



DAVENANT HALL

Academic Catalog

2024–2025 ACADEMIC YEAR



REIMAGINING THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

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About Davenant Hall

Davenant Hall is reimagining theological education.

The digital age has disrupted established relationships between teachers, institutions, and students across the educational landscape, with theological education being no exception. Many well-established institutions have been slow to adapt to these radical changes, and have been left exposed as inefficient and overpriced. For motivated self-learners with a hunger to learn from expert teachers, a new educational landscape has opened up.

Davenant Hall is seeking to form this exciting new landscape. It combines the rich theological and moral vision of reformed catholic orthodoxy with a self-conscious desire to create unique modern expressions of the “Republic of Letters,” the dynamic intellectual community which characterized the Reformation era of learning.

We advance and renew Christian wisdom for the digital age, harnessing the new powers of the internet to offer effective and flexible online instruction, and the old practices of community and mentorship to seek wisdom together through discipleship retreats and residential intensives at our Davenant House property.

Taking these together, Davenant Hall allows students to engage the great tradition in order to mature and grow into whatever vocation God has given them. This curriculum affords students the opportunity to work through texts with guides who can enable students to more deeply know God’s two books, and themselves, in a way that moves them toward the mastery of wisdom: the effective grasp of Word and world, and the ability to see all things in the radiance the eternal Logos whose light enlightens all men and who can be found by those who seek Him.

We offer courses in Theology and Ethics, Bible, Philosophy, Christian History, Languages, and Literature. Courses run for 10 weeks¹, and are taught in 2-hour weekly Zoom sessions, usually in a mixture of lecture and discussion. Students are assigned reading before class, and invited to participate in discussion outside of class in our Davenant Common Room Discord server. If students cannot make any sessions, recordings are available.

1. Except for Summer Term, which runs 2.5 hour classes for 8 weeks. See “Term Structure” for more info.

Registration, Tuition, & Fees

Register and find more information at davenanthall.com

REGISTRATION

TO REGISTER

To register for courses, please visit davenanthall.com where you can view our course offerings for the upcoming term. On the course page, you will find the course description, syllabus (when available), and registration options. If you have any questions, please contact our registrar at registrar@davenantinstitute.org.

DEGREE ENROLLMENT

To enroll as a degree-seeking student in one of our degree programs, fill out the application form on our website. Applicants must provide a Personal Statement, Writing Sample, Academic Reference, and Character Reference. Once all documents are received, we usually respond within three weeks on admission decisions. Admissions are on a rolling basis, meaning students can apply and be accepted at any time of year. Any prior courses taken for credit will count toward the student's degree.

PAYMENT

Payment is made upon registering for courses through Populi. Tuition rates differ for part-time students, full-time students, and auditors (see below). See fee schedule below.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Currently, we do not offer scholarships, choosing instead to keep standard tuition extremely low across the board. However, we know there are occasionally special circumstances that make tuition payment challenging, and can occasionally make special arrangements on a case-by-case basis.

TUITION

AUDITING *\$225 PER COURSE*

Auditing a course gives students full access to classes, discussions, readings, and class recordings but no assignments are required and no credit is given.

FULL COURSE *\$449 PER COURSE*

Students enrolling for a full course will submit graded assignments and receive a grade. These classes are for-credit, so they can be applied toward one of our degree programs.

FULL-TIME STUDENTS *\$325 PER COURSE*

Students enrolled in at least four courses per term are eligible for a full-time discount. These classes are for-credit, so they can be applied toward one of our degree programs. Regular courses, language courses, and summer residentials will count towards full time status, but lecture courses and discipleship week will not.

LANGUAGE COURSES

\$600 PER COURSE

Our language courses are offered through our partner organization, Ancient Languages Institute (more information under Course Descriptions). Tuition is a flat rate for both Part-Time and Full-Time students for degree-seeking students only. For full information, and to register for courses, visit ancientlanguage.com.

DISCIPLESHIP WEEK

\$175

Students enrolled in our M.Litt. program will be required to attend a 1-week discipleship program at some point during their degree. For details, please see the Course Descriptions section of the Catalog. The price listed includes room and board for five days but does not include travel costs. Participants may bring family members upon approval by the Residential Teaching Fellow at additional cost.

RESIDENTIAL INTENSIVES

EARLY \$1200
REGULAR \$1550

Students enrolled in our M.Litt. program will be required to attend two 2-week summer residential intensives during their degree. For details, please see the Course Descriptions section of the Catalog. The price listed includes room and board for two weeks but does not include travel costs. Participants may bring family members upon approval by the Residential Teaching Fellow at additional cost. See Academic Calendar for registration deadlines. Registration includes a \$150 non-refundable deposit.

VIDEO LECTURE COURSES

\$99

Video lecture courses are a Davenant product offered to the public but are also required in several of our degrees. Students already admitted to a degree program may sign up for the course at a discount through davenanthall.com. Details about course descriptions and requirements are listed under the Courses Offered section of the Catalog. To request the discount, please contact the registrar at registrar@davenantinstitute.org.

FEES

REGISTRATION

\$25 PER TERM

The registration deadline is typically two weeks before the term begins. Students registering before this date will pay the normal tuition rate and a one-time \$25 non-refundable registration fee per term.

LATE REGISTRATION

+\$25 PER COURSE

Late registration begins immediately following the registration deadline two weeks prior to the term and ends the day before the term start date. The late registration fee is non-refundable.

FEE SCHEDULE

See Drop Policy below. See Academic Calendar for exact dates.

8 weeks prior to term	Regular Registration opens
2 weeks prior to term	Regular Registration deadline; Late registration begins
The day before term	Late registration deadline
Term start date	Tuition charged
End of 2nd week	Drop deadline (50% refund)
End of 4th week	Withdrawal deadline (0% refund)

Enrollment Policies

DROP POLICY

The policies below apply to changes made after the registration deadline two weeks prior to term. To change registration before the term starts, please log on to Populi. To change registration after the term starts, email the registrar at registrar@davenportinstitute.org. See the Academic Calendar section for exact dates.

Drop Date (100% Refund): Before the term starts, students may drop with a 100% tuition refund. Registration fee is non-refundable.

Drop Date (50% Refund): Within the first two weeks of a term, students may drop the course with a 50% tuition refund. Registration fee is non-refundable. To drop, please email the registrar.

Withdrawal: Within weeks three and four of a term, students who drop a course will receive no refund and will earn a “W” on their transcript. Students cannot drop after this time will receive a letter grade. To drop, please email the registrar.

TUITION ESTIMATE FOR DEGREE COMPLETION

The estimates below assume full time status with no late registrations.

Certificate (15 credits)	\$2,247 – \$4,024 depending on concentration
M.St. (38 credits)	\$6,873
M.Litt. (72 credits)	\$12,972

ATTENDANCE & CLASS MEETING TIME SCHEDULING

Attendance is required for all students taking courses for credit. Most classes are scheduled for evenings or weekends, especially core classes. If the scheduled time does not work for a particular student, they may switch or drop the course according to the Drop policy.

EXTENSION POLICY

All coursework and exams must be submitted no later than two weeks after the term end date. Before that time, homework extensions are at the discretion of the instructor. If a student requires more time, the student may submit a formal extension request by emailing the registrar at registrar@davenportinstitute.org. If approved, an extension will be granted to the student for a specific period of time agreed upon by the student and instructor. Extension requests will be assessed on a case-by-case basis and will generally be granted for medical and family emergencies only.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT POLICY

International students who are unable to attend classes live due to significant time zone differences may request alternative accommodations by contacting the registrar at registrar@davenportinstitute.org. Accommodations are a last resort, are not guaranteed, and should not be a regular occurrence. Availability for accommodations will be determined on a case-by-case basis for each student and each course. Students are encouraged to make every effort to attend class live, since conversation in community is an essential part of our degree offerings. International students who are unable to attend residencies in person are encouraged to apply for non-residency degrees.

HOW TO APPLY TO A DEGREE PROGRAM

Students seeking to apply to one of the degree programs listed in this catalog must fill out the application at davenanthall.com. Details on application requirements are listed on the website as well as under the degree descriptions in this catalog. Please note that there is a non-refundable fee associated with each program application:

- Certificate Application: free
- Masters Application: \$49
- Doctoral Application: \$150

SWITCHING DEGREES

Degree students already in one of Davenant's programs may request to transfer their earned credit to a new program by emailing the registrar (registrar@davenportinstitute.org).

