

**Union of Free Evangelical and Baptist Churches of Estonia (UFEBC),
Tartu Theological Seminary (TTS)
(Applied higher education studies)
The curriculum – Free Church Theology and Leadership**

1. Name of the curriculum	Vabakiriklik teoloogia ja juhtimine
2. Name of the curriculum in English	Free Church Theology and Leadership
3. Higher education level	Applied higher education
4. Learning format	Distance learning
5. Educational institution	Tartu Theological Seminary of the Union of Free Evangelical and Baptist Churches of Estonia
6. Size of the curriculum (ECTS)	180 ECTS
7. Nominal duration of studies	3 years
8. Curriculum group	Theology

The aim (of the designers of) the curriculum is to train specialists with theological key competences. After graduation the student is able to work in the church context and in public sector and continue his/her studies on the Master's level.

5 cross-curriculum theme modules that make all together 154 ECTS, including practical training 27 ECTS.

5 elective speciality modules 20 ECTS, including practical training at least 5 ECTS.

Elective module 15 ECTS, of which elective 9 ECTS and 6 ECTS are optional.

Graduation thesis 12 ECTS, including practical training 3 ECTS.

Learning outcomes of the study programme. The student who completes the programme

- has a systematic overview in their mother tongue and in one foreign language of the basic terms of theology, which they apply in describing and practising the Free Church tradition;
- knows and analyses the text of the Bible and the influence of its interpretations in religious traditions and in the life of individual Christians;
- analyses the development of Free Church spirituality and tradition, in their uniqueness, in the context of theological understanding and congregational practice;
- can analyse context and the target group of the specialisation and communicate the Christian message to them understandably;
- applies relevant communication strategies and principles of team leadership in congregational practices and projects;
- knows the basics of the specialisation area and plans self-development in it.

Curriculum consists of the following cross-curriculum theme modules

- Free Church identity (28 ECTS)
- Bible and interpretation (33 ECTS)
- Ethics and discipleship (18 ECTS)
- Mission and commission (27 ECTS)

- The gifts of the Holy Spirit in the church (33ECTS)
- Specialisation (20 ECTS) – five choices
- Elective courses 15 ECTS, out of which 6 ECTS are open electives
- Graduation theses 12 ECTS

Cross-curriculum theme modules

1. Free church identity 28 ECTS (VKTJ.01)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the module

- interprets modern church life trends in Estonia and in the world in the light of the influences from history, knows the key texts, persons and topics;
- describes the formation of the free church tradition and its characteristics in the ecumenical context;
- analyses the impact of the church practices in society, distinguishes current problems and offers simple solutions;
- analyses the logic of the formation of religious traditions, describes oneself as a part of the continuity and re-interpretation of tradition;
- associates the sources and the content of free church identity with its practices.

This module consists of the following subjects

1. The Main Issues in General Church History and Today 6 ECTS (VKTJ.01.01)
2. Free Churches – Past and Present 4 ECTS (VKTJ.01.02)
3. Estonian Church and Cultural History 6 ECTS (VKTJ.01.03)
4. The Free Church Tradition and Ecumenism 3 ECTS (VKTJ.01.04)
5. The Teaching About the Church and the Teaching of the Church 6 ECTS (VKTJ.01.05)

The Main Issues in General Church History and Today 6 ECTS (VKTJ.01.01)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- knows the main periods of the church's history, can explain their features, the role of key figures and written texts, the most important events and their consequences;
- is able to provide an analytical overview of the development of major theological themes, factors of influence and major changes through different periods of church history;
- reads the selected key texts of the church history critically and analytically;
- reflects logically, and using factual material, on what the today's church and society can learn from church history.

Free Churches – Past and Present 4 ECTS (VKTJ.01.02)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- knows the events and key people that belong to the tradition of radical reformation and can place them in the course of church history and in the context of events;
- can explain the origins of radical reformation and of the subsequent free churches, associates the material with other Christian denominations in the cultural-historical context;

- analyses critically the original theological emphases of free churches, especially ecclesiology, keeping in mind the theological discussion in the present day free church;
- can explain how the knowledge of radical reformation (and the identity of later free churches) helps to enrich the contemporary free church theological ideas.

