

Bachelor's Program in Theology
(Pre-)Master's Program in Christianity and Society



School of Catholic Theology

*“Studying theology is getting a multi-perspective access to
Scripture and Tradition, valuable for today’s faith.”*

Prof. Dr. Archibald van Wieringen

Colophon

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Welcome to Tilburg School of Catholic Theology (TST)

“Studying at Tilburg School of Catholic Theology means experiencing education at a young and dynamic School on a green campus in the modern city of Tilburg. Our School offers a well-balanced curriculum in theology.

All of our teachers do research in the various theological disciplines, focusing particularly on Scripture, Church history, and modern society. We have interesting international contacts with partners in Northwest Europe and across the world, and this has enabled us to develop a broad view of Catholic theology.

Tilburg School of Catholic Theology is fully recognized by the Holy See. In addition to Bachelor’s, Master’s and PhD degrees, we also award the ecclesiastical degrees of the S.T.B., S.T.L. and S.T.D.

Studying at Tilburg School of Catholic Theology means joining a vibrant and inspiring community of academics, students and support staff. We encourage you to avail of the opportunities our School has to offer, in education as well as in the pastoral activities of the University Chaplaincy, in sports and in Tilburg social life. Use the freedom you have to develop your capabilities by working hard, in cooperation with your professors and fellow students. I wish you God’s blessing for a fruitful time with us at our School.”



Prof. dr. Monique van Dijk
Vice Dean for Education

About us

Tilburg School of Catholic Theology (TST) was founded at Tilburg University on January 1, 2007 following a merger between the Catholic Theological University in Utrecht and the Tilburg Faculty of Theology. We educate people who are preparing for ecclesiastical, social, or academic positions that involve dealing with questions about faith, meaning, and existence, including positions in pastoral care and teaching.



Unique for TST

- TST is the only Catholic School of Theology in the Netherlands to offer courses that provide access to ecclesiastical offices and services, e.g. future priests, deacons, and pastoral workers (m/f)
- TST is recognized by the Holy See and by the Dutch Bishops' Conference and can therefore award canonical degrees

Our School has the privilege of being located in two cities: Utrecht and Tilburg. The Bachelor in Theology is taught in English in Tilburg and in Dutch in Utrecht.

Links between the two locations are strong. TST students form a tight-knit community, in which students, staff, and the student association *Ad Interim* play an important role. You are invited every year to attend the opening of the academic year, various symposiums, and all kinds of informal activities, including foreign trips, for instance to Rome or Jerusalem.

TST is known for its personal approach to students, so don't hesitate to contact the study advisor or your tutor. And a student chaplain is available both in Tilburg and in Utrecht to discuss questions of a more personal nature.

TST tuition fee

TST has a very attractive tuition fee for all of its programs. Regardless of nationality or previous education the fee for the Bachelor's program is **€ 2,168 per year (1,084 for 2021-2022 (lower fee because of Corona))**

Your Bachelor's Program in Theology

Catholic theology: a multi-perspectival program

"The appeal of theology is that it's a broad and multiperspectival program, with textual, historical, philosophical, and sociological angles. This means you'll encounter a wide range of subjects, including biblical exegesis, history, philosophy, systematic theology, pastoral theology, and world religions. Our School also attaches great importance to Judaism. A Jewish scholar will introduce you to the Talmud and the *midrashim*.

Our curriculum is taught through lectures and seminars, and you will be trained in reading, writing essays, and giving presentations. In order to be able to access the Bible and the historical sources of the Christian tradition, you will learn Hebrew, Greek, and Latin. This will allow you to read texts from the Old and New Testament, as well as texts dating from the beginning of Christianity up to the Second Vatican Council in their original language.

Our School is known for the warm community it fosters, and we would like to invite you to join the activities organized by the School, the student association *Ad Interim*, and the university chaplain, Fr. Michael Peeters. Our study coordinator, tutors, and many other members of the academic and support staff are here to help you succeed and have a good time at Tilburg School of Catholic Theology. We hope you'll enjoy your theology program!"



Professor Archibald van Wieringen

Study Counselor English Bachelor's program in Theology & priest of the Diocese of Haarlem-Amsterdam

Bachelor's Program in Theology

Throughout the whole Bachelor, the courses of this program are on Tuesday and Thursday. The electives in the second and third year can take place on a different day.

Curriculum of the Bachelor's program (180 EC)

Your **first year** will provide a good overview of the various important disciplines in theology and this will give you a reliable picture of the rest of the program.

In the first semester of the first year you will be introduced to a variety of theological disciplines, such as biblical studies, philosophy, the history of the Church and comparative religion.

In the second semester, you will actively engage with the thought of philosophers and theologians. You'll be thinking about issues in society and faith that have been important in the past and are still so today, and you'll be investigating them with an open mind. You'll also inquire into, and reflect critically on, God, faith, humanity and society, and you will be challenged to ask yourself critical questions. Courses in Hebrew and Greek will be spread out over the years.