MINIMUM GRADE REQUIREMENT FOR DEGREE STUDENTS

Students enrolled in one of our degrees must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 (B average). If the students' GPA falls below 3.0, Davenant will initiate conversation with the student to judge whether the student is ready for their program.

If the student earns a grade lower than a "C" (2.0) on a course required for their degree, they must retake the course in order to graduate. Their new grade will replace their former grade. If a degree student earns a grade lower than a "C" (2.0) on an elective, they are not required to retake the course, but they may request to retake the course or a close equivalent as a substitute for their former grade.

TRANSFER CREDIT POLICY

Degree students may request to transfer credits of graduate courses from another graduate institution. Undergraduate credits will not be accepted. Acceptance of credits will be conducted on a case-by-case basis, will require an academic transcript, and may require a course description or syllabus from the other institution's catalog. Transfer credit cannot be applied to a certificate degree. To request transfer credit, please email the registrar (registrar@davenportinstitute.org).

Courses from the previous institution must have earned a minimum of B. Up to 6 courses may be transferred in one of our degree subject areas. Up to 6 language courses (Latin, Greek, Hebrew) may be transferred, but actual competency will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Transfer credits will be translated into our program may not reflect the same number of credits as the other institution. Transfer credits cannot substitute for required core courses in each subject area, though elective credit may be granted.

PAST CATALOGS

[Catalog 2023 – 2024](#)

[Catalog 2022 – 2023](#)

[Catalog 2021 – 2022](#)

Degree Options

CERTIFICATES

15 CREDITS

Our Certificate program is a one-year degree of 15-credit course of study that may serve as supplemental adult education, a post-college gap year program, a qualification for Christian secondary-school or adult education teachers, or a strong launch-pad into graduate study. Most courses meet online for 2 hrs./wk. for 10 weeks (2.5 hrs/wk in our 8-wk summer term). Unless otherwise noted, courses are worth two credit hours each.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply to one of our certificate programs, please fill out the application at davenanthall.com. The application will require a personal statement.

UPGRADING TO THE M.LITT. PROGRAM

Certificate students who desire admission to a masters program are required to fill out the M.Litt. application.

MULTIPLE CERTIFICATES

Students may earn multiple certificates. Core courses may apply to multiple certificates, but electives will only count towards one certificate. However, it is recommended that instead of earning multiple certificates, students upgrade to a masters program. For example, our M.St. is only slightly more credits than two certificates.

CERTIFICATE IN THE FOUNDATIONS OF CLASSICAL PROTESTANTISM

- Video Lecture Series: An Introduction to Biblical Wisdom (*1 credit*)
- Video Lecture Series: God Is: An Introduction to Theology Proper (*1 credit*)
- Video Lecture Series: Christ and His Work (*1 credit*)
- Natural Law and Scriptural Authority
- Protestant Moral Theology
- Philosophy for Theology
- Reformation and the Modern World
- 2 Electives

CERTIFICATE IN BIBLICAL STUDIES

- Video Lecture Series: An Introduction to Biblical Wisdom (*1 credit*)
- Natural Law and Scriptural Authority
- 6 Biblical Studies Electives

CERTIFICATE IN THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

- Video Lecture Series: An Introduction to Biblical Wisdom (*1 credit*)
- Video Lecture Series: God Is: An Introduction to Theology Proper (*1 credit*)
- Video Lecture Series: Christ and His Work (*1 credit*)
- Philosophy for Theology
- 5 Theological Studies Electives

CERTIFICATE IN PHILOSOPHY

- Video Lecture Series: God Is: An Introduction to Theology Proper (1 credit)
- Philosophy for Theology
- Philosophy as a Way of Life
- 5 Philosophy Electives

CERTIFICATE IN CHRISTIAN HISTORY

- Video Lecture Series: The Story of Ancient & Medieval Christendom (1 credit)
- Reformation and the Modern World
- 6 Christian History Electives

CERTIFICATE IN LANGUAGES

- Natural Law & Scriptural Authority
- Video Lecture Series: God Is: An Introduction to Theology Proper (1 credit)
- 6 Language courses in no more than two languages

MASTERS DEGREES**MASTER OF STUDIES IN CLASSICAL PROTESTANTISM (M.ST.)****38 CREDITS**

Our M.St. program is a one- to two-year online degree of 38-credit course of study that could serve as an alternative to an M.A. program at a seminary, a qualification for Christian secondary-school teachers, or preparation for further graduate studies. This degree aims to offer maximum flexibility for those already in full time work or for international students by not stipulating any residency requirement. Most courses meet online only 2 hrs./wk. for 10 weeks (2.5 hrs/wk in our 8-wk summer term). Unless otherwise noted, courses are worth two credit hours each.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply to one of our programs, please fill out the application at www.davenanthall.com. The application will require unofficial transcripts, resume/cv, personal statement, writing sample, one character reference from a pastor or mentor regarding your Christian faith, and one academic reference. For application fee, see How to Apply to a Degree Program under Enrollment Policies.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS**Foundations** (2 credits)

- Video Lecture Series: An Introduction to Biblical Wisdom (1 credit)
- Video Lecture Series: God Is: An Introduction to Theology Proper (1 credit)

Biblical Studies (6 credits)

- Natural Law and Scriptural Authority
- 2 Biblical Studies Electives

Theological Studies (6 credits)

- Protestant Moral Theology
- 2 Theological Studies Electives

Philosophy (6 credits)

- Philosophy for Theology
- Philosophy as a Way of Life
- 1 Philosophy Elective

Christian History (6 credits)

- Reformation and the Modern World
- 2 Christian History Electives

General Electives (6 credits)

- 3 additional electives

Languages (6 credits)

- 3 Latin Courses

DEGREE PLAN

The M.St. program is designed to be completed in one or two years of full time study. Below is an example degree plan to help students plan out their schedule.

TWO YEAR PLAN	ONE YEAR PLAN
<p>YEAR ONE</p> <p>Michaelmas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural Law and Scriptural Authority • Beginner Latin I • Elective • Elective <p>Hilary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protestant Moral Theology • Philosophy for Theology • Beginner Latin II • Elective <p>Trinity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reformation and the Modern World • Philosophy as a Way of Life • Elective • Elective <p>Summer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video Lecture Series* • Video Lecture Series* <p>YEAR TWO</p> <p>Michaelmas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intermediate Latin I • Elective • Elective • Elective <p>Hilary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elective • Elective 	<p>YEAR ONE</p> <p>Michaelmas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural Law and Scriptural Authority • Beginner Latin I • Elective • Elective • Video Lecture Series* <p>Hilary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protestant Moral Theology • Philosophy for Theology • Beginner Latin II • Elective • Elective • Video Lecture Series* <p>Trinity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reformation and the Modern World • Philosophy as a Way of Life • Elective • Elective • Elective <p>Summer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intermediate Latin I • Elective • Elective • Elective

Courses marked with an asterisk () do not count towards full time status.

MASTER OF LETTERS IN CLASSICAL PROTESTANTISM (M.LITT.)

72 CREDITS

Our M.Litt. program is a two- to three-year degree of 72-credit course of study that could serve as an alternative to an M.A.R. or ThM program at a seminary, a qualification for Christian secondary-school or adult education teachers, or a strong launch-pad into a PhD program or other graduate study. Most courses meet online only 2 hrs./wk. for 10 weeks (2.5 hrs/wk in our 8-wk summer term), but our Foundations subject area includes residential intensives, Discipleship Week, and recorded lectures. Unless otherwise noted, courses are worth two credit hours each.

