST 385	Historical Methods	3
or REL 490	Senior Seminar I	

Senior Thesis Class

HIST 490	History Seminar	3
or REL 491	Senior Seminar II	

Major Electives

Select a concentration of any 2 classes (300-level or 400-level) in one of the 3 relevant areas (history, theology, or philosophy)	6
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Total Hours	33
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¹ Strongly recommended: a course in historical theology, such as REL 333 A Survey of Christian Thought.