YEAR 1	SEMESTER 1	SEMESTER 2
Fixed courses (2022 - 2023)	Greek 1 (3 EC)	Greek 2 (3 EC)
		Biblical Hebrew 1 (3 EC)
	Theological Seminar (3 EC)	Fundamental Theology and Dogmatics (6 EC)
	Bible and Exegesis (Introduction) (6 EC)	Moral Theology: Anthropological Foundations (3 EC)
	History of Church and Theology (Introduction) (6 EC)	Spirituality (Introduction) (3 EC)
	History of Philosophy (6 EC)	Systematic Philosophy (6 EC)
	Comparative Religion (6 EC)	Practical Theology (Introduction) (6 EC)

In the **second and third year** you'll be looking more thoroughly at the subjects of the first year, and you'll start studying Latin. The student groups of the second and third year are combined.

YEAR 2	SEMESTER 3	SEMESTER 4
Fixed courses	Greek 3 (3 EC)	Latin 1 (3 EC)
	Biblical Hebrew 2 (3 EC)	Biblical Hebrew 3 (3 EC)
Rotating courses 2023-2024	New Testament: Synoptic Gospels and Johannine Literature (6 EC)	Old Testament: Torah and Prophetic Literature (6 EC)
	Church History: Middle Ages and Modernity (6 EC)	Dogmatics: God and Christ (9 EC)
	Patristics (3 EC)	
	Philosophy of Religion and Metaphysics (3 EC)	
Electives / minor	6 EC	9 EC

YEAR 3	SEMESTER 5	SEMESTER 6
Fixed courses	Latin 2 (3 EC)	Latin 3 (3 EC)
	Judaism (Introduction) (3 EC)	Judaism: Reading Rabbinic Texts (3 EC)
		Bachelor's Thesis in Theology (9 EC)
Rotating courses 2024-2025	New Testament: Acts and Letters (3 EC)	Canon Law (Introduction) (3 EC)
	Moral Philosophy (3 EC)	Old Testament: Wisdom Literature and Psalms (3 EC)
	Moral Theology: Theological Anthropology (6 EC)	Dogmatics: Church, Liturgy and Sacraments (9 EC)
	Sociology and Psychology of Religion (6 EC)	
Electives / minor	6 EC	

Electives/minor

Besides the compulsory courses, there is room in your second and third year to look more thoroughly at the subjects of your own interest, the electives. You have 21 ECs to choose from courses offered by the School of Catholic Theology, by other Schools at Tilburg University or by other universities in the Netherlands or abroad.

If you want to be awarded a canonical degree, you must opt for the following minor, offered by the Tilburg School of Catholic Theology. Notice that this minor has 9 EC more than scheduled in the program. Therefore, it is possible to take one course less if you write your Bachelor's thesis in the same discipline as this course.

Minor of Tilburg School of Catholic Theology

	SEMESTER 3 / 5	SEMESTER 4 / 6
YEAR A (2023-2024)	Dogmatics: Nature, Sin, and Grace (6 EC)	Philosophy: Nature and Culture (9 EC)

	SEMESTER 3 / 5	SEMESTER 4 / 6
YEAR B (2024 - 2025)	Fundamental Theology: Ecumenics and Theology of the Religions (6 EC)	Canon Law (Advanced) (3 EC)
		Moral Theology: Christian Ethics in a Secularized Society (6 EC)

Elective Beroepsseminar (Professional Seminar Course) (U11010, 6 EC)

Students who intend to enroll in the Master's program in Theology (in Dutch) or the Master's Religious Education Academic Teacher Training program (in Dutch) must pass the course *Beroepsseminar*. This course is offered in Utrecht in the first semester and is in Dutch only.

Previous Bachelor

If you have already obtained a Bachelor's degree in another discipline than Theology in your own country, you might have access to our smaller Bachelor's program in Theology (147 EC) or even to a Pre-Master's program in Theology (108 EC). Please ask the study advisor for your possibilities.

Application and Admission Bachelor's program in Theology

Application, before April 1st

All international and national applicants must apply via '**Studielink**'.

Admission requirements

To be eligible for entry to a Dutch research university, you must have a high school diploma which is considered equal to the highest level of secondary education in the Netherlands. Examples of diplomas that qualify are:

- The Dutch vwo diploma
- The International Baccalaureate
- The European Baccalaureate
- Most European high school diplomas which give access to university in the awarding country, such as the German *Abitur*, the Swiss *Matura*, or the French *baccalauréat*.

English language requirements

As this Bachelor's program is taught entirely in English, you will need to demonstrate your English language proficiency. Tilburg University accepts any of the following tests, which cannot be older than 2 years at the time of application:

- TOEFL: 80 (internet-based)
- IELTS: 6.0 (5,5 min. for all parts)
- Cambridge CAE or CPE

Please check all the requirements at:

www.tilburguniversity.edu/education/bachelors-programs/admissionrequirements/

and register before April 1st!

More info

www.tilburguniversity.edu/theology

theology@tilburguniversity.edu

+31 (0) 13 466 3800

After your Bachelor's

After you have finished your Bachelor's program, you can directly opt for making a career as a theologian or you can choose to follow one of our contiguous **Master's programs**.

Making a career

Theologians are everywhere in society: in churches, in hospitals, in schools and universities, in business and politics, in journalism and news media.

In society

With a Bachelor's degree in Theology from Tilburg University, you can work as an advisor in business and in politics, as a journalist, as a manager in (sustainable) banks or companies, et cetera. Theologians also often come to work as a policy maker in the non-profit sector, such as in the welfare work or in a non-governmental organization (NGO).

To deepen your knowledge you can choose our **Master's Program in Christianity and Society** (1 year full-time or 1,5 years full-time for the extended Master).

