

2024
Admissions Handbook
and
Application Forms

Doctor of Philosophy in Theological Studies

Tokyo Christian University

Graduate School of Theology, Division of Theological Studies



東京基督教大学大学院

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Concerning mandatory absences that may occur due to Infection Risk under the
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1. Our Faith

1-1 Statement of Faith

Tokyo Christian Institute is founded on the Biblical, historical and orthodox rule of faith, which was consistently revealed in both the Old and the New Testaments, expressed in the Ecumenical Creeds of the Ancient Church, and proclaimed in the Reformation. In response to various challenges, including those stemming from certain aspects of the Enlightenment and liberal theology, contemporary Evangelical faith has endeavored to defend this historical faith and to practice the piety of belief.

The articles which are the basis of this Evangelical faith are the following:

1. The Bible, which consists of 66 books of the New and Old Testaments, was written by each writer under the perfect inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Thus in the original writings there is no error, and it contains all that God desires to reveal to human beings concerning salvation. The Bible is the single and absolute standard for faith and practice.
2. The living and true God is one, who is eternally existent in three persons — Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
3. God created all things, visible and invisible from nothing, the same being subject to His absolute sovereignty.
4. Adam was created in the image of God in right relation with God, but was tempted by Satan and sinned against the will of God, thereby incurring both the pollution and punishment of sin with the result of both spiritual and physical death. All human beings are therefore born with a sinful nature being sinners in thought, word and deed.
5. The Lord Jesus Christ is true God and true man. He was begotten by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, died on the cross for the sins of the world, was buried, and was raised again on the third day according to the Scripture. He ascended to heaven and sits at the right hand of God where he executes his ministry as high priest for us.
6. Because of the substitutionary death of our Lord Jesus Christ, all who believe in Him are forgiven of their sins and justified by faith and redeemed from the penalty and dominion of sin. There is no other way to salvation.
7. The Holy Spirit is a person whose ministry is to convict and regenerate sinful human beings, making them children of God, empowering them for a life of holiness and service, and conforming them to the image of Christ.
8. The church universal is the body of Christ, and all who are born again by the Holy Spirit become members thereof, Christ being the head. The church on earth, in a manner befitting Christ its head, should maintain purity of faith and life; and according to His command, should preach the Gospel to every creature.
9. Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, is coming again personally, bodily and visibly. He will raise bodily the just and the unjust, one to everlasting blessedness and the other to everlasting punishment, after which He will renew all things and deliver the kingdom to God the Father.

1-2 Foundational Principles

Providing practical theology education to foster workers of world mission standing on protestant evangelical faith, serving the church and society of the 21st century across denominations.

1. Evangelical

Tokyo Christian University (TCU) is a theological educational institution with the purpose of educating ministers and lay workers (clergy and laity) to be well equipped with historical, orthodox theology, which stresses the evangelical view of the Bible as the infallible Word of God and as the only rule for faith and life. Upon this stance, TCU embraces its statement of faith, prepares a wide-ranging curriculum with theological depth, and aims at sending talented human resources well-grounded in orthodox theology out to evangelical churches.

2. Interdenominational

TCU was founded through the cooperation of three previous schools, each of which has made distinctive accomplishments in interdenominational education. TCU will create a greater potential by combining the talents previously dispersed among the three schools, and it expects to contribute to the service for and the development of both domestic and foreign churches trans-denominationally.

3. Practical Theological Education

While providing interdenominational theological education to serve diverse churches, TCU aims to respond individually and practically to the needs and expectations of evangelical churches and organizations since the areas of service have become more diverse today. Therefore, TCU aims to provide practical theological education based on biblical faith in order to foster an attitude of service to the church combined with a capacity for effective leadership, thus producing students who with brave and warm hearts exemplify the gospel in their personal lives.

4. Commitment to Global Missions

In response to the Great Commission of the Lord of Mission, Jesus Christ, TCU places world missions within its educational vision. It builds relationships with evangelical churches and theological institutions worldwide, in Asian countries in particular, contributing towards the eventual sending of missionaries and dedicated workers with an international spirit to the various fields home and abroad. By so doing, it will, in a positive manner, be involved in the precious task of building up of the Church as the Body of Christ that supersedes national and ethnic boundaries.

2. Graduate School of Theology, Division of Theological Studies

2-1 Graduate School of Theology Objectives

Based upon its founding principles, and in accordance with the Fundamental Law of Education and the School Education Act, Tokyo Christian University (TCU) Graduate School of Theology aims to contribute to the peace and development of church and society through educating Christian women and men in scholarly theory and praxis in the theological disciplines. TCU aims to accomplish this through cultivating deep learning and outstanding levels of competency and character in women and men to serve as church ministry professionals (pastors, missionaries, evangelists, ministers of education, etc.), theological researchers, and theological educators who have acquired highly advanced and professional levels of expertise in their fields.