Due to program updates, all previous work fulfilling the requirements of a previous catalog will be applied to the most recent degree program requirements. If you have any questions, please contact the registrar at registrar@davenantinstitute.org.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply to one of our programs, please fill out the application at www.davenanthall.com. The application will require unofficial transcripts, resume/cv, personal statement, writing sample, one character reference from a pastor or mentor regarding your Christian faith, and one academic reference. For application fee, see How to Apply to a Degree Program under Enrollment Policies.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Foundations (8 credits)

- Residential Discipleship Week (1 credit)
- Residential Intensive 1: How to Read the Bible and the World (2 credits)²
- Residential Intensive 2: Protestantism and the Commonwealth (2 credits)²
- Video Lecture Series: An Introduction to Biblical Wisdom (1 credit)
- Video Lecture Series: Christ and His Work (1 credit)
- Video Lecture Series: God Is: An Introduction to Theology Proper (1 credit)

Biblical Studies (8 credits)

- Natural Law and Scriptural Authority
- 3 Biblical Studies Electives

Theological Studies (8 credits)

- Protestant Moral Theology
- 3 Theological Studies Electives

Philosophy (8 credits)

- Philosophy for Theology
- Philosophy as a Way of Life
- 2 Philosophy Electives

Christian History (8 credits)

- Reformation and the Modern World
- 3 Christian History Electives

Literature (4 credits)

- 2 Literature Electives

General Electives (12 credits)

- 6 additional electives

Languages (12 credits)

- 3 Latin Courses
- 3 courses in Latin, Greek, or Hebrew

2. See Course Descriptions section of the Catalog.

M.LITT. THESIS OR COMPREHENSIVE EXAM (4 CREDITS)

Students will choose to complete either a thesis or comprehensive exams. Both are worth 4 credits and will require registration over two terms.

THESIS

PAPER REQUIREMENTS

- **Thesis:** Students will write a 15,000–20,000 word thesis on their chosen subject area supervised by a Davenant instructor in the related field. Students will register for C9011 Thesis Preparation the first term and C9012 Thesis Assessment the second term.
- **Goal:** These papers are meant to grow the depth of a student's knowledge and their skill in analysis and communication through rigorous research and writing.
- **Registration:** Students will register for the course as a normal course and pay normal tuition. Prior to registering, they should communicate with a prospective supervisor and establish willingness to supervise based on general subject interest.
- **Advising:** The student will request an instructor as their supervisor. The student will communicate regularly with their advisor about their supervisor's expectations, but initiative lies primarily with the student.
- **Word Count:** 15,000–20,000.
- **Method:** Thesis and argumentative paper.
- **Due Date:** At the end of the second term of the project. For example, a paper beginning in Hilary is due at the end of Trinity.
- **Rigor:** The thesis should display a level of academic rigor commensurate with the skills expected of a graduating masters student or prospective PhD student. The adequacy of content is left to advisor discretion. (See Advisor Discretion Below).
- **Content:** The subject of the thesis should be representative of Davenant's emphasis on the classical reformed theology and philosophy tradition.
- **Sources:** Focus on primary text(s). Research will normally include some academic secondary sources. Quality and number of sources left to advisor discretion (See Advisor Discretion below).

ADVISOR INVOLVEMENT

- **Goal:** The advisor will not choose the student's topic nor conduct research for them. After initial contact, advisors will occasionally check in on students, though normally most contact will be student-initiated. The primary role of the advisor is to give feedback and grade the paper. The advisor will meet with the student at least once at the beginning of each of the two terms.
- **Advisor Discretion:** Within the first few weeks of supervision, the advisor will clearly establish expectations of content, rigor, quality and quantity of sources, grading expectations, and other elements of advisor discretion so the student can plan accordingly.
- **Meeting:** The Advisor will normally meet with the student as needed over Zoom, especially near the beginning as the topic is being chosen.
- **Communication:** Feedback will be given as needed throughout the project, normally initiated by student questions.
- **Grading:** Grading will be according to advisor discretion and the standards listed above.

COMPREHENSIVE EXAMS

This is an optional alternative to writing a thesis. Comprehensive exams will involve deep study of a reading list in preparation for an oral exam and a written exam. For these exams, students will choose two of the following subject areas: Bible, Theology, Philosophy, and Christian History. The oral exam will involve a one-hour question and answer session with Davenant instructors. The written exam will be four hours in which students will be given two essay prompts for each of the four subject areas. Students will be required to choose one of the essay prompts within each section and write a total of four essays, one for each subject area. Students will register for **C9021 Comprehensive Exam Preparation** the first term and **C9022 Comprehensive Exam Assessment** the second term.

DEGREE PLAN

The M.Litt. program is designed to be completed in two or three years of full time study. Below is an example degree plan to help students plan out their schedule. **Courses marked with an asterisk (*) do not count towards full time status.*

THREE YEAR PLAN

YEAR ONE

Michaelmas

- Natural Law & Scriptural Authority
- Beginner Latin I
- Elective
- Elective
- *Video Lecture Series**

Hilary

- Protestant Moral Theology
- Beginner Latin II
- Elective
- Elective
- *Video Lecture Series**

Trinity

- Reformation & the Modern World
- Elective
- Elective
- Elective
- *Video Lecture Series**

Summer

- *Residential 1**

YEAR TWO

Michaelmas

- Intermediate Latin I
- Elective
- Elective
- Elective
- *Discipleship Week**

Hilary

- Philosophy for Theology
- Intermediate Latin II or
Beginner I for 2nd language
- Elective
- Elective

Trinity

- Philosophy as a Way of Life
- Elective
- Elective
- Elective

Summer

- *Residential 2**

YEAR THREE

Michaelmas

- Advanced Latin I or
Beginner II for 2nd language
- Thesis or Comps Preparation
- Elective
- Elective

Hilary

- Thesis or Comps Assessment
- Advanced Latin II or
Intermediate I for 2nd language
- Elective
- Elective

TWO YEAR PLAN

YEAR ONE

Michaelmas

- Natural Law & Scriptural Authority
- Beginner Latin I
- Beginner I for 2nd language
- Elective
- *Video Lecture Series**

Hilary

- Protestant Moral Theology
- Philosophy for Theology
- Beginner Latin II
- Beginner II for 2nd language
- *Video Lecture Series**
- *Discipleship Week**

Trinity

- Reformation & the Modern World
- Philosophy as a Way of Life
- Elective
- Elective
- *Video Lecture Series**

Summer

- *Residential 1**
- Elective
- Elective
- Elective
- Elective

YEAR TWO

Michaelmas

- Thesis or Comps Preparation
- Intermediate Latin I
- Intermediate I for 2nd language
- Elective

Hilary

- Thesis or Comps Assessment
- Elective
- Elective
- Elective

Trinity

- Elective
- Elective
- Elective
- Elective

Summer

- *Residential 2**
- Elective
- Elective
- Elective
- Elective

PHD PROGRAM

PHD IN THEOLOGY IN CONJUNCTION WITH UNION THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

A Doctorate of Philosophy is the highest level of degree that a student can achieve, demonstrating academic excellence through independent, creative thought and the ability to interact with modern scholarship.

Any students around the world who want to pursue advanced research in biblical studies, historical theology, philosophical theology, and more with Davenant Hall's respected scholars now have the opportunity to do so by applying for PhD study at Union Theological College, one of one of the UK's finest theological colleges, while still being supervised by Davenant Hall faculty.

Five of Davenant Hall's leading instructors—Dr. Matthew Hoskin, Dr. Joseph Minich, Dr. Bradford Littlejohn, Dr. Michael Lynch, and Dr. Alastair Roberts—have joined the faculty of Union Theological College to supervise PhD research within their fields of expertise. Eligible students will show evidence of sufficient academic preparation, as well as being recommended by the Davenant Hall faculty.

To earn a PhD, students must write a 80,000 word thesis on a topic defined by their research proposal under the guidance of a relevant faculty member. PhD students undertake research on their own topics, working closely with their supervisors to write their thesis.

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Email supervisor directly or fill out the contact form on the Davenant Hall website with a field of interest.
2. The prospective supervisor will dialogue with the applicant concerning their readiness and specific topic. Promising students should develop a dissertation proposal.
3. If a supervisor accepts the applicant, the applicant will fill out the Doctoral application on the Davenant Hall website. This will satisfy the UTC admission requirements.
4. The Davenant Institute will then discuss the application materials and dissertation proposal in conjunction with Union Theological College and make a final decision on the applicant's acceptance.
5. Students must meet UTC admission requirements:
 - Curriculum vitae
 - Letter of intent (300-400 words)
 - Research proposal
 - Sample of academic work (2,000 words)
 - Two signed references (at least one of which must be an academic reference)
 - Verified academic transcript(s) and a verified copy (or copies) of degree certificates (and, if necessary, an official English translation)
 - English language requirement certificate (if applicable)
 - A copy of the photo page of your passport (non-EU students). Note: A Driver's License will suffice. No travel is required. This is for ID purposes only.
6. Pastoral reference will also be required when submitting the application on the Davenant Hall website.