In pastoral ministry and spiritual care

Many Theology graduates have a position in chaplaincy/spiritual care in a healthcare facility, in the armed forces, or in the prison service. If you want a job in a function connected to the church, it is strongly advised to follow the Bachelor's program in Theology in Tilburg, followed by **the three-year Master's program in Theology** (in Dutch). The Tilburg School of Catholic Theology is recognized by the Holy See and by the Dutch Bishop's Conference and can therefore award canonical degrees.

As a teacher

After the Bachelor's program in Theology you can choose the two-year **Master's Religious Education Academic Teacher Training program** (in Dutch), which will enable you to gain your first-degree as a teacher. Other professions in education such as identity counselor in primary and secondary education or academic staff at a university are also possible.

Our Master's Programs

After completing your Bachelor's degree, you can choose one of our contiguous Master's programs:

Master's program in Christianity and Society

one-year multidisciplinary program (in English, in Tilburg)

In this one-year program you will learn how to reflect critically on Christianity in the public space and the tensions that arise in the dialogue with modern society and world religions. The program links theological and religious sources of the past with current social, economic and political issues. Special attention is given to Catholic social thought, which deals with issues such as the relation between religion and state, and the contribution of capitalism to justice and happiness.

Upon graduation, you will be an expert on the relations between Christianity and society in multiple fields of study. You can for example:

- use your expertise in advisory or management roles in religious organizations and churches, in government organizations and in NGOs
- apply your academic knowledge in the fields of media, politics and economic relations

Master's program in Theology

a three-year professional program (in Dutch, mainly in Utrecht)

Our Master's program in Theology prepares you for work in pastoral ministry by allowing you to specialize in various disciplines, such as biblical exegesis, Church history, systematic theology, philosophy, and social sciences. You can graduate in two majors, one for parish pastoral ministry and one for chaplaincy/spiritual care.

Master's Religious Education Academic Teacher Training program (ULO)

a two-year program qualifying for first-degree teacher (in Dutch, in Utrecht)

This Master's program focuses on the philosophical questions that are important in Catholic schools. You will learn, both theoretically and practically, to educate and coach young people in their religious and philosophical development. On graduation, you will be a highly qualified ('*eerste graads*') teacher.

You can find the details of all our Master's programs on our website:

www.tilburguniversity.edu/education/masters-programmes

Your Master's Program in Christianity and Society

An interdisciplinary program in theology and religious studies

In this curriculum, we invite you to join in a critical reflection on the role and presence of Christianity in the public space, on the tensions that arise in the dialogue with contemporary society and with world religions.

Upon graduation, you may consider yourself an expert on the relations between Christianity and society in multiple fields of study. Our alumni are known to apply their expertise in advisory or managerial functions in religious organizations and churches, in government or in NGOs, not to mention several of them pursuing careers in academics, in the media, or in political and economic positions.

The program integrates historical fact-based knowledge with the study of current social, economic and political issues. In this framework, the take of Catholic social thought on matters such as religion and state, religious liberty and the contribution of capitalism to justice and happiness, gain particular interest.

Our program provides a broad perspective: lectures are not merely offered by theologians, but also by philosophers, sociologists, economists and law scholars. Students are trained in small scale seminars with 5-10 persons coming from a wide array of national, religious and academic backgrounds, all of which adds to a truly lively and interdisciplinary education experience.

Typical courses are 'Christian Theology: Fundamental Issues and Contemporary Questions', 'Christianity in Dialogue with the Economic World' and 'Christianity in Dialogue with the World Religions'. We wholeheartedly welcome you at our lively, green campus!



Dr. Natascha Kienstra

Program Coordinator Master's program in Christianity and Society and associate professor of Church history

Master's Program in Christianity and Society

Curriculum of the Master's program

The program is conducted over one year full-time, with the option of part-time study conducted over two years. The program is taught in Tilburg, in English.

This program aims at

- drawing links between theological and philosophical sources and current social, economic and political issues;
- strengthening critical reflection and social responsibility;
- developing skills which will enable students to work in the public and private sector, in functions that require knowledge of the mutual relations of religion and society.

Content of the program

The program comprises three major sections: *Fundamentals*, *In dialogue with* and *In conclusion*.

I. Fundamentals

In this section students are thoroughly introduced to the mutual influence of Christianity and society in past and present. This section consists of three compulsory courses:

- Sources and History of Social Thought
- Christian Theology: Fundamental Issues and Contemporary Questions
- Catholic Social Thought in Contemporary Society

II. In Dialogue with

In this part of the program, courses focus on a specific area in which religion and society interact. In this section students have to follow three courses. Students can exchange one of the three courses offered in the program for a Master-level course outside of the program.