2-2 Graduate Programs

Tokyo Christian University Graduate School of Theology, Division of Theological Studies

Degrees Offered	Standard Period	Language of Instruction	* Time of Entrance
Master of Arts in Theology • Church Ministries Program • Theological Studies Program	2 years	Japanese	April
Doctor of Philosophy in Theological Studies	** 3 years	Japanese / English	April / August

* TCU operates on a trimester system. Spring Trimester: April to July
 Fall Trimester: August to November
 Winter Trimester: December to March

** Extended Period of Research

Upon receiving approval from TCU, Ph.D. students may extend their period of research beyond 3 years. Please contact the graduate school admissions office for details.

3. Doctoral Program (Ph.D.)

3-1 Educational Objectives

The doctoral candidates will be engaged in advanced creative theological research with integrated methods in theology. This program aims to train theological researchers and educators who are able to contribute to an increasingly complex church and society concerning theological issues at TCU and other universities and theological institutions inside and outside of Japan, and to train leaders who possess high levels of theological expertise and research abilities who can serve in churches, mission organizations, and Christian NPO/NGOs.

3-2 Curriculum Policy

The doctoral program, based on education and research in a master's program, educates students through advanced mentoring. The program will cultivate abilities in problem solving and logical argumentation through critical and constructive engagement with other researchers.

3-3 Diploma Policy

The requirements for receiving the Ph.D. degree are as follows:

1. Study and research for three years or longer.
2. Acquire 14 credits or more.
3. Successfully defend the Ph.D. dissertation.

Through the Ph.D. dissertation, degree candidates must acquire and demonstrate advanced and creative research skills based on integrated and specialized knowledge of theology. Furthermore, they must demonstrate the ability to perform these research skills through collaboration with other researchers.

4. Admissions

4-1 Admissions Policy

Applicants who are the most capable among those who have expressed dedication to Christ and have completed a Master's degree in theological studies or the equivalent (as determined by the graduate committee) are eligible for consideration.

4-2 Admissions Quota

Time of Entrance	Quota
April 2024	2
August 2024	

4-3 Qualifications for Admission

Individuals recognized as possessing superior academic skills among those who have expressed faith in Christ, and who have completed a Master's degree or the equivalent (as determined by the graduate committee) before entering the Ph.D. program at TCU.

- 1 Those who have received a Master's degree or equivalent in Japan (as defined by the School Education Law in Japan).
- 2 Those who have received a Master's degree or equivalent outside of Japan.
- 3 Those who have completed a Master's degree or equivalent in Japan through a correspondence course offered by a foreign institution.
- 4 Those who have received a Master's degree or equivalent from a foreign institution that is recognized by the Ministry of Education in Japan.
- 5 Those who have completed a Master's degree or equivalent at United Nations University.
- 6 Those who have completed a program in a foreign country, at a designated institution, or at United Nations University, and have passed the exam stated in Japan's Standards for Establishment of Graduate Schools or equivalent.
- 7 Those designated by the Minister of Education in Japan.
- 8 Those who are older than 24 years of age and are considered to be as academically capable as those who have completed a Master's degree or equivalent through individual reviews by TCU graduate school.

4-4 Application Process

1. Prescreening consultation
2. Application submission
3. Notification of preliminary results based on submitted documents
4. English exam and interview
5. Final result notification
6. Enrollment

4-5 Prescreening Consultation

The applicant is required to send the following documents before submitting an application. The graduate school admissions committee will determine whether the desired field of research matches what is offered at TCU. These documents should be submitted by mail at least one month before submission of the application.

Required documents:

- 1) Prescreening Consultation Application (Form 9)
- 2) Academic Transcript (theological education only)
- 3) Certificate of Graduation (theological education only)

- 4) Master's Thesis and Summary (Paper size: A4 or Letter size)
 - a) Written in Japanese or English
 - One copy of Master's thesis
 - One copy of the summary of Master's thesis
 - Summary in Japanese (approximately 2,000 characters)
 - Summary in English (approximately 1,500 words)
 - b) Written in a language other than Japanese and English
 - One copy of Master's thesis in original language
 - One copy of the Japanese or English summary of Master's thesis
 - Summary should be long enough to convey the content of the thesis.
 - c) Those who are in the process of writing a Master's thesis
 - Master's Thesis Progress Report (Form 10)
 - One copy of the Bachelor's thesis in Japanese or English if applicable. If not, one copy of a paper in Japanese or English written and submitted during the Master's program.
 - d) Those who were not required to write a Master's thesis
 - One copy of a published or presented paper in Japanese or English
 - One copy of a summary of a published or presented paper in Japanese or English
 - Summary in Japanese (approximately 2,000 characters)
 - Summary in English (approximately 1,500 words)
- 5) Application Fee Waiver Request 2024 (Form 11)
 - Only those who are eligible. (See "4-9 Application Fee" on page 7.) Passport copy of personal information page must be attached.
- 6) Health Status / Special Assistance Request (Form 12)
 - Please submit this form if you have any temporary or long-term disability (examples: mobility impairment or intellectual disability; psychological disability (including developmental disorders); and other physical and mental dysfunctions. Applicants without disabilities do not need to submit it.

4-6 Screening Details

1) Initial Screening

The admissions committee will review previous research achievement (a Master's thesis or equivalent) and other application documents, including a dissertation proposal based on previous research.

2) English Exam & Interview

Applicants who pass the initial screening will be given an English exam and an interview.

