

# Opasraportti

## General Theology (2013 - 2014)

### General Theology

General Theology is a subject available at the Faculty of Humanities. The curriculum of the Faculty of Theology of the University of Helsinki is used in the teaching of General Theology at the Faculty of Humanities.

The unit responsible for the practical issues concerning the subject is the Open University:

Telephone: +358 29 448 7313, +358 29 448 7314, +358 29 448 7320

Website: <http://www oulu.fi/openuniversity/>

### Admission requirements

Students should apply for the study right at the Open University. A fee must be paid for the studies.

### Overview of the subject

General Theology is not an independent theological subject, but a collage of different theological subjects. It includes the basics of exegetics, church history, systematic theology, practical theology and comparative religion.

The curriculum of the **Faculty of Theology of the University of Helsinki** is used in the teaching of General Theology at the Faculty of Humanities. The Basic and Intermediate Studies of General Theology (60 ECTS credits) grant students who already have the qualifications of a subject teacher the eligibility to teach religion in elementary school and, as a secondary teaching subject, in upper secondary school.

### Study Packages

#### *Basic Studies 25 ECTS credits*

#### Learning objectives

After completing the Basic Studies (25 ECTS credits), students will be familiar with the problems of the origin and the essential content of the Bible, the history of the Christian church and the basic questions of Christian faith and ethics. In addition, the students will study other religions, especially the high religions and the contemporary new religions. Furthermore, students will become acquainted with the functions of a Christian congregation and church service, as well as with the educational work of the church and religious education at school.

#### Content

The Basic Studies package of General Theology (25 ECTS credits) comprises the courses 708100P-708104P. The student will complete a 5-credit course in each of the five subjects, including lectures and independent reading.

#### Grading

Each course is graded using the scale 0-5. The overall grade for the study packages is determined by the weighted average of the course grades. The packages are graded using the following scale: Excellent (5), Very good (4), Good (3), Satisfactory (2) or Sufficient (1).

### *Intermediate Studies ECTS 35 credits*

#### Learning objectives

After completing the Intermediate Studies (35 ECTS credits), students will have an understanding of the traditional theological subjects. With the Basic and Intermediate Studies (60 ECTS credits) students who already have the qualifications of a subject teacher receive the eligibility to teach religion in elementary school and, as a secondary teaching subject, in secondary school. To be admitted to pursue the Intermediate Studies in General Theology, students must have completed the Basic Studies with the overall grade 'Good' (the weighted average of courses at least 3/5).

#### Content

The Intermediate studies in General Theology comprise five courses with the scope of 5 ECTS credits (708105A - 708110A). In addition to these, the students will participate in the seminar of General Theology and write a seminar paper in the area of one of the theological subjects. The scope of the seminar (708110A) is ten (10) ECTS credits in total.

#### Grading

Each course is graded using the scale 0-5. The overall grade for the study packages is determined by calculating the weighted average of the course grades. The packages are graded using the following scale: Excellent (5), Very good (4), Good (3), Satisfactory (2) or Sufficient (1).

## **Tutkintorakenteisiin kuulumattomat opintokokonaisuudet ja -jaksot**

708104P: Basics in Comparative Religion, 5 op  
 708103P: Basics in Practical Theology, 5 op  
 708101P: Basics of Church History, 5 op  
 708100P: Basics of Exegetics, 5 op  
 708102P: Basics of Systematic Theology, 5 op  
 708106A: Church History, 5 op  
 708105A: Exegetics, 5 op  
 708108A: Practical Theology, 5 op  
 708109A: Science of Religion, 5 op  
 708110A: Seminar, 10 op  
 708107A: Systematic Theology, 5 op

## **Opintojaksojen kuvaukset**

### **Tutkintorakenteisiin kuulumattomien opintokokonaisuuksien ja -jaksojen kuvaukset**

#### **708104P: Basics in Comparative Religion, 5 op**

**Voimassaolo:** 01.08.2005 -

**Opiskelumuoto:** Basic Studies

**Laji:** Course

**Vastuuyksikkö:** Faculty of Humanities

**Arvostelu:** 1 - 5, pass, fail

**Opintokohteen kielet:** Finnish

**Leikkaavuudet:**

ay708104P Basics in Comparative Religion (OPEN UNI) 5.0 op

**ECTS Credits:**

5

**Language of instruction:**

Finnish

**Timing:**

Free

**Learning outcomes:**

Upon completion of the lecture course, the student will:

1. be able to view comparative religion within the field of sciences, in relation to theological research in particular, and comprehend the difference between the understanding and explanatory approaches to comparative religion (the viewpoints of Philosophy of Science and History of Science)
2. be familiar with the basic concepts of religions, from folk religions to high religions, e.g. shamanism, magic, holy, rite, myth, religion
3. be familiar with the approaches of phenomenology, psychology and sociology of religion and the classics of these disciplines
4. become acquainted with the problems of defining 'religion'.

**Contents:**

The required literature provides students with the basic knowledge of the most important world religions. The lectures will provide students with the methodological proficiency needed to comprehend the book.

**Mode of delivery:**

Face-to-face teaching

**Learning activities and teaching methods:**

Lectures (24 h). In preparation for the lectures, students should read the article on comparative religion in the book P. Luomanen (ed.), *Teologia. Johdatus tutkimukseen*, pp. 126-147.

**Target group:**

Students minoring in General Theology

**Prerequisites and co-requisites:**

None

**Recommended optional programme components:**

None

**Recommended or required reading:**

N. Smart, *Uskontojen maailma*. (624 pp.)

**Assessment methods and criteria:**

Written examination (lectures) and book examination (literature).

Read more about [assessment criteria](#) at the University of Oulu webpage.

**Grading:**

0-5

**Person responsible:**

Unit responsible for teaching: University of Oulu/Open University

**Working life cooperation:**

No

## 708103P: Basics in Practical Theology, 5 op

**Voimassaolo:** 01.08.2005 -

**Opiskelumuoto:** Basic Studies

**Laji:** Course

**Vastuuyksikkö:** Faculty of Humanities

**Arvostelu:** 1 - 5, pass, fail

**Opintokohteen kielet:** Finnish

**Leikkaavuudet:**

ay708103P Basics in Practical Theology (OPEN UNI) 5.0 op

**ECTS Credits:**

5

**Language of instruction:**

Finnish

**Timing:**

Free

**Learning outcomes:**

Upon completion of the lecture course, the student will:

1. be familiar with the basic concepts of practical theology, such as liturgy, homiletics, ecclesiastical year, ecclesiastical ceremonies, catechetics and church art ;
2. be able to view religious life and activity within the framework of practical theology;
3. be familiar with research related to church services, the church year, church sociology and the pedagogics of religion;
4. be able to use the information sources of practical theology.

**Contents:**

Basic concepts and research of the practical theology

**Mode of delivery:**

Face-to-face teaching

**Learning activities and teaching methods:**

Lectures (24 h). In preparation for the lectures, students should read the article on practical theology in the book P. Luomanen (ed.), Teologia. Johdatus tutkimukseen, pp. 149-170.

**Target group:**

Students minoring in General Theology

**Prerequisites and co-requisites:**

None

**Recommended optional programme components:**

None

**Recommended or required reading:**

H. Kotila, Liturgian lähteillä (3rd edition; 279 pp.)

A. Kallioniemi - J. Luodeslampi (eds.), Uskonnonopetus uudella vuosituhannella, pp. 1-246.

P. Lempiäinen, Pyhät ajat (5th edition; 252 pp.).

K. Aalto - M. Esko - M.-P. Virtaniemi (eds.), Sielunhoidon käsikirja, pp. 14-104.

**Assessment methods and criteria:**

Written examination (lectures) and book examination (literature).

Read more about [assessment criteria](#) at the University of Oulu webpage.**Grading:**

0-5

**Person responsible:**

Unit responsible for teaching: University of Oulu/Open University

**Working life cooperation:**

No

**708101P: Basics of Church History, 5 op**

Voimassaolo: 01.08.2005 -

Opiskelumuoto: Basic Studies

Laji: Course

Vastuuyksikkö: Faculty of Humanities

Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail

Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish

**Leikkaavuudet:**

ay708101P Basics of Church History (OPEN UNI) 5.0 op

**ECTS Credits:**

5

**Language of instruction:**

Finnish

**Timing:**

Free

**Learning outcomes:**

Upon completion of the course, the student will be familiar with the different periods of church history, and able to explain their key events and central influential persons. The student will be able to recognize the historical roots of the contemporary representations of Christianity, and to compare the development of Finnish churches and the churches elsewhere in the world.

