



TRINITY

THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

FOR CHRIST, FOR NEW ZEALAND

STUDENT HANDBOOK



THE PASTOR-THEOLOGIAN

**TRINITY IS COMMITTED TO TRAINING PASTOR-THEOLOGIAN
FOR PASTORAL MINISTRY AND MISSIONS**

▶▶ A Word from Our Principal and Vice-Principal

Life is too short for bad theology! We strongly believe that **New Zealand** urgently needs men who are both biblically grounded and have a pastoral heart for souls to effectively lead the local church.

Trinity's primary focus is to serve Christ by teaching its students biblical and experiential pastoral ministry to passionately live, preach and teach the word of God.

Our commitment at **Trinity** is to equip and support men who are being called by God to serve in pastoral ministry and mission work, ensuring that they have a deep understanding of sound, historical, and reformed theology



Dr Phil Henderson

Dr Phil Henderson

Principal of Trinity Institute and Pastor of Onekawa Bible Church



Ps Matthew Johnston

Ps Matthew Johnston

Vice-Principal of Trinity Institute and Pastor of Riverbend Bible Church

PROGRAM

▶▶ Diploma of Divinity Dip.Div

Our robust, unique theological program is designed to train and prepare men, particularly pastors/elders, to lead God's church with excellence. Our courses are designed to cultivate spiritual maturity in every student as they devote themselves to the Holy Scriptures. **(2 Timothy 2:2; 1 Peter 5:1-4)**. The program is part-time over 3 years.

Why part-time?

Because we understand that the students who will undergo the rigors of formal theological training will be working in their local churches or in their secular jobs.

Why 3 years?

Trinity has designed a program that will equip the students with the necessary tools for pastoral, gospel ministry in the local church. Each student will learn hermeneutics, biblical languages, sound theology, and homiletics; among other essential courses.

▶ Diploma of Divinity Program Schedule (Dip.Div.)

| Subject | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 |
|------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Semester 1 | Start-Term Block Course Impact Con. 2024 | Start-Term Block Course Impact Con. 2025 | Start-Term Preaching Lab Impact Con. 2024 |
| | Hermeneutics | Pastoral Ministry | Homiletics |
| | Systematic Theo 1 | Systematic Theo 2 | Systematic Theo 3 |
| Semester 2 | Greek | Hebrew | Evangelism - Apologetics |
| | New Testament | Old Testament | Historical Theology |
| | Expository Preaching 1 | Expository Preaching 2 | Missions |

MENTOR MODEL

To study at **Trinity**, the student must have the support and endorsement of their local church elders and pastors. The Mentor Model at **Trinity** facilitates collaboration between faculty and local pastors/elders for the student's academic and spiritual development.

► Word to the Local Pastor

We want to encourage you to send us the very best of men who have received external affirmation of their internal desire for ministry; from you their local church elders. We will work alongside you in a remote mentor model to equip them as pastor-theologians.

We have a strong conviction that students must be well-prepared to serve Christ and his saints, by gaining a comprehensive understanding of God's full revelation of His written Word and developing an immense pastoral experiential heart. This is the reason why all our professors are not only theologians but primarily possess practical experience serving in their local churches. (**1 Timothy 4:13; Rom 12:1-2; John 14:15**)

FUTURE STUDENTS

Evidence of spiritual character is essential in the lives of each student, and personal qualities such as integrity, faithfulness, holiness, and commitment are encouraged in all our classes, ministry experience, and student body life. (**Titus 1:5-9, 1 Tim 3:1-7**).

This educational task is accomplished through emphasis on the following:

- Careful instruction in the Scriptures, including the original languages.
- The study of various systems of theological thought including exposure to both past and present movements in history and Christian missions with a view to embracing a comprehensive, coherent theology built from Scripture.
- A consistent focus upon involvement and accountability within a local church.
- Ongoing efforts to challenge each student in developing a biblical philosophy/style of ministry.
- The development and improvement of communication, relationship, leadership, and administrative skills for ministry. The objective is to produce graduates who are recognised as men of God and who are equipped to serve effectively as pastors, missionaries, teachers, evangelists, counsellors, and leaders in evangelical ministries around the world (**1 Tim 3:1-7; Tit 1:5-9; 1 Pet 5:1-4**).

TEACHING FELLOWS

Together with our amazing NZ faculty, Trinity has recruited truly world-class professors. These men are not only highly prepared academically but are also serving as elders and pastors in their local churches.



DR. STEVE LAWSON

Steve Lawson is the founder and president of OnePassion Ministries—and has dedicated his life to helping biblical expositors bring about a new reformation in the church. He is the Dean of D. Min. studies At The Master's Seminary. In addition, Dr. Lawson hosts The Institute for Expository Preaching in cities around the world. Dr. Lawson is also a Teaching Fellow for Ligonier Ministries, where he serves on its board.



DR. MIKE RICCARDI

Mike Riccardi serves as the Pastor of Local Outreach Ministries at Grace Community Church, which includes overseeing Fundamentals of the Faith classes, eight foreign language outreach Bible studies, and evangelism in nearby jails, rehab centres, and in the local neighbourhood. Mike earned his BA in Italian and his MEd in Foreign Language from Rutgers University, and his MDiv, ThM, and PhD from The Master's Seminary, where he also serves as Assistant Professor of Theology. He has the privilege of serving alongside Phil Johnson as co-pastor of the GraceLife fellowship group at Grace Church.