PHD SUPERVISORS & AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

Matthew Hoskin

Ancient and medieval church councils, ancient and medieval monasticism, pagans and Christians in the Roman world, Augustine of Hippo, Constantine, textual criticism of Latin Christian texts, Christianity in the Later Roman Empire, Christology, ancient Trinitarian theology.

Joseph Minich

Christianity & culture, apologetics, general philosophy, philosophy of technology, philosophy of modernity, philosophical theology, religious studies (i.e. comparative religion, method, etc.).

Bradford Littlejohn

History and theology of the English reformation, Richard Hooker, Anglicanism vs. Puritanism, political theology in 14th–18th centuries, constructive contemporary political theology and social ethics.

Michael Lynch

Augustinianism, Reformed scholasticism, Catholic scholasticism, medieval theology, early modern theology, atonement, Puritanism, Calvinism, American Presbyterianism.

Alastair Roberts

Biblical theology, the exodus, baptism, theology of the sexes, biblical law.

PHD FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I apply if I am a current or former Davenant student?

The application process is the same for former Davenant students as other students. The difference is that our familiarity with former Davenant students will often allow for a quicker response.

Can I apply if I do not have a degree at Davenant?

Yes, the application process is the same for former Davenant students as other students. The difference is that our familiarity with former Davenant students will often allow for a quicker response.

If I apply directly to UTC, can I still get a Davenant supervisor?

Yes, though we prefer that you apply through Davenant's website. The application process at Davenant is based on the UTC application process with the specification that one of your references must be a pastoral character reference, as already required in our applications to our other programs.

What is the difference between a thesis and a dissertation?

It is common in the United States to refer to a bachelor's degree or master's degree capstone project as a thesis and a doctoral degree capstone project as a dissertation. In Europe, the terminology is the opposite, although even in the United States it is not uncommon to refer to a student's PhD thesis.

Is this a PhD in Theology, Philosophy, or other fields?

Theology, though this may encompass a wide range of subjects and fields depending on the student's dissertation topic and the expertise of their supervisor.

Is the PhD from Union or from Davenant?

The PhD will be awarded by (The Presbyterian Theological Faculty, Ireland” (PTFI) which is the official Royal Charter. Students will list their degree on their CV as PhD Union Theological College, Belfast (PTFI). For details see question 1 of the FAQs on Union’s website at www.union.ac.uk/admissions/faqs.

Is coursework required?

The PhD is an advanced research program. From the outset, the student focuses on working towards the completion of the dissertation. The only coursework required will be project specific in order for students to enhance necessary skills, for example, in languages. Students need to be well-prepared from previous study and be able to demonstrate appropriate competence in special skills, such as languages.

Is travel required?

No. Travel is not required for the PhD program.

What is the tuition?

See UTC website for the most up-to-date information. <https://www.union.ac.uk/>

Full-time £15,450 (per year) (3 years)

Part-time £7,725 (per year) (6 years)

Annual Registration: £190

Full time means at least 35 hours per week with any part time employment discussed with your supervisor to ensure it does not prevent appropriate study to enable submission in three years.

Part time means 18 hours per week with submission in six years. A student may in exceptional circumstances submit early. If students finish early (e.g. in five years), they will not be required to pay the remaining duration.

Are there any scholarships available?

At present, no. We have made an effort to price these classes at rock-bottom levels, so that cost will not be an obstacle to most students. Moreover, students who complete the M.Litt will be eligible for generous scholarships from the Davenant Institute toward future graduate study. In particular, any student who successfully completes the M.Litt and then goes on to finish a PhD in an approved program (including the partnership with Union Theological College) will, upon successful completion of their PhD, receive a reimbursement of \$10,000 paid for the M.Litt. See Tuition Reimbursement Policy in the Catalog for details.

Academic Calendar

2024–2025

TERM STRUCTURE

The academic year is structured in four terms: Michaelmas (Fall), Hilary (Winter), Trinity (Spring), and an optional Summer term. All terms are 10 weeks, apart from Summer which is 8 weeks. Zoom sessions in Summer are 2.5 hrs rather than 2, to ensure equal class time. The number of online courses offered in the Summer Term are reduced to account for concurrent summer residential intensives offered at Davenant House.

FALL	MICHAELMAS TERM September 9 – November 16, 2024
WINTER	HILARY TERM January 13 – March 22, 2025
SPRING	TRINITY TERM April 7 – June 14, 2025
SUMMER	SUMMER TERM June 30 – August 23, 2025

IMPORTANT DATES

MICHAELMAS 2024

July 29	Registration opens for Michaelmas
August 26	Late registration begins (fee applies)
September 6	All Student Orientation (7:30pm ET, Zoom, recorded)
September 8	Registration closes; Full refund drop deadline
September 9	Michaelmas term begins
September 21	Drop with 50% tuition refund deadline
October 5	Withdrawal deadline (no refund, “W” grade)
November 16	Michaelmas term ends

HILARY 2025

November 18	Registration opens
December 30	Late registration begins (fee applies)
January 12	Registration closes; Full refund drop deadline
January 13	Hilary term begins
January 25	Drop with 50% tuition refund deadline
February 8	Hilary withdrawal deadline (no refund, “W” grade)
February 10	Trinity course registration opens; Residential early registration opens
March 22	Hilary term ends

TRINITY 2025

March 24	Late course registration begins (fee applies)
April 6	Registration closes; Full refund drop deadline Residential early registration ends & full refund drop deadline
April 7	Trinity term begins
April 19	Drop with 50% tuition refund deadline
May 3	Trinity withdrawal deadline (no refund, “W” grade)
May 5	Summer course registration opens
June 1	Summer Residential registration closes & 50% refund drop deadline
June 14	Trinity term ends

SUMMER 2025

Residential 1 & 2 dates TBD. Please see davenanthall.com/summer-programs for updates.

June 16	Late registration begins (fee applies)
June 29	Registration closes; Full refund drop deadline
June 30	Summer term begins
July 12	Drop with 50% tuition refund deadline
July 14	<i>Michaelmas 2025 course registration opens (estimated)</i>
July 26	Withdrawal deadline (no refund, “W” grade)
August 23	Summer term ends
August 25	<i>Michaelmas 2025 late registration begins (estimated)</i>
September 8	<i>Michaelmas 2025 term begins (estimated)</i>

Course Descriptions

Please note that classes listed below are provisional. Teachers and course titles are subject to change, some courses may need to be dropped, and additional courses not yet listed may be offered. The latest course offerings for the upcoming term will always be listed at davenanthall.com, and registration will open for each term two months in advance. Unless otherwise indicated, all courses are 2 credit hours.

LANGUAGE COURSES

THE ANCIENT LANGUAGE INSTITUTE

In January 2022, we entered a new partnership with the Ancient Language Institute, allowing us to offer students a full suite of ancient language courses in Latin, Greek, and Hebrew. Founded in 2019 by long-time friends and collaborators of the Davenant Institute, the Ancient Language Institute encapsulates one of Davenant’s central missions: to go “back to the sources” – reading the crucial texts of the Christian tradition in their original tongues. Moreover, ALI’s approach to language pedagogy, which emphasizes inductive language acquisition and comprehensible inputs, aligns perfectly with Davenant’s approach over years of ancient language instruction.

Degree-seeking students will enroll in ALI to fulfill their language course credit and receive a discount off of the standard ALI rates (see tuition section of the catalog for details). Discount codes available upon request. Non-degree seeking students, including anyone who has even audited a Davenant Hall class within the past year, will be eligible for a 10% discount off of standard ALI course prices. ALI language classes run on a 3-term schedule with 14 week terms, while all other Davenant Hall classes will run on a 4-term, 10-week schedule (8-week summer). For full information, and to register for courses, visit ancientlanguage.com.