Test location: TCU Campus or Online (via Zoom)

English Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Test time: 70 minutes · Test method <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On campus: Written exam Online (via Zoom): Oral exam · Exemption <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A valid TOEFL score holder (score taken within two years): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 90 or higher on the Internet-based test. (Those who will write a doctoral thesis in Japanese.) 101 or higher on the Internet-based test. (Those who will write a doctoral thesis in English.) b) Those who have finished a Master's program in English.
Interview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Test time: 60 minutes

Applicants may choose to have the online screening if the following conditions are met:

- a) The applicant must have a good and reliable Internet connection with clear sound and video. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that he/she has a good and reliable Internet connection.
 - Please note that the interview may be cancelled if the sound and video are of low quality due to the applicant's Internet connection and/or computer problems.
- b) The applicant must submit "Agreement regarding Online Examination" (Form 13) at the time of application.
- c) The applicant must be available during the time specified by TCU. The interview will take place between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Japan time (GMT +9:00).

4-7 Deadlines and Screening Schedule

	November Screening	January Screening
Time of Entrance	* April / August 2024	* April / August 2024
Prescreening Consultation	Applicants must have a prescreening consultation at least one month before application.	
Application Periods	September 26 - October 4, 2023	November 20-28, 2023
Initial Screening Result Notification	October 20, 2023	January 12, 2024
** Interview and English Exam Periods	November 16, 17, 20, 21 or 22, 2023 English Exam: November 22, 2023	January 22-27, 2024 English Exam: January 26 or 27, 2024
Final Result Notification	November 30, 2023	February 8, 2024
Enrollment Deadline	December 15, 2023	February 22, 2024

* Successful applicants may choose the time of entrance.

** Exam date and time will be notified at the time of the initial screening result notification by email or phone.

4-8 Required Documents for Application

* Forms not provided by TCU must be prepared by the applicants.

Documents	*Forms	Note
1 Application Card: Part C and Part D	1a	FOR THOSE WHO APPLY IN JAPAN Part B is a receipt for the applicant. Submit only part C and D. Part C (with bank receipt stamp) Part D (with bank receipt stamp and a photo)
	1b	FOR THOSE WHO APPLY FROM OVERSEAS A photo must be attached to Part A.
2 Application Fee		¥35,000 See "4-9 Application Fee" on page 7.
3 Application Form	2	A photo must be attached.
4 Testimony and Reasons for Applying		Include thoughts about TCU's Statement of Faith and your involvement in church activities. In Japanese: approximately 2,000 characters In English: approximately 1,500 words Paper size: A4 or Letter size
5 Pastoral Reference	3	Written in Japanese or English and sealed by pastor
6 Academic Reference		From Master's thesis advisor (or equivalent if the applicant was not required to write a Master's thesis)
7 Official Academic Transcript		From all universities from which the applicant graduated (Undergraduate and Master's Programs)
8 Degree Certificates (or Certificate of Expected Graduation)		From all universities from which the applicant graduated (Undergraduate and Master's Program)
9 Dissertation Proposal	4	See "6-1 Faculty" on page 9.
10 Postal Address Label	5	
11 Envelope with stamps		For those who apply within Japan only. Write the applicant's mailing address and name on the envelope.
12 Official TOEFL Score Report		The official TOEFL score must be sent directly to TCU's Graduate School Admissions Office from ETS (Educational Testing Service), the organization that conducts the exam. You will need to enter TCU's school code "8472" for the "Recipient Code" when you request the official score report to be sent. Scores taken within two years are valid.
13 Health Record and Examination	6	Those who wish to live in a dormitory on TCU's campus only. Health conditions are NOT a criterion for admission decisions.
14 Scholarship Application Form (Scholarship for Ph.D. Students)	7	Those who need financial support only. (See "5-4 Scholarships" on page 9.)
15 Scholarship Application Form (Scholarship for Alumni Family Members)	8	Those who are eligible only. (See "5-4 Scholarships" on page 9.)
16 Agreement regarding Online Examination	13	Those who choose to take the online exam only. In addition to submission of form 13, send an email to the admissions office. See the form for more information.
17 Copy of the Applicant's Passport		Personal information page only. Those who submitted it for screening fee waiver request in the process of Prescreening Consultation are not required to submit again.
18 Copy of Residence Card		Those who live in Japan only. Copy both front and back.

Submitted documents will not be returned. Submitted information will not be used for any purpose other than admission-related matters, scholarship-related matters, statistics/analysis, educational guidance after enrollment, and to carry out matters associated with the above-mentioned matters.

4-9 Application Fee

- 1) To those who live in Japan: Please pay the application fee of ¥35,000 using at a bank attached form #1a and submit the application card C and D.
- 2) To those who live overseas: Please pay the application fee of ¥35,000 with a credit card.

[Credit Card Payment]

Start from the URL or QR code below.

URL: <https://checkout.square.site/merchant/ML4CG7SFSEHHD/checkout/HZ6T4FR6BSA5B2WMQMXXRNZF>



If you cannot use a credit card, please contact the Admissions Office.