Estonian Church and Cultural History 6 ECTS (VKTJ.01.03)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- can logically periodize the history of church in Estonia;
- knows the main events and key people of the Estonian church and cultural history;
- creates connections between the events of the Estonian church and cultural history;
- knows and understands the development of the Union of Free Evangelical and Baptist Churches of Estonia in a wider context of Estonian culture.

The Free-church Tradition and Ecumenism 3 ECTS (VKTJ.01.04)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- analyses the difference between Christian denominations and compares these to the free church tradition;
- knows main ecumenically important texts;
- discusses problems which emerge in ecumenical relationships;
- analyses the main features of Christian denominations and compares them with the free church tradition;
- describes the origins of various Christian traditions.

The Teaching About the Church and the Teaching of the Church 6 ECTS (VKTJ.01.05)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- orientates him/herself in the key approaches of systematic theology;
- knows the basic logic of the development and the modern trends in Christian church and different denominations, and compares this knowledge with the tradition of the Radical Reformation;
- knows the life and teaching of Jesus in its historical context and expounds its importance for the conception of Free churches;
- orientates oneself in the pursuits of the truth of the early Christians and in the main issues of Christology, and in the general concepts of New Testament theology;
- explains how the doctrine of the Triune God, man and salvation is realised in different denominations, and how it impacts their ecclesiology and spirituality.
- knows the chosen ecumenical texts;
- discusses emerging issues in ecumenical relations as follows
 - recognition of baptism
 - participating in communion
 - funerals
 - weddings
 - use of sacred space, church
 - other forms of cooperation

2. Bible and Interpretation 33 ECTS (VKTJ.02)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the module

- knows the Bible and the context of its books;
- knows the basic principles of exegesis and hermeneutics and can apply them to interpret of the Bible;
- can use the sources of information to interpret and teach the Bible according to the context of today;
- analyses the impact of the Biblical text and interpretations on religious traditions and in the lives of individual Christians.

This module consists of the following subjects

1. God, the Creation and the Church (basic course on the Bible) 9 ECTS (VKTJ.02.01)
2. The Bible and its Interpretation 6 ECTS (VKTJ.02.02)
3. Biblical Hermeneutics 6 ECTS (VKTJ.02.03)
4. Theology of the Bible 6 ECTS (VKTJ.02.04)
5. Exegesis of the Bible and Practical Training in Exegesis 6 ECTS (VKTJ.02.05)

God, the Creation and the Church (basic course on the Bible) 9 ECTS (VKTJ.02.01)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- knows the content of the books and the background of the books in the Bible;
- knows and is able to apply different methods to study the Bible;
- explains the essential meaning of God's Kingdom and the principles of its growth;
- analyses the needs of his/her community and plans a holistic project to address these needs;
- based on his/her calling, assesses oneself in the relationships and sets goals for further development.

The Bible and its Interpretation 6 ECTS (VKTJ.02.02)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- knows the formative story of the Old Testament books and takes into account the time and context of their writing;
- knows the history and periods of Israel as the chosen people of God;
- knows the New Testament and the writing context of its books.

Biblical Hermeneutics 6 ECTS (VKTJ.02.03)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- describes different methods of interpretation and can distinguish them;
- knows the different components of the process of interpretation and can take them into account (author, primary readers, interpreter, interpretive community, surrounding community);
- knows the basic positions of general linguistics and can take them into account when interpreting the Bible;
- lists and briefly explains the basic elements of the Old Testament narrative;
- knows the elements of rhetoric and can use them in interpreting the New Testament.

Theology of the Bible 6 ECTS (VKTJ.02.04)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- knows the basic theological concepts and can put these into the context of the Bible;
- has an overview of the Bible's major topics (Part I of the course: issues related to the Bible's authority, God, man, creation, sin, and salvation);
- knows and is able to justify, analyse and explain, based on Biblical texts, the central theological views;
- on the basis of the Bible, can independently find answers to questions arising in religious or congregational practice;
- is aware of the existence of various theological positions;
- appreciates the Bible as God's authoritative revelation and as the basis of Christian teaching and life.