- Religion in a Digital World
- Christianity in Dialogue with the Economic World
- Christianity in Dialogue with the World Religions

III. In Conclusion

This section consists of three compulsory courses:

- Research and Hermeneutics
- Thesis seminar
- Master's Thesis

Structure of the program

Full-time (one year)

SEMESTER 1	SEMESTER 2
Sources and History of Social Thought (6 EC) *	Religion in a Digital World (6 EC) *
Christian Theology: Fundamental Issues and Contemporary Questions (6 EC) *	Christianity in Dialogue with the World Religions (6 EC) *
Catholic Social Thought in Contemporary Society (6 EC) *	Thesis Seminar (3 EC) **
Christianity in Dialogue with the Economic World (6 EC) **	MA Thesis (15 EC)
Research and Hermeneutics (6 EC) **	

Part-time (two years)

SEMESTER 1	SEMESTER 2
Sources and History of Social Thought (6 EC) *	Christianity in Dialogue with Contemporary Politics, Government and Law (6 EC) *
Christian Theology: Fundamental Issues and Contemporary Questions (6 EC) *	Christianity in Dialogue with the World Religions (6 EC) *
Catholic Social Thought in Contemporary Society (6 EC) *	
SEMESTER 3	SEMESTER 4
Christianity in Dialogue with the Economic World (6 EC) **	Thesis Seminar (3 EC) **
Research and Hermeneutics (6 EC) **	MA Thesis (15 EC)

* courses on Tuesday

** courses on Wednesday in 2022-2023 and on Thursday in 2023-2024

Sources and History of Social Thought

One of the major challenges in an age dealing with the clash of civilizations is to understand the evolution of Catholicism. This course scrutinizes the relation between Church and modernity, from the era of the French Revolution up to the twentieth century.

Christian Theology: Fundamental Issues and Contemporary Questions

In this course, we will discuss three major questions. First, what is theology and how is theology practiced? Second, how do classical Christian doctrines matter today? Third, what is the relation between Church, modern and postmodern society and how should it be? How tolerant is postmodern tolerance and what does religion have to do with politics?

Catholic Social Thought in Contemporary Society

This course offers a practices-oriented study of modern Catholic social thought. Both encyclical letters – from *Rerum Novarum* to *Laudato Si'* – and the impact of social Catholicism on contemporary (20th and 21st century) societies will be studied. Sociological perspectives on Christianity in (late) modernity will be included.

Religion in the Digital World

Students will be introduced to the study of religion and modern culture, especially religion in the digital world. In this course, the 'digital world' is defined as the complex of intertextual and intermedial narratives communicated through digital means, while the religious phenomenon is placed within the historical and contemporary West European society, giving a certain preference to the influences of Christianity within our cultural domain.

Christianity in Dialogue with the Economic World

In this course, students will develop insight into the interrelation between Biblical teachings and the market economy. Students learn to develop Christian perspectives on how capitalism relates to important values such as human flourishing, sustainability, fairness and human rights.

Research and Hermeneutics

In this course, students become more acquainted with the varying methods applied in theological disciplines in order to develop their research skills and support the research they conduct in their Master's thesis. The focus is on methods used in philosophy and systematic theology, social sciences and the historical sciences. The overall aim is to create a nuanced 'awareness of interpretation'.

Christianity in Dialogue with the World Religions

The encounter between Christianity and other religions and worldviews constitutes a fascinating process of dialogue and interaction. Faced with fundamentalism and relativism, concepts such as salvation receive new relevance. What can interreligious dialogue learn us about God, humanity and the world?

Thesis seminar and Master's Thesis

The Master's thesis (8,000-12,000 words) is the result of the student's own research regarding themes that form part of the program. The first part of the seminar will result in a thesis plan in which students select a research topic, formulate a research question, specify their research method(s) and draw up a provisional table of contents

and a basic bibliography. This part is finished when the proposed supervisor(s) has/have officially approved. In the second part of the seminar the students present sample writings of their work-in-progress and give feedback to each other.

Extend your master with an internship

After the one-year program in Christianity and Society, there is the opportunity to extend your master's degree by half a year, to fulfill an internship at a relevant institution or organization. You then choose for the 'Extended Master's Program'. During your internship you will be well supported by Tilburg University, with supervision and return meetings. This Extended Master offers you the opportunity to gain relevant work experience and to build a network of contacts for the rest of your career.

Why choose our Master's program in Christianity and Society?

- Small classes (5-10 students) ensuring individual attention and personal contact with fellow students and teachers
- International classroom with students from various countries, religions, and academic backgrounds, ensuring a lively and balanced dialogue
- Lower tuition fees than other Master's programs at Tilburg University
- Moreover, partial scholarships are available to encourage students from all economic backgrounds to participate in this graduate program
- The opportunity to follow the Extended Master's Program (+6 months) with an internship at an institution or organization in the field

Application and Admission for the Master's Program in Christianity and Society

Admission requirements

To be eligible for the Master's program in Christianity and Society, you must have:

- An equivalent of a Dutch academic Bachelor's degree.
If you have a Bachelor's degree from a non-university institution of higher education, you can still apply but then you must first complete our Pre-Master's program
- An interest in Christianity and in the workings of religion and society
- A basic knowledge of Christianity and theology (a reading list is available to improve your knowledge prior to the start of the program)

English language requirements

You need to demonstrate proficiency in English by submitting the results of one of the following tests:

- TOEFL : 577 (paper-based) or 90 (internet-based)
The TOEFL institutional code for Tilburg University is 9860.
- Academic IELTS: 6.5 (6.0 min. for all parts)
- Cambridge CAE or CPE

An English proficiency test is not required if:

1. You are an English native speaker, i.e. if you are a citizen of, or have obtained your university education in English for at least three years in *Australia, Canada (with exception of Quebec), New Zealand, United Kingdom, Ireland or United States of America*. For all other countries, the English language test is compulsory.
2. You have an International Baccalaureate (IB) or European Baccalaureate (EB) diploma with English as the language of instruction.