Those who reside in one of the countries classified as "Least Developed Countries" or "Low Income Countries" in the list of DAC List of DAC List of ODA Recipients Effective for reporting on 2022 and 2023 flows as published by OECD/DAC and hold nationality of one of those countries are eligible to apply for a screening fee waiver. (For the list of eligible countries, refer to Form 11.)

* Application fee is non-refundable.

** Please keep the receipt until you complete the admissions process.

4-10 Contact Information

Send Application to:

Graduate School Admissions Office
Tokyo Christian University
3-301-5-1 Uchino
Inzai City, Chiba 270-1347 JAPAN

Contact Information:

Phone: +81-476-46-1131

FAX: +81-476-46-1405

Email: graduate-school@tci.ac.jp

Website: <https://www.tci.ac.jp/english/>

Business hours: Monday to Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 4:45 p.m. Japan time (GMT +9:00)

Business hours: (closed 11:50 a.m. to 12:50 a.m.)

4-11 Applicant Misconduct

The following examples of misconduct are intended to be representative, but not all-inclusive:

- making false statements, forgery, or plagiarism in the application documents;
- using (including items placed on the table or items on one's person) materials (such as a smartphone or electronic device) not approved by TCU during the time of the examination;
- ringing or beeping of cellular phones or other devices during the time of the examination;
- cheating during the time of examination;
- substituting for another person or permitting another person to substitute for oneself to take the examination.
- conducting any act that disturbs other examinees in the examination room;
- not following the instructions of the examiner;
- any other behavior that undermines the fairness of the examinations;

During the examination, the university will immediately order any individual deemed to be engaging in misconduct to stop the examination. The examination already taken will be invalidated, and the application for subsequent entrance examinations for the current year will not be allowed. A police report may be filed. In the event that clear evidence of misconduct is found after the examination, admission may be retroactively revoked, both after acceptance and after enrollment.

5. Enrollment

5-1 Final Result Notification

Applicants who reside in Japan will receive notification of the final result by mail. Applicants who reside overseas will receive notification of the final result by email. Please contact the Graduate School Admissions Office if you do not receive notification within a few days after the final result notification date. For the applicants' convenience, the ID numbers of successful applicants will be posted on the following TCU website on the final result notification day. The Admissions Office will NOT answer individual inquiries by phone.

https://www.tci.ac.jp/future_student/exam/happyo.html



5-2 Enrollment Procedures

Those who are accepted must enroll before the date specified by TCU by paying the specified amount for enrollment and submitting the required documents to TCU. Details will be sent to the applicant along with the final result notification.

In case of withdrawal from the program after completion of the enrollment procedure, fees will be refunded if the request is made before March 31, 2024, for April entrance, and July 31, 2024, for August entrance.

5-3 Tuition Fees (2024)

Tuition fees are subject to change each year.

After paying the amount due by the enrollment deadline, tuition and fees may be paid in three installments each academic year.

Payment periods are: Spring trimester April 1-20, Fall trimester August 1-20, and Winter trimester December 1-20

Ph.D. students are not required to live in dormitories on campus. Dormitory rooms will be available for Ph.D. students only when there are vacancies in the dormitories.

Tuition & Fees

Items	Total Amount for the First Year	Amount Due by the Enrollment Deadline
Tuition	¥672,000	¥345,900
Facility	¥261,600	
Insurance and other fees	¥34,700	
Total	¥968,300	¥345,900

Dormitory Fees

Items	Singles Dormitory	*5 Family Dormitory (A) 1S,2DK,B,T (44㎡)	Family Dormitory (B) 2DK,B,T (39㎡)	Family Dormitory (C) 1S,1DK,B,T (37㎡)	Amount Due by the Enrollment Deadline
Dormitory	*1 ¥293,100	¥293,100	¥293,100	¥293,100	¥204,700
Additional for Family Dormitory	-	¥306,900	¥248,100	¥207,000	
*2 Deposit	-	¥20,000	¥20,000	¥20,000	
*3 Electricity for Singles Dormitory	¥12,000	-	-	-	
*4 Board	¥285,000	-	-	-	
Total (b)	¥590,100	¥620,000	¥561,200	¥520,100	¥204,700
Total (a)+(b)	¥1,558,400	¥1,588,300	¥1,529,500	¥1,488,400	¥550,600

*1 Includes utilities (except electricity) and maintenance. The room is for ten and half months per year. Additional payment will be required if the student stays in the dormitory longer. An additional fee of ¥21,000 will be charged for living in the Zion Dormitory (four single bedrooms with a shared living room and bathroom).

*2 Only for the first year (maintenance charge)

*3 Adjustments based on actual costs will be made.

*4 Includes three meals a day on weekdays (except holidays) during trimester periods.

*5 Family Dormitory

S: Study room, DK: Dining room with kitchen, B: Bathroom, T: Toilet
Utilities and meals are not included.

5-4 Scholarships

Tokyo Christian University Scholarship

1) Scholarship for Ph.D. students

Award: Provided in full or in part, based on financial situation of scholarship recipient. May include the minimum necessities for student life, including airfare to TCU, tuition, and boarding fees.

Duration: Within three years (standard period required to obtain a degree); reconsidered every year.

How to apply: Submit "Application Form (Form 7)" with required documents for admission.