DR. JOEL BEEKE

President and professor of systematic theology and homiletics at Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary, and pastor of the Heritage Reformed Congregation of Grand Rapids Michigan. He is the Author or co-author of more than 100 books and editor of another 100 volumes.



DR. SCOTT ARDAANIS

The Senior Pastor of Grace Church of Valley in central California. He begins his Pastoral ministry at Grace Community Church with John MacArthur. Scott served for 20 years as a Senior Pastor in Chicago and Southern California. He is an adjunct professor at The Master's Seminary. He also serves as board member at The Master's University/Seminary.



JAMES DOLEZAL

*James Dolezal has been a visiting professor at IRBS since the spring of 2019. Dr. Dolezal is associate professor of theology in the School of Divinity at Cairn University in Langhorne, PA. He is a graduate of The Master's College, (BA, MA), The Master's Seminary (MDiv), and Westminster Theological Seminary (ThM, PhD). Prior to undertaking PhD studies at Westminster Seminary, he pastored in Lethbridge, Alberta. He is the author of *God without Parts: Divine Simplicity and the Metaphysics of God's Absoluteness* (Pickwick, 2011), *All That Is in God: Evangelical Theology and the Challenge of Classical Christian Theism* (Reformation Heritage, 2017).*



Matt Smith

Matt Smith was born in San Diego, CA. Matt has a passion for preaching the Word of God as well as for apologetics. He is the author of two books and a commentary on the book of Colossians. He holds the following degrees:

- B.A. in Psychology with a minor in Athletic Coaching from UC Santa Barbara
- M.R.S from Southern California Seminary (SCS)
- M.A. in Biblical Studies from SCS
- Master of Divinity from SCS
- Masters of Theology from SCS

AFFILIATES

THE MASTER'S ACADEMY INTERNATIONAL

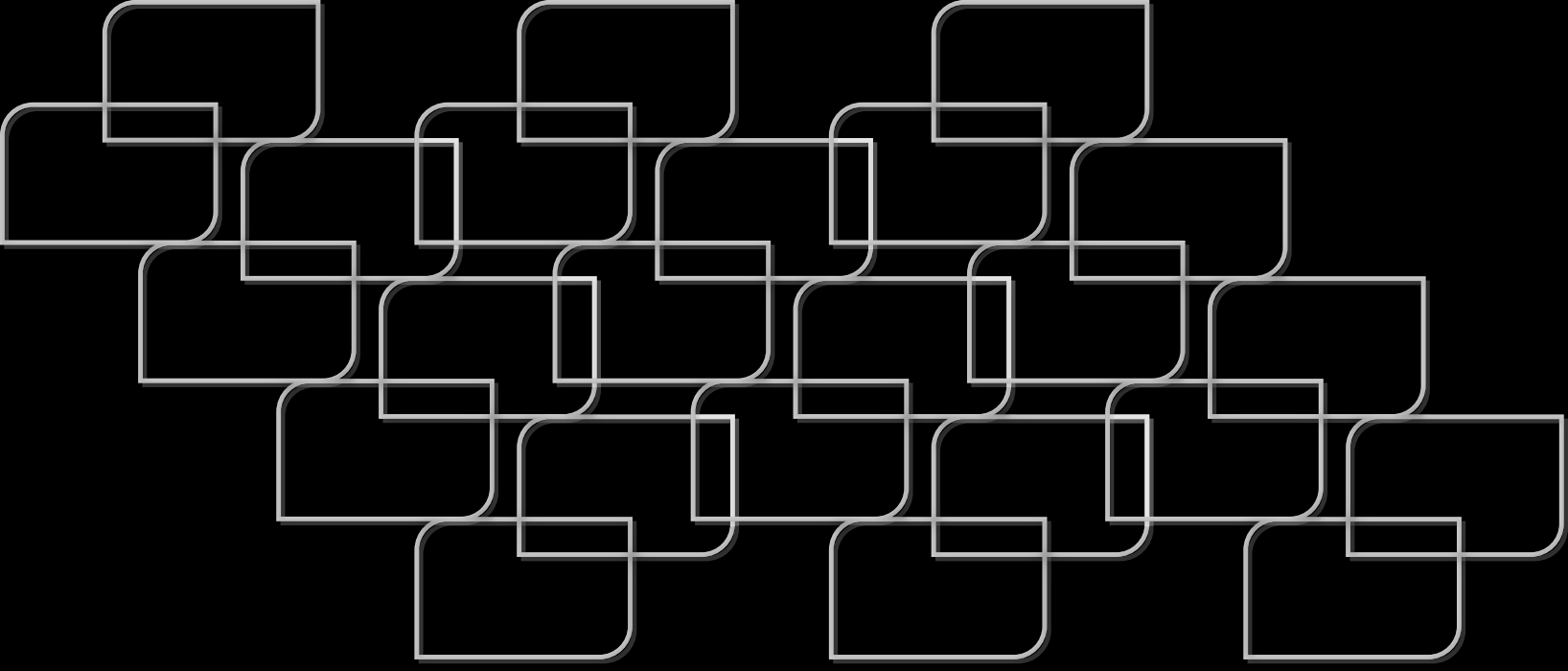
Trinity Theological Institute is strongly affiliated with, and quickly working towards being a full member school of **The Master's Academy International**. TMAI, consisting of a consortium of pastoral training centres located on six continents, is committed to enabling the institutional capacity and educational effectiveness of its member schools and to strengthening the ministry relationships between the member schools and individuals, churches, organisations, and foundations. For more information on The Master's Academy International refer to www.tmai.org



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