REGISTRATION DETAILS

For more information, please see the following announcement from ALI:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bechimzG8kp4IOjuh4Md3LsMnx1MiM8N/>

ALI TERMS

Ancient Languages Institute Calendar: ancientlanguage.com/calendar/

Fall	September– December
Spring	January – April
Summer	May – August

ALI LANGUAGE COURSE OFFERINGS

While ALI may offer other language courses, the courses listed below are the only ones that qualify for Davenant degree program credit.

LATIN³

Latin 101: Beginner Latin I
 Latin 102: Beginner Latin II
 Latin 201: Intermediate Latin I
 Latin 202: Intermediate Latin II
 Latin 301: Advanced Latin I
 Latin 302: Advanced Latin II
 Latin 400-level: Expert Latin

GREEK

Greek 101: Beginner Greek I
 Greek 102: Beginner Greek II
 Greek 201: Intermediate Greek I
 Greek 202: Intermediate Greek II
 Greek 301: Advanced Greek I
 Greek 302: Advanced Greek II
 Greek 400-level: Expert Greek

HEBREW

Hebrew 101: Beginner Hebrew I
 Hebrew 102: Beginner Hebrew II
 Hebrew 201: Intermediate Hebrew I
 Hebrew 202: Intermediate Hebrew II
 Hebrew 301: Advanced Hebrew I
 Hebrew 302: Advanced Hebrew II
 Hebrew 400-level: Expert Hebrew

3. ALI courses are cataloged in Davenant’s system by the designations beginning AL0201, AG0201, AH0201 and so on in a series.

RESIDENTIAL COURSES

Residential courses run for two weeks at a time between June and August at Davenant House in Landrum, South Carolina. Sometimes multiple iterations of each course will be offered in the same summer. Check davenanthall.com for details and to register.

ABOUT DAVENANT HOUSE

Located in the Blue Ridge Mountains of South Carolina, Davenant House is the home of the Davenant Institute. Surrounded by God's glorious creation, and filled with books and conversation, the Davenant House hosts our regional and annual events, as well as all Davenant Hall residential courses. It is the perfect place for study, reflection, and building an army of friends which makes our work possible.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

International students who are unable to attend residential courses are encouraged to apply to the M.St. program. If the M.Litt. is still desired, an appeal may be made by emailing the registrar at registrar@davenantinstitute.org.

COURSES OFFERED

R4001 – DISCIPLESHIP WEEK *(1 credit)*

Residential Discipleship Weeks provide our degree-seeking students with one-on-one mentoring at Davenant House (see information below). This week is tailored to each student, and typically involves daily meeting with someone at Davenant, a good bit of rest and reflection, and a program of leisurely study co-designed with the student before they arrive. This is also an excellent opportunity for on-site Davenant Staff to talk organically with students (over a week) about their personal sense of calling and vocation. Discipleship weeks are scheduled throughout the year by the Residential Teaching Fellow. For more information, please contact our Residential Teaching Fellow, Dr. Joseph Minich (j.minich@davenantinstitute.org).

R4101 – RESIDENTIAL INTENSIVE 1 (SUMMER): HOW TO READ THE BIBLE AND THE WORLD

“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom,” but only the beginning. To cultivate true wisdom, we need to know both how to read Scripture rightly, and to read the world around us rightly, so that we can faithfully and accurately apply the Word of God to our own challenging circumstances. In this residential intensive course, you will learn to read the Scriptures as more than merely a plan of salvation or a set of precepts, but as a roadmap to the cosmos and a narrative of God's action in the world. You will also learn what it means to discern the order of creation, and sort through the complex testimony of science, history, and philosophy in order to read the world skillfully. For more information, please contact our Residential Teaching Fellow, Dr. Joseph Minich (j.minich@davenantinstitute.org).

R4102 – RESIDENTIAL INTENSIVE 2 (SUMMER): PROTESTANTISM AND THE COMMONWEALTH

Protestantism has been one of the chief causes and the chief beneficiaries of the separation of church and state. Today, however, the concept of “religious liberty” is increasingly unclear, and Protestants struggle to articulate the proper relationship of faith to public life. In this residential intensive course, you will become better acquainted with the long debate over the relationship of spiritual and political authority, the Reformation's decisive contributions to this debate, and the rich heritage of Protestant social and political thought, and will be encouraged to creatively apply this heritage to the challenges of our own day. For more information, please contact our Residential Teaching Fellow, Dr. Joseph Minich (j.minich@davenantinstitute.org).

VIDEO LECTURE COURSES

Since the beginning, the Davenant Institute has been making extensive use of online media to make the resources of classical Protestantism available and accessible for all. Continuing that work, we are pleased to offer 20-hour video lecture courses as part of our larger Davenant Hall program.

HOW TO EARN CREDIT

To earn credit toward a degree program, students must register for the video courses at davenanthall.com. These courses will include lecture videos, required readings, and a pass/fail assessment based on the videos and readings. Students may register at any time, since these are independent study courses.

If the student is in a degree program, they will receive a discount on course registration upon request. If the student purchased the video lectures before being admitted to a degree, a refund will not be issued. If the student has purchased the video lectures for full price after being admitted to the program a refund for the difference may be issued. For questions, please contact our registrar (registrar@davenantinstitute.org).

COURSES OFFERED

V3001 – AN INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL WISDOM

Taught by Alastair Roberts

Faithful readers of Scripture may find themselves, even after decades steeped in the text, longing for a better understanding of God's Word. Deeper engagement requires better tools for excavating Scripture's many layers. If we aren't attentive to genre, literary form, and symbolism, we will be unequipped to fully grapple with the text.

In this engaging twenty-hour video lecture series from renowned biblical scholar Dr. Alastair Roberts, the listener will embark on a sweeping journey from Genesis to Revelation with a guide experienced in navigating Scripture's varied terrain. Listeners will gain a deeper understanding not only of the Bible itself and how it works, but also its vision for how we can grow in wisdom.

Required reading: Craig G. Bartholomew & Ryan P. O'Dowd, *Old Testament Wisdom Literature: A Theological Introduction* (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2011)

V3002 – CHRIST AND HIS WORK

Taught by Michael Lynch

Who do you say that Jesus is? Why did God become man? Like Jesus' disciples, we are required both to assent not only to Jesus' kingdom, but to the truth of his being. Christology is at the core of the Christian faith, but confusions abound when many Christians try to make sense of the mystery of the incarnation: What does it mean that he has two natures? Does Jesus' humiliation mean that he actually emptied himself of his divinity?

In this twenty-hour lecture series, the widely-respected historical theologian and Davenant Hall professor Dr. Michael Lynch will consider these questions and many more. He will examine several heterodox positions related to the person and work of Christ, while filling out a fully-orbed, Reformed orthodox Christology. Listeners will gain both language and theological frameworks for understanding and speaking about our Lord in a biblically faithful and sound way, avoiding common heresies and misconceptions.

Required reading: Oliver Crisp, *Divinity and Humanity: The Incarnation Reconsidered* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007); Robert Letham, *The Work of Christ* (Downer's Grove, Ill: IVP, 1993).

V3003 – GOD IS: AN INTRODUCTION TO THEOLOGY PROPER

Taught by Ryan Hurd

In this engaging twenty-hour video lecture series from Ryan Hurd, the listener will embark on a sweeping journey considering what theologians traditionally called the “divines names” of God. This includes not merely well-known titles usually ascribed to God, but all forms of speech about the Almighty. The course aims to cover everything that Christians undertake in the doctrine of God, or theology proper—“from A to Z.” It focuses on determining the main principles and distinctions required to do theology and achieve this goal. Particular focus is placed on scholastic theology and the helpfulness of Thomas Aquinas as a guide.

Required reading: Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologiae* I.1–49; *Summa Contra Gentiles* I.1–102. Free access to readings will be provided.