Application

All international and national applicants must apply via 'Studielink'.

Please check all the requirements at:

www.tilburguniversity.edu/education/masters-programmes/christianity-and-society/application

and register before April 1st! (EU/EEA before June 1st)

More information

www.tilburguniversity.edu/theology

theology@tilburguniversity.edu

+31 (0) 13 466 3800



Attentive theology students

Pre-Master's Program in Christianity and Society

Curriculum of the Pre-Master's program (full-time)

This six-month Pre-Master's program is designed to help improve your knowledge and academic skills within the field of Theology, such as understanding and analyzing discourses, library research, and essay writing. After successful completion, you will automatically be admitted to the one-year Master's program in Christianity and Society, starting end of August of the next academic year.

The program runs from the end of January until June and consists of four courses and a concluding essay (30 EC in total):

- Fundamental Theology and Dogmatics
- Systematic Philosophy
- Practical Theology (Introduction)
- Moral Theology: Christian Ethics in a Secularized Society
- Concluding Essay

The lectures will be given in the spring semester on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

SEMESTER 2
Fundamental Theology and Dogmatics (6 EC)
Systematic Philosophy (6 EC)
Practical Theology (Introduction) (6 EC)
Moral Theology: Christian Ethics in a Secularized Society (6 EC)
Concluding Essay (6 EC)

Fundamental Theology and Dogmatics

The theme of the Creed in combination with questions of authority forms one of the focal points, offering a broad range of (catechetical) introduction. In addition, attention is paid to the question of how to study texts. Basic theological topics such as God the Creator, Christ, Holy Ghost, as well as the development after the second Vatican Council are dealt with. This course forms a good introduction to theological thinking, especially because giving account of faith vis-à-vis reason and modern society forms an essential part of it.

Systematic Philosophy

Fundamental themes such as free will versus determinism, language and reality and 'objective' knowledge, are treated by using classical philosophical texts. This course forms a coherent whole with the course on fundamental theology, by which the student acquires the skills to think theologically and philosophically.

Practical Theology (Introduction)

Practical theology is the theological discipline that studies what contextual preconditions are required for, and what the goals, means, and results are of stimulating the functioning of the Christian faith in various contexts (personal, ecclesial, societal) on legitimate theological grounds. The course addresses the following themes: an encyclopedic survey of the paradigms of practical theology; an analysis of the late modern context of practical theology; an encyclopedic survey of the subdisciplines of practical theology; understanding of the position of the discipline in relation to the other disciplines; a general introduction to a number of methods of practical theology; explorations by way of example of a number of relevant practical theological themes and cases.

Moral Theology: Christian Ethics in a Secularized Society

In a secular society communicability, the possibility to convey Christian ethics, is not assured. However, human being nowadays search for existential answers in response to their existential question in their personal life and in our society. Christian ethics heads forward to human dignity – as all people of good will do. This ethics provides a critical view on economical ends which tend to play a dominant role. Christian ethics appeals to human responsibility for fair structures, which warrant central values such as life, love and truth in order to protect human freedom and dignity.

Concluding Essay

This essay will be the occasion for the student to demonstrate his or her academic skills. Research, planning and writing form essential ingredients of this essay. The writing of the essay will be closely supervised by one of the teachers of the Master Christianity and Society, the choice of whom will be determined by the chosen topic.

Application and Admission for the Pre-Master's program in Christianity and Society

Application

All applicants must apply via **'Studielink'**.

An interdisciplinary program in theology and religious studies

You can apply for the Pre-Master's programs in Christianity and Society if you are:

1. a student (Dutch or international) with a relevant Dutch HBO degree, or
2. a student (Dutch or international) with a university degree that does not entirely meet the admission requirements of the Master's program.

English language requirements

You need to demonstrate proficiency in English by submitting the results of one of the following tests:

- TOEFL : 575 (paper-based), or 90 (internet-based).
The TOEFL institutional code for Tilburg University is 9860.
- Academic IELTS: 6.5 (6.0 min. for all parts)
- Cambridge CAE or CPE

An English proficiency test is not required if:

1. You are an English native speaker, i.e. if you are a citizen of, or have obtained your university education in English for at least three years in *Australia, Canada (with exception of Quebec), New Zealand, United Kingdom, Ireland or United States of America*. For all other countries, the English language test is compulsory.
2. You have an International Baccalaureate (IB) or European Baccalaureate (EB) diploma with English as the language of instruction.

Please check all the requirements at:

www.tilburguniversity.edu/education/masters-programmes/christianity-and-society/application and register before October 1st! (EU/EEA before December 1st)

More information

www.tilburguniversity.edu/theology

theology@tilburguniversity.edu

+31 (0) 13 466 3800

Fees and Scholarships

Tilburg School of Catholic Theology has very attractive tuition fees. The fee for the academic year 2022 - 2023 will be € 2,209 for the Bachelor's program, for EU and non-EU students. The tuition fee for the Master's program Christianity and Society for EU-students is € 2,209 and € 5,400 for non-EU students and for those who already have a Master's degree (after 1990), see also www.tilburguniversity.edu/students/administration/tuitionfees. Scholarships will also be available at TST for 2022 - 2023.