2) Scholarship for Alumni Family Members

Eligibility: Students who are approved for admission into the school and whose spouse or family member(s) within the first or second degree of kinship are alumni or currently enrolled at TCU or one of its predecessor schools.

Award: 100,000 YEN for one person (it shall be used to reduce the tuition by that amount)

How to apply: Submit "Application Form (Form 8)" with required documents for admission.

Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) Scholarship

1) JASSO Honors Scholarship for Privately Financed international Students

Eligibility: Candidates must be regular students and meet requirements set by JASSO

Award: 48,000 YEN a month

Duration: one year or six months

https://www.jasso.go.jp/en/study_j/scholarships/shoureihi/index.html



6. Faculty and Syllabi

6-1 Faculty (2023)

* Omnibus class

Research Areas	Name	Classes in Ph.D. Program
Bible	Akio Ito (Professor)	* Advanced Research Seminar in Theological Studies
		Ph.D. Research Guidance (Research Keywords) Biblical Hermeneutics, New Testament and the Old Testament Law, Quotations from the Old Testament in the New, Gospel and the Torah, New Testament Manuscripts and New Testament Textual Criticism
	Randall Short (Professor)	* Advanced Research Seminar in Theological Studies
		Ph.D. Research Guidance (Research Keywords) Christian and Jewish Interpretation, Biblical Theology, Hebrew Bible, Old Testament Studies
Theology and Church	Naoki Okamura (Professor)	* Advanced Research Seminar in Theological Studies
		Ph.D. Research Guidance (Research Keywords) Development of Human Religiosity, Youth Ministries, Pedagogy, Grounded Theory
	David Sytsma (Associate Professor)	* Advanced Research Seminar in Theological Studies
		Ph.D. Research Guidance (Research Keywords) Reformation, Post-Reformation, Puritanism, Enlightenment, History of Biblical Interpretation, History of Ethics

Course Name

Advanced Research Seminar in Theological Studies (April Admission)

Instructor

Naoki Okamura (Coordinator), Randall Short, Akio Ito, and David Sytsma

Course Objectives

In order to conduct doctoral-level studies in theology, students not only must possess extensive knowledge of research methodologies in their own specific subjects, but they also must have a broad awareness of theological studies in general. This course will introduce to students important academic recourses in biblical studies, theology, and ministry in order to give them a better understanding of these fields in preparation for their own original research.

Course Themes and Content

- (Short) Students will tackle important issues in the field of Old Testament studies and be introduced to various methodologies of academic research. Additionally, students will learn about tools and obtain skills for advanced research into important primary and secondary academic resources.
- (Ito) Students will tackle important issues in the field of New Testament studies, Biblical Hermeneutics and be introduced to methodologies of academic research. Additionally, students will learn about tools and obtain skills for advanced research into important primary and secondary academic resources.
- (Okamura) Students will tackle important issues in the fields of practical theology and religious education and be introduced to various methodologies of academic research. Additionally, students will learn about tools and obtain skills for advanced research into important primary and secondary academic resources.
- (Sytsma) Students will tackle important issues in the field of Church History and be introduced to various methodologies of academic research. Additionally, students will learn about tools and obtain skills for advanced research into important primary and secondary academic resources.

Evaluation Methods and Standards

The student's class participation and assignments 100%
Final evaluation will be done by the course coordinator.

Textbooks / References

Short

- David W. Baker and Bill T. Arnold (eds.), *The Face of Old Testament Studies: A Survey of Contemporary Approaches* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Academic, 2004)
- Christopher M. Hays and Christopher B. Ansberry (eds.), *Evangelical Faith and the Challenge of Historical Criticism* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Academic, 2013).
- Patrick H. Alexander and Shirley Decker-Lucke (eds.), *The SBL Handbook of Style: For Ancient Near Eastern, Biblical, and Early Christian Studies* (Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson, 1999).

Ito

- Anthony C. Thiselton, *New Horizons* (Zondervans, 1992)
- Anthony C. Thiselton, *Two Horizons* (Paternoster/Eerdmans, 1980)
- B.H. McLean, *Biblical Interpretation and Philosophical Hermeneutics* (Cambridge University Press, 2012)

Okamura

- John Swinton and Harriet Mowat, *Practical Theology and Qualitative Research* (SCM-Canterbury Press Limited, 2006)
- Michael Quinn Patton, ed., *Qualitative Research & Evaluation Methods* (Third Edition; SAGE Publications, 2001)

Sytsma

- Alister Chapman, John Coffey, and Brad S. Gregory, eds., *Seeing Things Their Way: Intellectual History and the Return of Religion* (Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 2009), 134-153File 3.
- James E. Bradley and Richard A. Muller, eds., *Church History: An Introduction to Research Methods and Resources*, 2nd ed. (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2016).

Course Name

Advanced Research Seminar in Theological Studies (August Admission)

Instructor

Naoki Okamura (Coordinator), Randall Short, Akio Ito, and David Sytsma

Course Objectives

In order to conduct doctoral-level studies in theology, students not only must possess extensive knowledge of research methodologies in their own specific subjects, but they also must have a broad awareness of theological studies in general. This course will introduce to students important academic recourses in biblical studies, theology, and ministry in order to give them a better understanding of these fields in preparation for their own original research.