V3004 – THE STORY OF ANCIENT AND MEDIEVAL CHRISTENDOM

Taught by Matthew Hoskin

In this course, students will study Christian history from the post-apostolic age to the middle decades of the 1400s. Through these centuries, the body of Christ went from a small persecuted band of disciples to a nearly worldwide organisation gathering in councils to determine the future of its faithfulness to its head. The course’s vision of the church will not be restricted to the Mediterranean and western Europe but will present Christianity in mediaeval Africa and Asia as well with a geographical sweep from Iceland in the North to Ethiopia in the South, from Ireland in the West to China in the East. Professor Hoskin believes that law and its outworking is one major thread running from God’s self-revelation in Scripture until today, in canon law, in liturgy, in ethics, in the many ways God’s people have sought to live out their faithfulness through the ages—even in theology and private devotion. This course closes in 1453 with the fall of Constantinople, the failure of East-West reconciliation, and the structural seeds of Reform already being sown with the failure of the Conciliar Movement.

Required reading: Various primary texts; Henry Bettenson and Chris Maunder, eds, *Documents of the Christian Church*, 4th ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011).

MICHAELMAS TERM

FALL • 9/9/2024 – 11/16/2024

BIBLE

B5001 – NATURAL LAW AND SCRIPTURAL AUTHORITY (CORE)

Taught by Brad Littlejohn

Although Protestants are familiar with the doctrine of sola Scriptura, they are less familiar with the equally important Reformation teaching that God reveals himself through the “two books” of Scripture and nature, and how the two relate. This course, with readings from Aquinas, Calvin, Hemmingsen, and Hooker, along with key Scriptural passages, will help students understand the meaning of sola Scriptura and the use of moral reason in classical Protestantism.

B7301 – INTRODUCTION TO THE GOSPELS: JESUS CHRIST IS LORD AND GOD

Taught by Joshua Shaw

Origen called the Gospels the “first-fruits of all that has been written.” Do we concur? Beyond beginning to grapple with the big questions of the last two centuries in New Testament scholarship (the synoptic problem, the historical Jesus, their *Sitz im Leben*, Johannine authorship, etc.), we will strive toward a synthetic understanding of the church’s first creed: that Jesus Christ is Lord and God.

THEOLOGY

T7101 – AQUINAS AND THE SUMMA CONTRA GENTILES (FIRST HALF)

Taught by Ryan Hurd

Each Thomist Seminar reads something of Thomas’s work. In this Thomist Seminar, we focus on Thomas’s *Summa Contra Gentiles*—narrowing in particularly on book 1 cc 1–44. Issues which will be focused on will include (*inter alia*): faith and reason in divine truths; issues involving demonstrating that God is; the nature of the negative way; various negative names and their use throughout the SCG; different modes of predicating names of God; etc. Although focus will be especially on Thomas’s SCG, we will interface with other works such as the ST and De potentia where appropriate.

T8001 – A CHRISTIAN ACCOUNT OF THE SEXES IN CONVERSATION

Taught by Alastair Roberts

Christian accounts of male and female are often limited in the degree to which they engage with sources outside of the Bible and the theological tradition. Yet, in the absence of such engagement, our perception of the Christian teaching can be distorted; it can be regarded as an alien imposition upon nature and society, rather than as something that operates with the grain of and illumines our creational nature. The course will study ways in which a Christian account of the sexes can engage both receptively and critically with an array of fields of enquiry, from philosophy to anthropology to the natural sciences.

T8006 – JOHN DAVENANT AND JOHN OWEN ON THE DEATH OF CHRIST

Taught by Michael Lynch

John Davenant and John Owen represent the breadth of Reformed positions on the extent of the atonement. Davenant’s hypothetical universalism affirmed Christ’s death for all; Owen taught that Christ only died for the elect. This course will closely study Davenant’s *On the Death of Christ* and Owen’s *Death of Christ*, considering their arguments and context, as well as how they bear upon other issues such as predestination, and vice versa.

PHILOSOPHY

P5001 – APPROACHES TO DEFENDING THE FAITH

Taught by Joe Minich

Apologetics is often viewed as a matter of mere arguments. This course, whilst surveying the major schools of apologetics, will reframe apologetic encounters as occurring between whole persons, with many persuasive tools coalescing to persuade one's interlocutor. Students will learn how to cultivate tools and habits of soul in order to be more effective Christian witnesses.

CHRISTIAN HISTORY

H8001 – MONASTICISM FROM ANTONY TO THE REFORMATION

Taught by Matthew Hoskin

The Reformation almost entirely did away with monasticism. Yet for over 1000 years, the monastic movement was itself a powerful force in the life of the church, at times for great spiritual good, at times to the detriment—and even Reformers like Martin Luther found some spiritual value in the writings of the monks who came before him even if he detested “monkery” as an institution. Who were the monks? What were their spiritual teachings? Do they have value today? This course will follow the history and development of monasticism from the Desert Fathers of Egypt, through the Benedictine Middle Ages, to the world of the Cistercians, Carthusians, and Carmelites at the edge of Reformation while not neglecting the lives and literature of the eastern monks of Sinai, Judaea, Athos, and Russia. Every week students will engage with a different spiritual writer from the ancient and medieval monastic world, while the lectures will cover the history of the movement in all its vast glory.

HILARY TERM

WINTER • 1/13/2025 – 3/22/2025

BIBLE

B7419 – THE PSALMS: A BIBLE IN MINIATURE

Taught by Alastair Roberts

In his introduction to his lectures on the Psalms, Martin Luther described the Psalter as ‘a little Bible’, declaring that ‘in it is comprehended most beautifully and briefly everything that is in the entire Bible.’ For nearly three millennia, the psalms have been at the heart of the worship of the people of God. This course will consider the place of the Psalter within the scriptural canon and the life of the Church and its members. It will equip students to read and, more importantly, to sing with greater understanding and benefit.

B7440 – THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW: MATTHEW AS A JEWISH THEOLOGIAN

Taught by Joshua Shaw

In this course we will aim at a synthetic picture of Matthew’s achievement as “one of humanity’s three great religious teachers alongside Paul and John.” To do so, we will exegete as much of the text as possible, while reading selections from Josephus, the Talmud, and Midrash.

THEOLOGY

T5001 – PROTESTANT MORAL THEOLOGY (CORE)

Taught by Joe Minich

Protestant moral theology is memorably summed up by Martin Luther’s dictum, “The Christian is the most free lord of all, subject to none. The Christian is the most dutiful servant of all, and subject to everyone.” In this course, we will unpack this profound dialectic, explaining the true shape of Christian liberty that flows from justification by faith but that is ordered to love of neighbor in the life of sanctification. In the process, we will explore the role of the law, the virtues, and the conscience in a well-rounded Protestant approach to ethics.

T8002 – MAIMONIDES AND THE GUIDE FOR THE PERPLEXED

Taught by Ryan Hurd

This course is a close reading of Maimonides’s famous *Guide for the Perplexed*, especially as it influences Christian tradition through Latin medievals in translation as *Dux neutrorum*. Our main focus is on Maimonides’s text itself (in English), which we will work through piece by piece. Special focus will be on divine metaphors, and issues of negative versus positive theology, particularly in the Jewish holy scriptures/Christian Old Testament. Use will be made also of Thomas’s engagement with Maimonides, as well as the Latin Maimonides. The student will be familiarized with important secondary sources of Maimonides scholarship, but particularly his reception in the Latin or Christian West.

PHILOSOPHY

P5002 – PHILOSOPHY FOR THEOLOGY (CORE)

Taught by Joe Minich

This course will introduce students to the philosophical grammar that God’s people have found useful throughout the ages in grasping the content of their faith. While this course will be weighted toward a broad survey of scholastic metaphysics, anthropology, and ethics, we will also consider other ancient and modern trends that have helped to illuminate the Christian faith.

P7104 – PLATO SEMINAR: PHILOSOPHY AND DEATH IN THE APOLOGY AND PHAEDO*Taught by TBD*

In this course, we will be deep-diving into two of Plato's most important dialogues: the *Apology* and the *Phaedo*. In the *Apology*, we find Socrates defending himself and his teachings before the jury of Athens. Accused of corrupting the youth by turning them away from the gods, Socrates faces the death penalty. In the *Phaedo*, Plato recounts a discussion that Socrates has with his closest friends, having lost his court case. In these two dialogues, Plato discusses key themes such as the nature of philosophy and the philosopher, the nature of the forms, the nature of the soul, life after death, and the nature of morality.