**Mode of delivery:**

Face-to-face teaching

**Learning activities and teaching methods:**

Lectures (24 h). In preparation for the lectures, students should read the article on church history in the book P. Luomanen (ed.), *Teologia. Johdatus tutkimukseen*, pp. 65-69.

**Target group:**

Students minoring in General Theology

**Prerequisites and co-requisites:**

None

**Recommended optional programme components:**

None

**Recommended or required reading:**

S. Heininen & M. Heikkilä, *Suomen kirkkohistoria*. (285 pp.)

Ahola & Antikainen & Salmesvuori (eds.), *Eevan tie alttarille. Nainen kirkon historiassa*. (239 pp.)

K. Arffman, *Mitä oli luterilaisuus? Johdatus kadonneeseen eurooppalaiseen kristinuskon tulkintaan*. (4th edition.; n. 350 pp.)

**Assessment methods and criteria:**

Written examination (lectures) and book examination (literature).

Read more about [assessment criteria](#) at the University of Oulu webpage.

**Grading:**

0-5

**Person responsible:**

Unit responsible for teaching: University of Oulu/Open University

**Working life cooperation:**

No

**708100P: Basics of Exegetics, 5 op**

**Voimassaolo:** 01.08.2005 -

**Opiskelumuoto:** Basic Studies

**Laji:** Course

**Vastuuyksikkö:** Faculty of Humanities

**Arvostelu:** 1 - 5, pass, fail

**Opintokohteen kielet:** Finnish

**Leikkaavuudet:**

ay708100P Basics of Exegetics (OPEN UNI) 5.0 op

**ECTS Credits:**

5

**Language of instruction:**

Finnish

**Timing:**

Free

**Learning outcomes:**

Upon completion of the lecture course, the student will:

1. comprehend the problems of Bible study and interpretation
2. be able to read popular exegetic literature
3. be able to view exegetic study in relation to other ways of using the Bible
4. be familiar with the contents of the Books of the Bible and understand their position within the historical continuum.

**Mode of delivery:**

Face-to-face teaching

**Learning activities and teaching methods:**

Lectures (24 h.). In preparation for the lectures, students should read the article on exegetics in the book P. Luomanen (ed.), *Teologia. Johdatus tutkimukseen*, pp. 12-63.

**Target group:**

Students minoring in General Theology

**Prerequisites and co-requisites:**

None

**Recommended optional programme components:**

None

**Recommended or required reading:**

R. Sollamo (ed.), Paimentolaisten uskonnosta kirkkolaitokseksi. (133 pp.; it is recommendable to begin by reading this book)

K. Kuula - M. Nissinen - W. Riekkinen, Johdatus Raamattuun. (1st or 2nd edition; 281 or 341 pp.)

**Assessment methods and criteria:**

Written examination (lectures) and book examination (literature).

Read more about [assessment criteria](#) at the University of Oulu webpage.

**Grading:**

0-5

**Person responsible:**

Unit responsible for teaching: University of Oulu/Open University

**Working life cooperation:**

No

**708102P: Basics of Systematic Theology, 5 op**

**Voimassaolo:** 01.08.2005 -

**Opiskelumuoto:** Basic Studies

**Laji:** Course

**Vastuuyksikkö:** Faculty of Humanities

**Arvostelu:** 1 - 5, pass, fail

**Opintokohteen kielet:** Finnish

**Leikkaavuudet:**

ay708102P Basics of Systematic Theology (OPEN UNI) 5.0 op

**ECTS Credits:**

5

**Language of instruction:**

Finnish

**Timing:**

Free

**Learning outcomes:**

Upon completion of the lecture course, the student will:

1. comprehend the differences between the approach of systematic theology and historical or empirical approaches
2. be familiar with the concepts and ways of thinking in systematic theology
3. have acquired a general idea of the history of theology and the systematic theology subject.