Exegesis of the Bible and Practical Training in Exegesis 6 ECTS (VKTJ.02.05)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- knows the basic principles of the exegesis and can apply them to interpret the Bible text;
- describes schematically the structure of the Bible's writings based on the given text;
- understands the impact of context on the meaning of a particular text and takes this into account in exegesis;
- is familiar with the linguistic and literary characteristics of the Biblical text and with historical-critical methods of exegesis;
- conducts exegesis of the narrative texts of the Bible on the level necessary for preaching;
- correctly presents the results of exegesis and explains the results of exegetic work in a clear way and can relate them to hermeneutical conclusions.

3. Ethics and Discipleship 18 ECTS (VKTJ.03)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the module

- recognizes and applies the main practices of Christian spirituality;
- orientates in contemporary ethical discussion and presents ethical standpoints in a well-grounded way;
- is able to plan and implement various forms of lifelong learning in the congregational environment, creatively applies learning skills;
- analyses oneself with the help of a mentor and in the light of Christian practices, is planning ones life-long development.

This module consists of the following subjects

1. Christian Spirituality and Practical Training in Spirituality 6 ECTS (VKTJ.03.01)
2. Ethics 6 ECTS (VKTJ.03.02)
3. Lifelong Learning in the Congregation 3 ECTS (VKTJ.03.03)
4. Mentoring 3 ECTS (VKTJ.03.04)

Christian Spirituality and Practical Training in Spirituality 6 ECTS (VKTJ.03.01)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- knows different traditions of Christian spirituality in both historical and modern terms;
- gives examples of the historical-confessional forms of appearance of Christian spirituality;
- knows the main methods of deepening spirituality both individually and collectively;
- is able to create environments that support Christian spirituality;
- makes suggestions to improve the environments that support spirituality.

Ethics 6 ECTS (VKTJ.03.02)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- knows the main philosophical and theological ethics schools, their most well-known representatives and perspectives;
- solves problems in situations using ethical categories;
- clarifies the free church beliefs about Christian faith and in issues of moral life;
- appreciates the diversity of attitudes and values in society;
- reflects on the personal and communal holistic development from moral perspective.

Lifelong Learning in the Church 3 ECTS (VKTJ.03.03)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- knows the main goals and forms of Christian learning and analyses how these are applied in his/her church;
- describes the characteristics of successful learning from the perspective of individual and faith traditions knows how to create successful learning environment;
- plans learner-centered educational process in its different aspects;
- analyses oneself as a life-long learning Christian and plans the future steps to answer the challenges with his/her mentor.

Mentoring 3 ECTS (VKTJ.03.04)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- understands the principles of mentoring and can apply them to support the development of others;
- is able to apply mentoring practices and counselling methods in a targeted way;
- applies religious practices in mentoring and counselling;
- has verbalised his religious preferences through a mentoring relationship, analysed his/her areas for development and discovered appropriate ways to develop his/her spirituality.

4. Mission and Commission 27 ECTS (VKTJ.04)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the module

- analyses the impact factors of free church mission concept and practice and argues for the most appropriate approaches in today's Estonian context;

- interprets cultural events and provides a reasoned assessment of the most important phenomena based on a free church perspective;
- distinguishes between the main world religions, analyses the influence of religion on individuals and groups of people;
- analyses the opportunities for oneself and others to participate in civil society, based on a free church mindset;
- knows and observes the legal regulations in the ministry and missionary practice.

This module consists of the following subjects

1. The Theology and Practice of Missions 6 ECTS (VKTJ.04.01)
2. The History of Religion 3 ECTS (VKTJ.04.02)
3. Cultural Hermeneutics 3 ECTS (VKTJ.04.03)
4. Practical Training in Leadership in the Context of Mission Work 6 ECTS (VKTJ.04.04)
5. Free Churches, Freedom of Religion and Society 3 ECTS (VKTJ.04.05)
6. Social Proactivity in Christian Movements 3 ECTS (VKTJ.04.06)
7. Legal Issues in Christian Ministry 3 ECTS (VKTJ.04.07)

The Theology and Practice of Missions 6 ECTS (VKTJ.04.01)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- knows the general outline of the history of missions and the widespread missional practices;
- analyses and implements a comprehensive mission practices in private, congregational, and professional life;
- recognizes and analyses different world-views and cultural differences;
- knows the surrounding community and its spiritual and practical needs;
- is motivated to seek and implement today's mission-oriented strategies in their environment.