CHRISTIAN HISTORY**H8003 – CELTIC CHRISTIANITY: FACT AND FICTION***Taught by Matthew Hoskin*

Far off on the edge of the world and the shores of civilization, the Irish came to faith in Jesus later than their neighbors in Roman Britain and the Mediterranean world. Yet when they caught fire for the Christian faith, they would not only launch the evangelisation of the Picts in what is now Scotland, but also the re-evangelisation of post-Roman Britain in the Early Middle Ages. As a result, their stature has been legendary even since the time of the Venerable Bede in the eighth century, and today "Celtic spirituality" finds itself appropriated by hippies and New Agers, by charismatics, by high churchmen, and more. Where does the truth lie? This course will explore Christianity in Ireland and Britain from around 450-700 through the writings of the Christians who lived through it, seeking the truth amidst the legend and romance that continue to draw us there.

H8004 – POLITICAL THEOLOGY AND THE ENGLISH REFORMATION*Taught by Michael Lynch and Brad Littlejohn*

This class will focus on the political theology of English Protestants in the 16th c. We will look at the writings of Peter Martyr Vermigli, Heinrich Bullinger, John Jewel, and other influential Reformed theologians on the English Reformed Church. Special attention will be given to the role and duty of the civil magistrate regarding religion as well as civil and ecclesiastical jurisdiction in distinction from early modern Roman Catholic positions.

LITERATURE**L8001 – JANE AUSTEN'S PHILOSOPHY OF VIRTUE***Taught by Tim Jacobs*

Jane Austen should not be known primarily as a Regency period romance author but rather as a profound social critic and commentator. While set within romantic plotlines, her themes are those of virtue. C.S. Lewis says that her heroines learn "good sense, courage, contentment, fortitude." Lewis is taken in by Austen's humor and humility and emphasizes how profoundly Christian her moral vision is. Christian philosopher Alastair MacIntyre sees in Austen an embodiment of Aristotelian virtue, particularly as it includes affection for people and true courage that come through genuine practice. Virtue involves both an accurate theoretical knowledge that often defies social custom, but also discernment to practice the virtues within one's society, not as a contrarian but as one who is more Christian than cultural. The goal of this course is not merely to deepen the appreciation of a beloved author by fans, but it is more for the purpose of cultivating a virtuous life by learning from great minds. This course will primarily involve seminar-style discussions of Austen's works as well as commentators. As such, it will require prior familiarity with and reading of at least some of Jane Austen's novels.

TRINITY TERM

SPRING • 4/7/2025 – 6/14/2025

BIBLE

B7001 – BIBLE READING SKILLS FOR NARRATIVE TEXTS

Taught by Alastair Roberts

The Bible is a strange and forbidding book for many, but it need not be. This course will equip and familiarize students with an array of tools, skills, frameworks, practices, and instincts that will improve their Bible-reading. It will strengthen students' theological grasp of the sort of text that Holy Scripture is, while training them in reading its narratives well.

B7466 – THE BOOK OF REVELATION: CHRIST, HISTORY, AND THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Taught by Joshua Shaw

In this class, we will read the great biblical scholars of the 19th and early 20th century, along with large swathes of the Hebrew Scriptures. This will help to understand how the apostles read their Bible and therefore also how they understood The Coming One's relationship to history past, present, and future.

THEOLOGY

T8003 – DIONYSIUS' DIVINE NAMES

Taught by Ryan Hurd

This course is a careful reading of Dionysius's *Divine Names*, especially as it influences Latin and medieval tradition. Our main focus is on Dionysius's text itself (in English translation rather than the Greek text), which we will work through piece by piece. At the same time however, we will be reading Thomas's commentary thereon, and use Thomas to dialogue with and mine Dionysius's difficult text further. This will help ground engagement with secondary sources on Dionysius's theology and its reception among medievals (especially Thomas). Students who are able will be asked to read both Latin translations of the *Divine Names* (by Eriugena and then Sarrazin), as well as its commentaries by Albertus Magnus and the later Dionysius, viz. the Carthusian.

T8004 – AUGUSTINE & EPHREM AGAINST THE MANICHEANS

Taught by Charles Carman

This course focuses on two of the greatest authors of their respective traditions. Augustine, whose writings cover over the Latin West, and Ephrem whose influence stretches across the Syriac Orient. Though they never met or knew of each other, they both wrote a great deal against a shared adversary: Manichaeism. In this course, their writings against Mani and his followers and predecessors will serve as an opportunity to see both authors in action, to appreciate their individual influence on their own linguistic traditions, and to practice reading theologians from different backgrounds. For all their differences, there are moments in their writings of uncanny similarity.

T7100 – INTRODUCTION TO THOMAS AQUINAS

Taught by Ryan Hurd

In this course, the student will be given an introduction to the thought of Thomas Aquinas in relation to a number of key subjects of special importance to Protestants. Though the course will be directed primarily to an understanding of Aquinas's own writings, students will be pointed towards key areas of discussion both within the walls of thomistic thought, and within other philosophical and theological traditions.

PHILOSOPHY

P5003 – PHILOSOPHY AS A WAY OF LIFE (CORE)

Taught by Joe Minich

Philosophy at its inception was understood as a way of life, not the reserve of experts. This course recovers this approach to the philosophical enterprise, asking what it means to live philosophically, whilst cultivating a humble heart and bold curiosity. For the Christian, this pursuit of truth ultimately means seeing the divine Logos throughout the world and our lives.

P7201 – ARISTOTLE SEMINAR: PLATO AND ARISTOTLE COMPARED

Taught by Tim Jacobs

Aristotle disagreed with much of Plato's thought, but their differences are often overstated. Thought of more accurately as a student tweaking and developing the thought of his teacher, Aristotle's agreement with Plato is as significant as his disagreements. Is the soul immaterial? What are the virtues and how does one acquire them? What is the nature of universals? What is a good regime in political philosophy and what causes a society to decay. This course will be topically organized and involve comparative readings of excerpts across the broad corpus of both Plato and Aristotle. Some discussion will also be granted for comparing their influence throughout history. For novices, this course may provide a broad introduction to both philosophers. For advanced students, this course will provide a new depth of understanding as both philosophers are analyzed side-by-side. Topics will include the nature of wisdom and virtue, metaphysics & epistemology, God, philosophical anthropology, political philosophy.

CHRISTIAN HISTORY

H5001 – REFORMATION AND THE MODERN WORLD (CORE)

Taught by Brad Littlejohn

Once upon a time, Protestants liked to take credit for the glories of the modern world, but as attitudes on modernity have soured, many have been quick to turn the narrative around and blame Protestantism for its cultural decline. Was the Reformation to blame? What is the true story? This course will offer students a fuller perspective on why the Reformation was necessary, what aspects of Christendom it did and did not seek to change, and the lasting legacy it left, both good and ill, for the world we live in today.

H5101 – SEVEN ECUMENICAL COUNCILS IN HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Taught by Matthew Hoskin

From 325 to 787, major church councils were convened by Roman emperors and attended by as many bishops as possible (usually from the eastern half of the Roman Empire) from the known inhabited world, the *oikoumene*. Seven of these were recognised as being truly representative of the universal (or at least imperial) church. Each council was convened to deal with a potentially church-splitting theological crisis, but each also dealt with various administrative matters of the church in Late Antiquity. This course will consider each council in turn, considering the series of events leading up to the council, its decrees, a major theologian who represents its dogmatic definitions, and the aftermath of each.

LITERATURE

L7201 – C.S. LEWIS' RANSOM TRILOGY AND MODERN CIVILIZATION

Taught by Joseph Minich

The Ransom Trilogy rewards many angles of approach. It is full of philosophical, theological, linguistic, cultural, historical, political, and moral insight. Drawing upon all of these dimensions in the Trilogy (alongside some supplemental readings), this seminar-style course will especially focus upon C.S. Lewis as a reader of our own times.

SUMMER TERM

SUMMER • 6/30/2025 – 8/23/2025

RESIDENTIAL COURSES

See Residential Courses at the top of the Course Descriptions section.