Course Themes and Content

- (Short) Students will tackle important issues in the field of Old Testament studies and be introduced to various methodologies of academic research. Additionally, students will learn about tools and obtain skills for advanced research into important primary and secondary academic resources.
- (Ito) Students will tackle important issues in the field of New Testament studies, Biblical Hermeneutics and be introduced to methodologies of academic research. Additionally, students will learn about tools and obtain skills for advanced research into important primary and secondary academic resources.
- (Okamura) Students will tackle important issues in the fields of practical theology and religious education and be introduced to various methodologies of academic research. Additionally, students will learn about tools and obtain skills for advanced research into important primary and secondary academic resources.
- (Sytsma) Students will tackle important issues in the field of Church History and be introduced to various methodologies of academic research. Additionally, students will learn about tools and obtain skills for advanced research into important primary and secondary academic resources.

Evaluation Methods and Standards

The student's class participation and assignments 100%

Final evaluation will be done by the course coordinator.

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- Patrick H. Alexander and Shirley Decker-Lucke (eds.), *The SBL Handbook of Style: For Ancient Near Eastern, Biblical, and Early Christian Studies* (Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson, 1999).

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- Anthony C. Thiselton, *New Horizons* (Zondervans, 1992)
- Anthony C. Thiselton, *Two Horizons* (Paternoster/Eerdmans, 1980)
- B.H. McLean, *Biblical Interpretation and Philosophical Hermeneutics* (Cambridge University Press, 2012)

Okamura

- John Swinton and Harriet Mowat, *Practical Theology and Qualitative Research* (SCM-Canterbury Press Limited, 2006)
- Michael Quinn Patton, ed., *Qualitative Research & Evaluation Methods* (Third Edition; SAGE Publications, 2001)

Sytsma

- Alister Chapman, John Coffey, and Brad S. Gregory, eds., *Seeing Things Their Way: Intellectual History and the Return of Religion* (Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 2009), 134-153File 3.
- James E. Bradley and Richard A. Muller, eds., *Church History: An Introduction to Research Methods and Resources*, 2nd ed. (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2016).

Course Name

Ph.D. Research Guidance (Directed Ph.D. Research)

Instructor

Randall Short, Akio Ito, Naoki Okamura, and David Sytsma

Course Objectives

Short

Students will receive guidance for doctoral-level research in the field of Old Testament studies. The research will focus on studies exploring the linguistic, exegetical and theological dimensions of a book or themes from the Old Testament in its original languages, dimensions of texts and themes from the Old Testament in its original and translated versions. The research may also focus on early Jewish and Christian interpretation of Old Testament texts and themes. The research will be by nature interdisciplinary and seek to explore the linguistic, literary, cultural, religious, social, and theological significance for today.

Ito

Students will receive guidance for doctoral-level research in the field of New Testament Studies, and Biblical Hermeneutics (Biblical Theology). The research will focus on the backgrounds of a certain book or themes from the New Testament in its original language, the Hellenistic Greek, with special reference to both the early Jewish literature such as the Dead Sea Scrolls, Philo, Josephus and the Old Testament Pseudepigrapha, and to the Greco-Roman philosophies and rhetoric. The research will be by nature inter-disciplinary and seek to explore the linguistic, literary, cultural, religious, social, and theological significance for today.

Okamura

Students will receive guidance for doctoral-level research in the field of Practical Theology, especially in Religious Education. The research will deal with questions such as how we understand the recipient of religious education who is living in the contemporary world of plural values, and how we employ the result of such research to educational practices today. Qualitative methods such as grounded theory will be employed to discover the spiritual development of the recipient of religious education. Critical examinations of the theories of religious education and their practices are also included.

Sytsma

Students will receive guidance for doctoral-level research in the fields of Church History and Historical Theology. The research will focus on studies relating to the history of Christianity from the second century to the present. Students will explore primary source documents in their original languages, including Latin, and with reference to their original social and intellectual contexts. Students are encouraged to pursue research questions that they find personally relevant, while formulating answers to such questions based on primary sources and good method. Students will also learn methodological practices that increase objectivity and minimize personal bias in their research.

Course Themes and Content

【First Trimester, First Year】

Session 1 *Orientation and Finding an Appropriate Research Topic #1*

Students will receive guidance concerning the different phases in Ph.D. research. Students will receive guidance for writing the research application. Students will receive guidance for writing the guidance team application.

Session 2 *Finding an Appropriate Research Topic #2*

Students will receive guidance concerning research methodologies and research proposals for the purpose of deciding upon a research topic. Students will receive guidance for writing a provisional research proposal.

Session 3 *Finding an Appropriate Research Topic #3, Exploring Related Academic Resources #1*

Students will receive guidance for locating academic resources related to the subject matter, adopting an appropriate research methodology, and writing a provisional research proposal. Students will receive guidance for preparation of the first mid-term research report presentation.

【Second Trimester, First Year】

Session 4 *Finding an Appropriate Research Topic #4, Exploring Related Academic Resources #2*

Students will receive guidance for overcoming difficulties that were pointed out in response to the first mid-term research report presentation. Students will receive guidance for investigating important academic resources.