For more information about scholarships please visit: www.tilburguniversity.edu/education/bachelors-programs/financial-matters/scholarships-and-grants/

The Campus and Student Chaplaincy

Tilburg University's green campus is beautifully located just beside a park-like forest. The campus hosts a wide range of activities, including many specifically geared to international students. College class rooms are within walking distance of the modern library, which is equipped with a large number of working spaces, and of student support services and the sports center.

Located at 1 kilometer from the campus is **Maranatha student church**, where university chaplain Fr. Michiel Peeters welcomes you for regular activities, excursions, international student Mass on Sundays, and Christmas and Easter celebrations on campus. It's a great community to be part of!



The City of Tilburg

Tilburg is the sixth-largest city in the Netherlands and is located in the south of the country. It's less than an hour and a half by train from cities like Utrecht, Amsterdam, Rotterdam, and The Hague. European capitals such as Paris, London and Brussels are also within easy reach.

Tilburg itself is a vibrant city with approximately 1,500 international students from more than 100 countries, and it has a lot to offer every kind of student. It has good museums, great restaurants and bars, many sports facilities, and a lively music and festival culture.

Cost of living

Life in Tilburg is relatively cheap compared to other Dutch university cities, such as Amsterdam or Utrecht. Living in Tilburg, including room rent, food and drink, books and course readers, and insurance, will cost around € 800 per month.

A special place just outside Tilburg is **Abbey of Onze Lieve Vrouw van Koningshoeven**, a Trappist monastery (Order of the Cistercians of the Strict Observance) founded in 1881. Koningshoeven Abbey offers its guests opportunities for contemplation and spirituality. The Abbey also brews its own beer, *La Trappe*, a popular brand in the Netherlands.



About the Netherlands and its People

The Netherlands is a small country, but it's the world's fifth-largest exporter and is home to many international companies. The Dutch are internationally oriented and most speak English; they're open-minded and will be quick to welcome you. Their famed directness is something you may come to appreciate, as they are used to be honest and open.

Life as a Student

Multicultural classroom

As a Theology student you will be studying in an international classroom with students from all over the world and from all kinds of backgrounds. Especially for a discipline such as Theology, it is very valuable to work together and learn from each other's perspectives while sharing important values.

Language courses

If you are not a native speaker, you might want to continue to increase your knowledge of the English language. Or maybe you want to be able to make yourself understood in Dutch. Tilburg has its own Language Center, which offers a wide range of language courses. All students registered at Tilburg University receive a voucher worth 12 EC to take one or more courses at the Language Center. For more information, please visit www.tilburguniversity.edu/education/languages

Admission Officers

Once you decide to apply to Tilburg University, our Admissions Officers will be in close contact with you. They will support you throughout the admissions procedure and will provide all the information you need to make a great start at Tilburg University. They will also be your first contact persons for any queries.

Introduction Week

To help you adapt quickly to campus life, to get to know your way around the faculty, and to feel at home at Tilburg University and among your fellow students, the Theology faculty offers a two-day introduction program. You'll receive an invitation for that. You will also receive an invitation from University Tilburg itself, called Tilburg Orientation Program, or TOP Week.

You are free to choose which introduction program you will take, but we recommend you to take part in the faculty's own introduction program.

Tutoring and coaching

TST will provide a tutor for you to assist you in your first Bachelor year. Throughout the entire Bachelor's program you will also be in contact with **TST's Academic Advisor**, who can help you with any questions and problems that are specifically related to your educational program. She is able to help you with methods of planning, with choosing electives or specializations, or in the case of disappointing grades.

Dean of Students

In addition to the Academic Advisor, TST has a Dean of Students who can assist you with finding appropriate help if you have more general questions, such as illness, adjusting to university life, or domestic problems.

Student Psychologist

Tilburg University has several Student Psychologists who are available for consultation by students. Depending on the nature and the seriousness of the problem, they can help you with information and coaching, or refer you to other staff members or authorities, or to training sessions or courses.

Accommodation

Although Tilburg University does not itself offer student accommodation, we are eager to help you get started finding your own accommodation in Tilburg while you are still in your home country. Finding a place to live is one of the most important things you have to arrange, and it can be a challenge if you don't know where to start.

TalentSquare

TalentSquare is a student campus that offers accommodation for international students, located at just a few minutes' walking distance from Tilburg Central train station and about a ten-minute bike ride from the University. TalentSquare offers fully furnished rooms (approximately 18 square meters) for international students at Tilburg University. TalentSquare offers individual rooms in living units for 5 international students, with shared fully equipped kitchens. All rooms have a private bathroom and high-speed Internet.

Private market

You can also look online for alternative housing options across the city. Student rooms and apartments are commonly offered online in the Netherlands, either directly by the landlord/landlady, by housing companies, or by tenants looking for subtenants. We strongly advise you to read the information provided at www.tilburguniversity.edu/accommodation. You'll receive more information about the accommodation options once you have been accepted for a degree program at Tilburg University.

Studying at our partner universities

It is possible to take courses at our partner universities, for example for your minor. The Tilburg School of Catholic Theology has partners in various destinations that you can go to. The TST has a special list of funds administered by external organizations that may be able to help you with the financial aspects of studying abroad.

We have agreements with top universities in Europe, South America and Canada. Our partner universities include:

- Universität Erfurt, Germany
- St. Patrick's College in Maynooth, Ireland
- MF Norwegian School of Theology in Oslo, Norway
- Pontificia Universidad Católica Argentina in Buenos Aires, Argentina

Visit our website to view our full list of partner universities.

