



Faculty of Theology
STD Proposal Guidelines

A written text of the proposal (@ 7-10 pages), should include:

- (1) The tentative title, the name of the student, the name of the moderator, and the section to which the student belongs (e.g., Dogma, Biblical, etc.).
- (2) The *status quaestionis*: contextualizing the thesis and proving that the student is familiar with their area of study. This part of the proposal should clearly illustrate what has been done in the past on the topic at hand and what is still missing regarding the *status quaestionis*, which provides the basis for the STD proposal.
- (3) A clear, relevant, and feasible thesis statement (i.e., a clear statement of the main objective, or claim, of the dissertation).
- (4) Indications of originality. In what way does the proposed dissertation fit into broader research on the specified topic? What contribution does the proposed dissertation aim to contribute to this conversation and broader research?
- (5) Methodology. Depending on the particular area of theology, what methodology will be used in the student's research? For example, what kind of textual analysis will be conducted, and in which languages? What will be the criteria for the selection and use of primary and secondary sources? If necessary, the student should elaborate on the reasons for why he/she has chosen particular sources over others.
- (6) The student should give a presentation of the plan for the development of the argument; namely, a short description of the chapters (and/or section headings) that are envisioned.

The text of the proposal should also include:

- (1) Bibliography – demonstrating knowledge of primary sources in the original language(s) as well as secondary sources related to the dissertation. It should also reflect and further confirm the student's knowledge of their area of study and the proper contextualization of the argument and the research.
- (2) Tentative schema indicating proposed parts, chapters, sections and subsections.

This part of the proposal can extend beyond the limit of 10 pages stated at the beginning of this document.