Session 5 *Finding an Appropriate Research Topic #5, Exploring Related Academic Resources #3*

Students will receive guidance for overcoming difficulties that were pointed out in response to the first mid-term research report presentation. Students will receive guidance for investigating important academic resources.

Session 6 *Finding an Appropriate Research Topic #6, Exploring Related Academic Resources #4*

Students will receive guidance for completing the research proposal. Students will receive guidance for investigating important academic resources.

Session 7 *Finding an Appropriate Research Topic #7, Exploring Related Academic Resources #5*

Students will receive guidance for completing the research proposal. Students will receive guidance for investigating important academic resources.

【Third Trimester, First Year】

Session 8 *Research Methods Guidance #1, Exploring Related Academic Resources #6*

Students will receive guidance for beginning research according to the research proposal that was accepted by the graduate school committee. Students will receive guidance for investigating important academic resources.

Session 9 *Research Methods Guidance #2, Exploring Related Academic Resources #7*

Students will receive guidance for beginning research according to the research proposal. Students will receive guidance for investigating important academic resources. Students will receive guidance for preparation of the second mid-term research report presentation.

Session 10 *Research Methods Guidance #3, Exploring Related Academic Resources #8*

Students will receive guidance for beginning research according to the research proposal. Students will receive guidance for investigating important academic resources. Students will receive guidance for writing the first mid-term research report.

【First Trimester, Second Year】

Session 11 *Research Methods Guidance #4, Investigative Reading of Academic Resources #1*

Students will receive guidance for overcoming difficulties that were pointed out in response to the second mid-term research report presentation. Students will receive guidance for organizing academic resources and conducting research. Students will receive guidance for investigative reading and examination of academic resources.

Session 12 *Research Methods Guidance #5, Investigative Reading of Academic Resources #2*

Students will receive guidance for organizing academic resources and conducting research. Students will receive guidance for investigative reading and examination of academic resources.

Session 13 *Research Methods Guidance #6, Investigative Reading of Academic Resources #3*

Students will receive guidance for organizing academic resources and conducting research. Students will receive guidance for investigative reading and examination of academic resources. Students will receive guidance for preparation of the third mid-term research report presentation.

【Second Trimester, Second Year】

Session 14 *Research Methods Guidance #7, Investigative Reading of Academic Resources #4*

Students will receive guidance for overcoming difficulties that were pointed out in response to the third mid-term research report presentation. Students will receive guidance for organizing academic resources and conducting research. Students will receive guidance for investigative reading and examination of academic resources. Students will receive guidance for writing the second mid-term research report.

Session 15 *Research Methods Guidance #8, Investigative Reading of Academic Resources #5*

Students will receive guidance for overcoming difficulties that were pointed out in response to the third mid-term research report presentation. Students will receive guidance for organizing academic resources and conducting research. Students will receive guidance for investigative reading and examination of academic resources.

Session 16 *Research Methods Guidance #9, Dissertation Writing #1*

Students will receive guidance for organizing academic resources and conducting research. Students will receive guidance for writing the dissertation.

Session 17 *Research Methods Guidance #10, Dissertation Writing #2*

Students will receive guidance for organizing academic resources and conducting research. Students will receive guidance for writing the dissertation.

【Third Trimester, Second Year】

Session 18 *Research Methods Guidance #11, Dissertation Writing #3*

Students will receive guidance for organizing academic resources and conducting research. Students will receive guidance for writing the dissertation. Students will receive guidance for preparation of the fourth mid-term research report presentation.

Session 19 *Research Methods Guidance #12, Dissertation Writing #4*

Students will receive guidance for organizing academic resources and conducting research. Students will receive guidance for writing the dissertation. Students will receive guidance for preparation of the fourth mid-term research report presentation.

Session 20 *Research Methods Guidance #13, Dissertation Writing #5*

Students will receive guidance for organizing academic resources and conducting research. Students will receive guidance for writing the dissertation. Students will receive guidance for writing the third mid-term research report. Students will receive guidance for submitting the dissertation application.

【First Trimester, Third Year】

Session 21 *Dissertation Writing #6*

Students will receive guidance for overcoming difficulties that were pointed out in response to the fourth mid-term research report presentation. Students will receive guidance for writing the dissertation.

Session 22 *Dissertation Writing #7*

Students will receive guidance for overcoming difficulties that were pointed out in response to the fourth mid-term research report presentation. Students will receive guidance for writing the dissertation.

Session 23 *Dissertation Writing #8*

Students will receive guidance for writing the dissertation. Students will receive guidance for preparation of the fifth mid-term research report presentation.

【Second Trimester, Third Year】

Session 24 *Dissertation Writing #9*

Students will receive guidance for writing the dissertation. Students will receive guidance for overcoming difficulties that were pointed out in response to the fifth mid-term research report presentation.

Session 25 *Dissertation Writing #10*

Students will receive guidance for writing the dissertation.

Session 26 *Dissertation Writing #11*

Students will receive guidance for completing the dissertation.

Session 27 *Dissertation Writing #12*

Students will receive guidance for completing the dissertation.