THEOLOGY

T7201 – AUGUSTINE’S ON THE TRINITY

Taught by Wyatt Graham

The class will study chapter-by-chapter Augustine’s magisterial *On The Trinity* to understand the biblical, theological, and historical rationale for the Christian doctrine of the triune God. In particular, this class will pay close attention to the order of missions and processions in God in Scripture and Augustine’s polemical contexts. In short, take this class to know Augustine’s view of the triune God and to understand the biblical reasoning for Augustine’s trinitarian theology.

T8005 – ANSELM AND THE PROSLOGION

Taught by Ryan Hurd

This course is a close reading of Anselm’s famous work wherein faith seeks understanding, the Proslogion. Issues which we will focus on will include (inter alia): the nature of Anselm’s theological project of *fides quaerens intellectum*; the so-called *unum argumentum* and its place in the Proslogion, as well as various interpretations of it; various kinds of metaphors which Anselm engages in; the interplay between mercy and justice in divine names; etc. The student will become familiarized with important secondary sources of Anselm and especially the Proslogion scholarship, as well as Anselm’s reception in Thomas and others in that stream.

PHILOSOPHY

P5004 – PHILOSOPHY OF MODERNITY

Taught by Joseph Minich

In this course, we will look at how several thinkers interpret man and his story relative to the question of modernity. Our goal will be to learn from and critique these thinkers in order that we might gesture toward a more complete understanding of our civilization, as well as our task within it. The course will draw from Herman Bavinck, C.S. Lewis, Anthony Giddens, Charles Taylor, and L.M. Sacasas, among others.

LITERATURE

L8002 – OLD ENGLISH HEROIC LITERATURE

Taught by Anthony Cirilla

Anglo-Saxon Christianity held its heroic past in high esteem, as can be seen in its extant literature. To delve into this relationship between pagan heroism and Christian identity, we will read *Beowulf*, *The Dream of the Rood*, and the creative adaptation of the Old English Boethius. A primary consideration will be the way these poems wrestle with the value of a pagan heroic warrior culture for their Christian descendants, both the poets and their audiences in Anglo-Saxon England.

M.Litt Tuition Reimbursement Policy

The Davenant Institute desires that our Masters in Protestant Letters be a degree which is excellent. To that end we ensure that our courses are taught by top scholars who have advanced qualifications and are experts not only in their field but also in the classroom as teachers. Another aspect of higher education that we hope to reform is the cost. Part of being excellent is freeing students. While this is at the root of why we offer a liberal education it also needs to be reflected in our budget. Therefore not only is the Davenant Institute committed to keeping costs accessible to every student, we also make the following commitment. Any student who successfully completes the M.Litt and then goes on to finish a PhD in an approved program will, upon successful completion of their PhD, receive a reimbursement of \$10,000 paid for the M.Litt.

To qualify for this reimbursement the following must be true:

- Student took the full course load for the M.Litt.
- Student did not come in with transfer credits or advanced standing.
- Student did not receive a scholarship from the Institute.
- Student notified the office of the Provost at Davenant Hall about their PhD program at date of acceptance into the program, in writing (email applies).
- Student got a response from the Provost at date of acceptance that their chosen course of study is an “approved program,” in writing (email applies).
- Student has official transcripts sent to the Davenant Institute from completed PhD as proof of the completion, and a hard copy of the dissertation has been sent to Davenant House.
- Student must complete their PhD program within ten years of the date of graduation from Davenant Hall.
- Guidelines for an Approved Program is a PhD in Philosophy, Theology, History or similar degree from a reputable program. We reserve the right for the Provost to execute judgment as to whether any given program is approved. We recommend you correspond closely with Davenant Hall fellows and officers as you engage in the process of pursuing a further course of study for advice and guidance. Generally speaking, we recommend that you aim for a place at least in the top 100 QS Rankings in the specific discipline you are pursuing. Such a program is highly likely to be considered a “qualified program.”

Our goal in all this is to enable and encourage as many students as possible to gain Christian Wisdom and complete their education to advance and renew the academy and the Church to the glory of God.

Frequently Asked Questions

- 01** **DO I NEED TO BE A SEMINARIAN OR GRAD STUDENT TO PARTICIPATE?**
No, in fact, you do not need to currently belong to an academic institution at all. Undergraduate students, pastors, teachers, and independent scholars are welcome as well.
- 02** **DO I NEED TO APPLY?**
If you want to participate as a degree-seeking student in one of our Certificates, M.St, or M.Litt program, then yes, you do, although the application process is very straightforward. Applications may be found on our website. If you are participating as an auditor or just want to take individual classes for credit now (which could later be applied to a degree), then no, you can register for individual courses.
- 03** **ARE THERE ANY PREREQUISITES?**
Not generally, although certain courses may require certain other courses as prerequisites (e.g. languages). All classes are open to students 18 and over who are capable of deep reading, charitable engagement, and coherent writing (though of course students will be expected to grow in these skills through participation). While a wide range of people may take courses, admittance to one of our programs generally requires an undergraduate degree or significant undergraduate coursework, though this will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.
- 04** **CAN I ENROLL IN MORE THAN ONE CERTIFICATE?**
Yes, you can! Students enrolled in multiple certificates can count core courses as dual credit, as long as the courses meet the requirements of both certificates. Electives cannot count towards multiple certificates.
- 05** **WHAT IS THE TIME COMMITMENT?**
The standard format for online courses is 10 weeks, 2 hrs/wk (summer 8 weeks, 2.5 hrs/wk). For-credit students should plan on spending roughly 4 hrs/wk on average outside of class for each online course. Full-time students should plan on enrolling in four to five classes each term (no less than four, no more than six).
- 06** **HOW DO THE LIVE CLASSES WORK?**
All of our live classes use industry-leading video conferencing software, Zoom. Recordings of each class session, including any “whiteboards” or screen-shares, will be made available for students who were unable to make a particular class meeting.
- 07** **DOES IT MATTER WHAT TIME ZONE I’M IN?**
It is important that for-credit students be able to participate in live classes, although auditors may participate via recordings only if desired. It is our goal to schedule live class times that are convenient for all enrolled students. If the scheduled time does not work for you, you should consult the Drop Policy in the Registration section of the catalog. If you are an international student, please consult our International Student Policy in our Registration section of the catalog.

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IS THERE A DROP/ADD DATE?

See Fee Schedule and Drop Policy under Registration at the beginning of the Catalog.

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WHAT IS THE TRANSFER CREDIT POLICY?

See the Transfer Policy under Registration at the beginning of the Catalog.

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CAN I RECEIVE CREDIT TOWARD A DEGREE AT ANOTHER INSTITUTION?

Our program is new, but the Davenant Institute has excellent relationships with numerous institutions of higher education, at the undergraduate, graduate, and seminary levels, and will be working over the coming years to establish transfer-credit arrangements with such institutions. If you would like to inquire about the possibility of such an arrangement with your current institution, please contact Colin Redemer, our Provost, at c.redemer@davenantinstitute.org.

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HOW DO RESIDENTIAL COURSES WORK?

Residential intensive courses will run for two weeks in the summer and should be considered full-time commitments during the two-week period. Davenant Discipleship Weeks will be scheduled with each student at a time that is convenient for them and their family. For more information, please see our website at davenanthall.com and email our Residential Teaching Fellow Dr. Joseph Minich (j.minich@davenantinstitute.org). You may view detailed information in our Catalog.

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ARE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE?

At present, no. We have made an effort to price these classes at rock-bottom levels, so that cost will not be an obstacle to most students. Moreover, students who complete the M.Litt will be eligible for generous scholarships from the Davenant Institute toward future graduate study. In particular, any student who successfully completes the M.Litt and then goes on to finish a PhD in an approved program (including the partnership with Union Theological College) will, upon successful completion of their PhD, receive a reimbursement of \$10,000 paid for the M.Litt. See Tuition Reimbursement Policy in the Catalog for details.

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ARE THE DEGREE PROGRAMS CURRENTLY ACCREDITED?

Davenant Hall is not currently accredited by any outside agency, although we believe our courses and our program as a whole conform to high standards of professional qualification, academic rigor, and student assessment. As the program grows, we are steadily building relationships with other academic institutions to have our courses and degrees recognized for transfer credit or advanced standing.



DAVENANT HALL

REIMAGINING THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

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