**Mode of delivery:**

Face-to-face teaching

**Learning activities and teaching methods:**

Lectures (24 h). In preparation for the lectures, students should read the article on systematic theology in the book P. Luomanen (ed.), Teologia. Johdatus tutkimukseen, pp. 91-124.

**Target group:**

Students minoring in General Theology

**Prerequisites and co-requisites:**

None

**Recommended optional programme components:**

None

**Recommended or required reading:**

J. Pihkala, Johdatus dogmatiikkaan. (2009 edition)

J. Hallamaa (ed.), Rahan teologia ja Euroopan kirkot (pp. 11-138).

G. Gassmann - S. Hendrix, Johdatus luterilaiseen tunnustukseen. (260 pp.)

T. Mannermaa, Kaksi rakkautta, Johdatus Lutherin uskonmaailmaan. (2nd edition; 115 pp.)

**Assessment methods and criteria:**

Written examination (lectures) and book examination (literature).  
Read more about [assessment criteria](#) at the University of Oulu webpage.

**Grading:**

0-5

**Person responsible:**

Unit responsible for teaching: University of Oulu/Open University

**Working life cooperation:**

No

## 708106A: Church History, 5 op

**Voimassaolo:** 01.08.2005 -

**Opiskelumuoto:** Intermediate Studies

**Laji:** Course

**Vastuuyksikkö:** Faculty of Humanities

**Arvostelu:** 1 - 5, pass, fail

**Opintokohteen kielet:** Finnish

**Leikkaavuudet:**

ay708106A Church History (OPEN UNI) 5.0 op

**ECTS Credits:**

5

**Language of instruction:**

Finnish

**Timing:**

Free

**Learning outcomes:**

The course will deepen and broaden the Basic Studies in church history.

**Mode of delivery:**

Independent study

**Learning activities and teaching methods:**

Study of literature

**Target group:**

Students minoring in General Theology

**Prerequisites and co-requisites:**

None

**Recommended optional programme components:**

None

**Recommended or required reading:**

K. Arffman, Kristinuskon historia. (269 pp.)

S. Heininen, Ihmistä suurempi. (191 pp.)

Mäkinen (ed.), Lasaruksesta leipäjonoihin. (327 pp.)

Kristinuskon Suomessa, Suomalaisen Teologisen Kirjallisuusseuran vuosikirja 2006 (STKSJ 249). (308 pp.)

**Assessment methods and criteria:**

Book examination

Read more about [assessment criteria](#) at the University of Oulu webpage.

**Grading:**

0-5

**Person responsible:**

Unit responsible for teaching: University of Oulu/Open University

**Working life cooperation:**

No

## 708105A: Exegetics, 5 op

**Voimassaolo:** 01.08.2005 -

**Opiskelumuoto:** Intermediate Studies

**Laji:** Course

**Vastuuyksikkö:** Faculty of Humanities

**Arvostelu:** 1 - 5, pass, fail

**Opintokohteen kielet:** Finnish

**Leikkaavuudet:**

ay708105A Exegetics (OPEN UNI) 5.0 op

**ECTS Credits:**

5

**Language of instruction:**

Finnish

**Timing:**

Free

**Learning outcomes:**

The student will deepen the exegetic knowledge and skills acquired during the basic course. The students will become acquainted with the questions, viewpoints and research results of Bible study presented in the course literature. Upon completion of the course, the student will comprehend the basics of scientific Bible study and the multiphase history of the birth and interpretation of the Bible texts. The student will be able to compare the contents, backgrounds and history of the Old and New Testament as well as the Apocrypha. He/she will be able to analyse elements which have had an effect on the emergence of Christianity.