Extracurricular activities

Being a student means much more than just studying. There is a wide range of activities you can participate in besides your studies, to explore your interests, discover your talents, or improve your skills and your CV.

Students who have excellent grades and thrive in their Bachelor's studies may want an extra challenge. Tilburg University's Honors programs are designed to give you just that. There are two university-wide Honors programs, each with a different focus. These programs are open to students from all of Tilburg University's Schools, and take place during the second and third year of your studies. If you successfully complete the Honors program alongside your Bachelor's degree, this will be stated on your diploma.

Summer School

Tilburg University Summer School offers its participants a combination of academic growth and social activities to help them make the most of their summer. Everyone who is currently studying at, or has graduated from, university-level education can participate in Tilburg University Summer School courses, except courses with special entry requirements.

Our Summer School offers courses at different levels in the fields of Economics & Management, Law, Liberal Arts and Sciences, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Culture, and Theology.

In addition to interesting academic courses, the Tilburg University Summer School also has a Social Program with activities such as city trips to Amsterdam and 's-Hertogenbosch, sports, and a visit to a typical Dutch brewery. Find out more at: www.tilburguniversity.edu/summerschool.

Student Career Services

At Tilburg University, the support we offer goes beyond academic learning. We are dedicated to preparing you for your transition to the labor market. The Student Career Center offers a wide range of career services, such as coaching, support and training courses.

Non-EU graduates

After obtaining a Bachelor's or Master's degree in the Netherlands, non-European students can apply for a residence permit under the 'Orientation Year for Graduates Seeking Employment' scheme. This allows you to spend up to twelve months in the Netherlands to find employment. Please check out the Nuffic website, www.nuffic.nl.

During your orientation year, you have free access to the Dutch labor market. This means that your employer does not need to apply for a work permit. Furthermore, there are no income requirements during this year.

Immigration Matters

Tilburg University's Immigration Office will assist you throughout all of the immigration procedures that apply to your particular circumstances. Assistance for students is free of charge. However, an immigration fee may apply.

	Non EU/EEA/non-Swiss Nationals	EU/EEA/Swiss Nationals
Dutch entry visa	Some nationalities	No
Dutch Residence Permit	Yes	No

All international students will be contacted by our Immigration Office as soon as they have been accepted for a program of study.

Visit www.tilburguniversity.edu/immigration for more information.

Insurance

Dutch law requires you to have adequate health and third-party liability insurance. Organizing your health and liability insurance is your own responsibility. A good place to start is by asking your current insurer if your stay in the Netherlands is covered by your existing policy. If not, you will need to take out private insurance, for which we recommend IPS or AON.

You are free to find your own private insurance, but keep in mind that your policy must meet the health and liability insurance requirements stipulated by Dutch law. If you are planning to find a part-time job, you might also be required to take out Dutch public health insurance. For more information, please see the Nuffic website, www.nuffic.nl.

Please note: *Tilburg University cannot be held responsible for any costs which may be incurred during your stay in Tilburg as a result of incorrect medical and/or liability insurance.*

Working in the Netherlands

Although it is easy to live in the Netherlands without speaking Dutch, it is difficult to get a part-time job here without some knowledge of the language. Depending on your nationality, there may also be restrictions on how many hours you are allowed to work. Please take this into account when planning your finances.

How to get admitted to the English-taught Theology programs

Previous education	Bachelor / Pre-Master	Masters
high school diploma equal to Dutch VWO diploma / first year HBO* / pre-bachelor / colloquium doctum	Bachelor Theology 180 EC	MA Christianity and Society (60 EC)
Bachelor HBO*	Bachelor Theology 147 EC	
	Pre-Master Christianity and Society (30 EC)	MA Christianity and Society (60 EC)
Bachelor WO**	>> >> >> >>	MA Christianity and Society (60 EC)
Bachelor HBO* Theology	Pre-Master Christianity and Society (30 EC)	MA Christianity and Society (60 EC)

* HBO = university of applied sciences

** WO = research university

Academic Calendar TST 2022/2023

Bachelor's and pre-master's program Theologie/Theology (Utrecht and Tilburg) and pre-master's program Christianity and Society (Tilburg)

	September				October				November				
Calendarweek	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47
	L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	L6	L7	lf	exa1	L1	L2	L3	L4
Monday	29	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21
Tuesday	30	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22
Wednesday	31	7	14	21	28	6	12	19	26	2	9	16	23
Thursday	1	8	15	22	29	5	13	20	27	3	10	17	24
Friday	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25

	December				January 2023				
Calendarweek	48	49	50	51	52	1	2	3	4
	L5	L6	L7	cw	vac	vac	lf	exa2	res1
Monday	28	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23
Tuesday	29	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24
Wednesday	30	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25
Thursday	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26
Friday	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27

	February				March				April				
Calendarweek	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	L6	L7	lf	exa3	res2	L1	L2	L3
Monday	30	6	13	20	27	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24
Tuesday	31	7	14	21	28	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25
Wednesday	1	8	15	22	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26
Thursday	2	9	16	23	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27
Friday	3	10	17	24	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28

	May				June				July			
Calendarweek	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
	vac	L4	L5	L6	L7	cw	lf	exa4	res3	lf	res4	
Monday	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	3	10	
Tuesday	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	4	11	
Wednesday	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	5	12	
Thursday	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	
Friday	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	

