The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

The PhD degree program is offered to students wishing to enhance their knowledge and competence in teaching and research and to contribute to scholarship in a specialized area of theological studies. The PhD requires students to give evidence of the highest standards of scholarship at every stage of the degree program. The primary learning outcomes of the PhD include:

(a) a breadth of knowledge in theological and religious studies and in other cognate disciplines with mastery of knowledge in a particular academic discipline;
(b) capacity to conduct advanced scholarly research and writing that makes an original contribution to the discipline that is significant for religious communities, academy, and society;
(c) growth in one's identity as a researcher, including:
    a. the ability to access appropriate resources in the study of one's discipline, to analyze and assess critically the findings of others, and to synthesize existing knowledge with one's own findings;
    b. the ability to employ primary doctoral-level research methods appropriate to the study of one's chosen discipline; and
    c. the ability to communicate one's research appropriately to scholars within one's discipline and to other scholars, professionals, or publics beyond one's discipline;
(2) growth in one's identity as a teacher, including:
    a. the ability to design a course with appropriate, achievable, and measurable learning outcomes;
    b. the ability to facilitate and evaluate learning within a course through a variety of methods;
(3) growth in one's professional identity as a scholar within the academy, including:
    a. familiarity with the teaching profession and the academy; the responsibilities and expectations of a faculty member; and the ethical standards of one's discipline;
    b. a commitment to collaborative inquiry, mentoring, publication and other modes of transferring knowledge, and personal professional development through learned societies.