**Mode of delivery:**

Independent study

**Learning activities and teaching methods:**

Study of literature

**Target group:**

Students minoring in General Theology

**Prerequisites and co-requisites:**

None

**Recommended optional programme components:**

None

**Recommended or required reading:**

T. Veijola, Dekalogi. (253 pp.)

L. Aejmelaeus, Kristinuskon synty. (2nd edition; 474 pp.)

R. Hakola - J. Pakkala, Kristinuskon ja juutalaisuuden juuret: arkeologian näkökulmia. (224 pp.)

A. Huhtala - J. Kiilunen (eds.), Urhea Judit, viisas Sirak. Johdatus Vanhan testamentin apokryfikirjoihin. (334 pp.)

An examination must always be taken on Aejmelaeus, Kristinuskon synty. Examinations on other literature can also be replaced partly or completely by a reading journal or an essay. Guidelines on the scope of the compensatory assignment etc. (in Finnish): <http://www.helsinki.fi/teol/pro/ihminen/ohjeet>.

**Assessment methods and criteria:**

Book examination.

Read more about [assessment criteria](#) at the University of Oulu webpage.

**Grading:**

0-5

**Person responsible:**

Unit responsible for teaching: University of Oulu/Open University

**Working life cooperation:**

No

## 708108A: Practical Theology, 5 op

**Voimassaolo:** 01.08.2005 -

**Opiskelumuoto:** Intermediate Studies

**Laji:** Course

**Vastuuyksikkö:** Faculty of Humanities

**Arvostelu:** 1 - 5, pass, fail

**Opintokohteen kielet:** Finnish

**Leikkaavuudet:**

ay708108A Practical Theology (OPEN UNI) 5.0 op

**ECTS Credits:**



5

**Language of instruction:**

Finnish

**Timing:**

Free

**Learning outcomes:**

The objective of the Intermediate Studies course is to deepen and broaden the knowledge of the subjects of practical theology, particularly as regards the sociology and church services.

**Mode of delivery:**

Independent study

**Learning activities and teaching methods:**

Study of literature

**Target group:**

Students minoring in General Theology

**Prerequisites and co-requisites:**

None

**Recommended optional programme components:**

None

**Recommended or required reading:**

Monikasvoinen kirkko. Suomen evankelis-luterilainen kirkko vuosina 2004-2007 [http://www.evl.fi/kkh/ktk/nelivuotiskertomus2004\_2007/kertomus.pdf] (396 pp.)

P. Lempiäinen, Pyhät toimitukset (4th edition), pp. 11-249, 335-360.

J. Jolkkonen et al. (eds.), Saarnan käsikirja (372 pp.).

H. Aaltonen et al. (eds.), Rippikoulun käsikirja (255 pp.).

J. Kiiski, Sielunhoito (282 pp.).

**Assessment methods and criteria:**

Book examination

Read more about [assessment criteria](#) at the University of Oulu webpage.

**Grading:**

0-5

**Person responsible:**

Unit responsible for teaching: University of Oulu/Open University

**Working life cooperation:**

No

**708109A: Science of Religion, 5 op**

**Voimassaolo:** 01.08.2005 -

**Opiskelumuoto:** Intermediate Studies

**Laji:** Course

**Vastuuyksikkö:** Faculty of Humanities

**Arvostelu:** 1 - 5, pass, fail

**Opintokohteen kielet:** Finnish

**Leikkaavuudet:**

ay708109A Science of Religion (OPEN UNI) 5.0 op

**ECTS Credits:**

5

**Language of instruction:**

Finnish

**Timing:**

Free

**Learning outcomes:**

The objective of the Intermediate Studies course is to supplement the knowledge acquired in the Basic Studies, particularly as regards the contemporary religiousness, and to deepen the student's knowledge of the psychology of religion and questions in the philosophy of science in particular.

**Mode of delivery:**

Independent study

**Learning activities and teaching methods:**

Study of literature

**Target group:**

Students minoring in General Theology

**Prerequisites and co-requisites:**

None

**Recommended optional programme components:**

None

**Recommended or required reading:**

K. Ketola, Uskonnot Suomessa 2008, pp. 190-353.

T. Martikainen - T. Sakaranaho - M. Juntunen (eds.), Islam Suomessa. Muslimit arjessa, mediassa ja yhteiskunnassa. (265 pp.)

Nils G. Holm, Religionspsykologins grunder. (129 pp.)