27	Lecture weeks (L1 t/m L7)
15	examinations (exa) and resits (res), lecture free (lf) or catch up week (cw)
23	holiday or TST activity, no lectures
vac	vacation

15-19 August 2022
22-25 August 2022
29 August 2022
5 September 2022
23 September 2022
4 November 2022
17 November 2022
25 and 26 December 2022
1 January 2023

30 January 2023
20-21 February 2023
7 April 2023
9 en 10 April 2023
27 April 2023
29 April-7 May 2023
5 May 2023
18 May 2023
29 May 2023
28 August 2023

Welcome foreign students
Introduction Bachelor/premaster Theology and Master Christianity and Society
Start first semester
Opening Academic year Tilburg University 16.00
Start meeting TST and FHTL (afternoon Utrecht)
Faculty day (Iustrum)
Dies Natalis (Iustrum TlU 95th anniversary)
Christmas and Boxing Day
New Year's Day

Start second semester
Carnival (Campus Tilburg is open till 18.30, Campus Utrecht is open)
Good Friday
Easter Sunday and Monday
King's Day
May vacation
Liberation Day
Ascension day (27 May University also closed)
Whit Monday
Start first semester 2022-2023

Academic Calendar TST 2022/2023

Master's program Theologie (Utrecht), Master's program Christianity and Society (Tilburg) and Master's program Universitaire Lerarenopleiding Godsdienst en Levensbeschouwing (Utrecht)

	September				October				November				
Calendarweek	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47
	L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	L6	cw	lf	lf	L1	L2	L3	L4
Monday	29	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21
Tuesday	30	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22
Wednesday	31	7	14	21	28	6	12	19	26	2	9	16	23
Thursday	1	8	15	22	29	5	13	20	27	3	10	17	24
Friday	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25

	December				January 2023				
Calendarweek	48	49	50	51	52	1	2	3	4
	L5	L6	cw	lf	vac	vac	lf	lf	lf
Monday	28	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23
Tuesday	29	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24
Wednesday	30	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25
Thursday	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26
Friday	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27

	February				March				April				
Calendarweek	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	L6	cw	lf	lf	lf	L1	L2	L3
Monday	30	6	13	20	27	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24
Tuesday	31	7	14	21	28	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25
Wednesday	1	8	15	22	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26
Thursday	2	9	16	23	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27
Friday	3	10	17	24	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28

	May				June				July			
Calendarweek	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
	vac	L4	L5	L6	cw	lf	lf	lf	lf	lf	lf	
Monday	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	3	10	
Tuesday	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	4	11	
Wednesday	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	5	12	
Thursday	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	
Friday	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	

27	Lecture weeks (L1 t/m L6)
15	examinations (exa) and resits (res), lecture free (lf) or catch up week (cw)
23	holiday or TST activity, no lectures
vac	vacation

15-19 August 2022
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Whit Monday
Start first semester 2022-2023

Useful Information

Homepage TST: www.tilburguniversity.edu/about/schools/theology/

Homepage Bachelor's Program in Theology:
www.tilburguniversity.edu/education/bachelors-programs/theology/

Homepage Master's Program in Theology (in Dutch):
www.tilburguniversity.edu/nl/onderwijs/masteropleidingen/theologie/

Homepage Master's Religious Education Academic Teacher Training Program (ULO) (in Dutch):
www.tilburguniversity.edu/nl/onderwijs/masteropleidingen/lerarenopleiding/godsdiens-en-levensbeschouwing/

Homepage (Pre-)Master's Program in Christianity and Society:
www.tilburguniversity.edu/education/masters-programmes/christianity-and-society

Facebook TST: www.facebook.com/Tilburg.School.of.Catholic.Theology

Study guide of Tilburg University: catalogus.tilburguniversity.edu

Education and Examination Regulations (EER):
www.tilburguniversity.edu/students/studying/regulations/eer/catholic-theology

Freshmen site: www.tilburguniversity.edu/education/welcome-new-student

Tuition fee: www.tilburguniversity.edu/students/administration/tuitionfees

Canvas: canvas.uvt.nl

Student Desk: www.tilburguniversity.edu/students/studentdesk/

Study Tools: www.tilburguniversity.edu/students/studying/tools/

Student Career Services:
www.tilburguniversity.edu/students/career/student-career-services/

Education office TST:
Rob van Amerongen (office) – bureautst@tilburguniversity.edu / +31 (0)13 466 3800
Mariëlle Snijder (Academic Advisor) – theology@tilburguniversity.edu

“I’m studying Theology in Tilburg because the program here is the full package. Language courses like biblical Greek, Hebrew and Latin aren’t offered in other schools. Plus here, it’s catholic theology: coming from a protestant background, I’m learning theology in a new light - a different perspective.”

Tope Ugunkuade - graduate

This brochure already contains a lot of information, but you may still have a few questions.

If you have a question about the curriculum, about studying in Tilburg, or if you want to contact our Admissions Officer about something else, please check our website www.tilburguniversity.edu or contact us directly. Send us an email and we’ll be in touch with you: theology@tilburguniversity.edu.

We are looking forward to meeting you!

TST welcomes all students who are interested in theology and like to think existentially about faith and religion!



Mariëlle Snijder
Academic Advisor TST

Want to find out more about Tilburg University?
www.tilburguniversity.edu/mybrochure