【Third Trimester, Third Year】

Session 28 *Dissertation Writing #13, Oral Defense Guidance #1*

Students will receive guidance for completing the dissertation. Students will receive guidance for preparation of the oral defense.

Session 29 *Dissertation Writing #14, Oral Defense Guidance #2*

Students will receive guidance for completing the dissertation. Students will receive guidance for preparation of the oral defense.

Session 30 *Oral Defense Guidance #3*

Students will receive guidance for preparation of the oral defense.

Evaluation Methods and Standards

Course Participation 50%

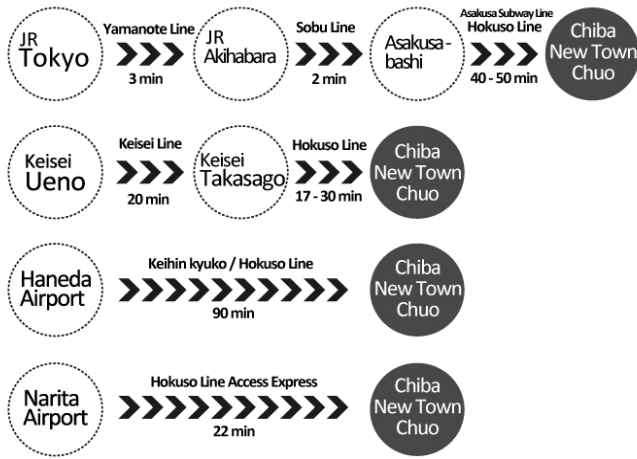
Mid-term Research Presentations 50%

Textbooks / References

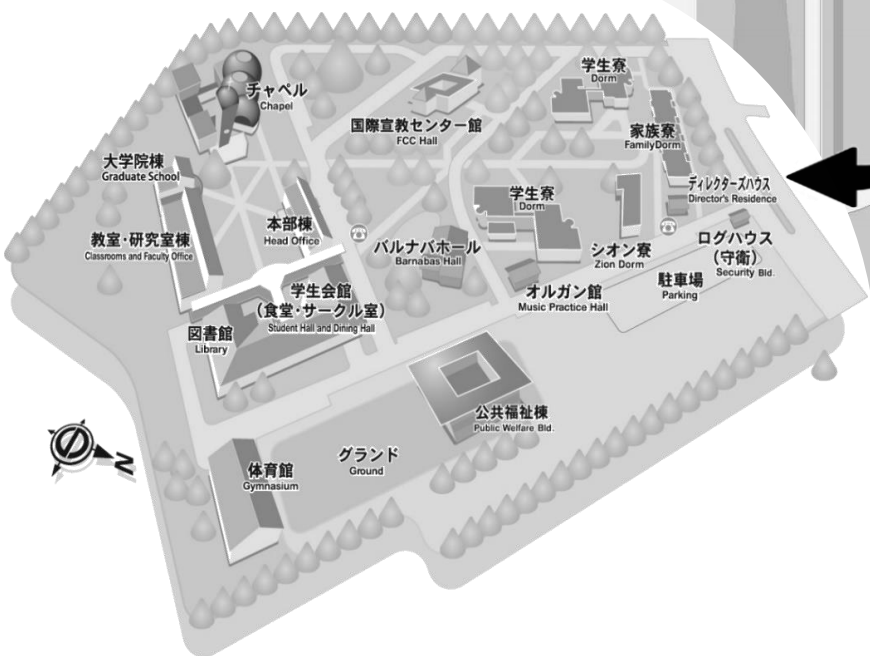
Appropriate texts will be introduced according to each student's research needs.

7. Maps and Directions

By Train The closest train station to TCU is *Chiba Newtown Chuo Station* (Hokuso Line).



From Chiba Newtown Chuo Station:
Go out of the south exit and get on a bus bound for "Takabana". Get off at "Denwakyoku Mae" and walk straight in the direction where the bus is going. Then turn right at the T-junction. Walk straight for 7 minutes and TCU is on your left hand side.



Address:
3-301-5-1 Uchino
Inzai City, Chiba 270-1347
JAPAN

Concerning mandatory absences that may occur due to Infection Risk under the “School Health and Safety Act”

Any person infected with a contagious disease on the day of the entrance exam that falls under the “School Health and Safety Act” (New Coronavirus, Influenza, measles, rubella, etc.) who has not completely recovered should refrain from attending the exam. Participation creates infection risk for other examinees and the examiners. This does not apply to examinees who have been declared to be of no infection risk by a medical physician. Each person should take appropriate care in observing and maintaining their health. Additionally, according to the state of the spread of infection, the university may enact changes to the times or methods of the entrance exam or presentation of entrance exam results as necessary in order to comply with requests or directives issued by government authorities. If such changes are enacted, a notification will be posted on the University website, so please continue to monitor the website periodically.

Applicants who have already begun the application process will be directly notified of any such changes by an e-mail or telephone call, so after submitting your application, please check your e-mail and incoming calls at regular intervals.

If you become aware after taking the entrance examination that you were infected with a disease that is under the “School Health and Safety Act,” make sure to contact the graduation school admissions office concerning this situation.