Ketola et al. (eds.), Näköaloja uskontoon, pp. 54-127 (In the first edition [1997] pp. 55-127).

**Assessment methods and criteria:**

Book examination

Read more about [assessment criteria](#) at the University of Oulu webpage.

**Grading:**

0-5

**Person responsible:**

Unit responsible for teaching: University of Oulu/Open University

**Working life cooperation:**

No

**708110A: Seminar, 10 op**

**Voimassaolo:** 01.08.2005 -

**Opiskelumuoto:** Intermediate Studies

**Laji:** Course

**Vastuuyksikkö:** Faculty of Humanities

**Arvostelu:** 1 - 5, pass, fail

**Opintokohteen kielet:** Finnish

**Leikkaavuudet:**

ay708110A Seminar (OPEN UNI) 10.0 op

**ECTS Credits:**

10

**Language of instruction:**

Finnish

**Timing:**

Free

**Learning outcomes:**

Upon completion the seminar, the student will:

1. learn to write a paper of a specific scope on a defined topic
2. acquaint him/herself with the culture of academic discourse
3. gain perspectives for theological research
4. get an overview of the principles of scientific writing
5. acquire a deeper view of a selected theme
6. become acquainted with a specific theological method and the ways of applying it.

**Mode of delivery:**

Face-to-face teaching

**Learning activities and teaching methods:**

24 h seminar and group work, self-study

**Target group:**

Students minoring in General Theology

**Prerequisites and co-requisites:**

Intermediate Studies in General Theology

**Recommended optional programme components:**

None

**Recommended or required reading:**

None

**Assessment methods and criteria:**

Seminar (24h). The seminar requires intensive work. In preparation for the seminar, the student should decide on the topic of the seminar paper. It is recommendable to complete the course most closely connected to the topic of the paper before attending the seminar.

Read more about [assessment criteria](#) at the University of Oulu webpage.

**Grading:**

0-5

**Person responsible:**

Unit responsible for teaching: University of Oulu/Open University

**Working life cooperation:**

No

## 708107A: Systematic Theology, 5 op

**Voimassaolo:** 01.08.2005 -

**Opiskelumuoto:** Intermediate Studies

**Laji:** Course

**Vastuuyksikkö:** Faculty of Humanities

**Arvostelu:** 1 - 5, pass, fail

**Opintokohteen kielet:** Finnish

**Leikkaavuudet:**

ay708107A Systematic Theology (OPEN UNI) 5.0 op

**ECTS Credits:**

5

**Language of instruction:**

Finnish

**Timing:**

Free

**Learning outcomes:**

The objective of the Intermediate Studies course is to deepen and broaden the knowledge of the systematic theology subjects acquired in the Basic Studies, particularly as regards ecumenics and the philosophy of religion.

**Mode of delivery:**

Independent study

**Learning activities and teaching methods:**

Study of literature

**Target group:**

Students minoring in General Theology

**Prerequisites and co-requisites:**

None

**Recommended optional programme components:**

None

**Recommended or required reading:**

A.E. McGrath, Kristillisen uskon perusteet: Johdatus teologiaan. (2nd edition; 622 pp.)

J. Pietarinen & S. Poutanen, Etiikan teorioita. (181 pp.)

R. Saarinen, Johdatus ekumeniikkaan. (282 pp.)

T. Helenius, T. Koistinen & S. Pihlström (eds.), Uskonnonfilosofia (pp. 7-120, 208-302, 354-371, 391-417).

In case the student has already taken an examination on Kristillisen uskon perusteet by A.E. McGrath, the books P. Annala, Antiikin teologinen perintö, Gassman-Hendrix, Johdatus luterilaiseen tunnustukseen and M. Ruokanen, Hermeneutica moderna should be read and examined instead. In case the student has read Johdatus ekumeniikkaan by R. Saarinen, he/she should replace it by Kirkkotiedon kirja (eds. Pekka Metso - Esko Ryökäs).

**Assessment methods and criteria:**

Book examination

Read more about [assessment criteria](#) at the University of Oulu webpage.

**Grading:**

0-5

**Person responsible:**

Unit responsible for teaching: University of Oulu/Open University

**Working life cooperation:**

No