The History of Religion 3 ECTS (VKTJ.04.02)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- recognizes the forms of religion in the life of people and societies;
- has systematic overview of different scientific approaches to religion;
- recognizes the different manifestations of religion;
- has the knowledge on the history, central beliefs and practices of the major religious traditions;
- can estimate the practical use of the acquired knowledge.

Cultural Hermeneutics 3 ECTS (VKTJ.04.03)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- distinguishes the essence of Christianity from its cultural forms;
- analyses the causes and extent of the dynamics of the congregational culture;
- compares the church culture and the surrounding secular culture;
- describes the manifestations of church life in the light of cultural theoretical texts;
- offers practical opportunities for shaping the congregational culture.

Practical Training in Leadership in the Context of Mission Work 6 ECTS (VKTJ.04.04)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- uses creatively methods of management and development on oneself and team;
- plans and conducts a missionary or evangelism project;
- assesses its activities as a leader in the context of missionary work and sees opportunities for improvement.

Free Churches, Religious Freedom and Society 3 ECTS (VKTJ.04.05)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- can make a brief, meaningful summary of the historic contribution of Free Church to religious freedom;
- knows the main positions of free church theology, from which to be guided in relations with the state and society, and can analyse contemporary situations based on them;
- knows the paragraphs on religious freedom in the Constitution of the Republic of Estonia and can analyse their implementation and the related issues of tolerance in contemporary Estonian society;
- is able to analyse the role of free churches in society and make proposals for the inclusion of churches in the social arena.

Social Proactivity in Christian Movements 3 ECTS (VKTJ.04.06)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- analyses the points of contact and interaction between church and society;
- assesses the role of Christian movements in society both in historical and in modern terms;
- describes the main forms of social activity of churches and Christian movements in Estonia and abroad;
- analyses the possibilities of oneself and others to participate in civil society and to be socially proactive based on a free church mindset.

Legal Issues in Christian Ministry 3 ECTS (VKTJ.04.07)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- is aware of the main legal issues concerning Christian ministry;
- knows the bases of the legal system and orientates in them;
- knows the difference between legal disciplines;
- knows the different legal acts concerning ministry;
- has obtained the first experience in solving legal cases.

5. The gifts of the Holy Spirit in the church 33 ECTS (VKTJ.05)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the module

- relates the interaction of gifts and forms of work of the Holy Spirit with the work of the church;
- knows the logic and specificity of the church as a functioning organization in comparison with secular organizations and is able to manage the basic processes;
- knows and implements effective communication techniques in preaching, leading worship and devotion, based on free church theology;
- implements learned knowledge in the context of leading community, church life and missionary work and analyses the process.

This module consists of the following subjects

1. The Theology and Practice of Worship 3 ECTS (VKTJ.05.01)
2. Homiletics 3 ECTS (VKTJ.05.02)
3. Pastoral Counselling 6 ECTS (VKTJ.05.03)
4. Gift-Based Teamwork and Leadership 3 ECTS (VKTJ.05.04)
5. Leading the Church 6 ECTS (VKTJ.05.05)
6. Practical Training in Church Ministry 12 ECTS (VKTJ.05.06)

The Theology and Practice of Worship 3 ECTS (VKTJ.05.01)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- has an overview of the main concepts related to Christian worship service;
- explains main stages of development of patterns and theology of worship, both in history and in different denominations;
- relates elements of worship with theological meaning;
- demonstrates an ability to plan and conduct different types of worship services alone and in a team in his/her Christian tradition;
- knows and demonstrates the ability to conduct Christian ordinances in a meaningful way.

Homiletics 3 ECTS (VKTJ.05.02)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- can explain the relationship between preaching and public speech motives and components;
- conducts a short exegetical and hermeneutical analysis of a selected text for the purpose of conducting a meaningful sermon;
- prepares and presents a 20-minute sermon that is meaningful emotionally, intellectually and spiritually for the listeners;
- gives feedback to the sermons of others by the acquired theory and experience.

Pastoral Counselling 6 ECTS (VKTJ.05.03)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- knows the main schools of thought and terminology in pastoral counselling;
- understands the essence of pastoral counselling contact and situation;
- can envision and conduct a pastoral counselling conversation applying intentionally basic counselling modes;
- uses the religious practices in pastoral counselling;
- develops intentionally in tolerance and empathy;
- evaluates his/her limits of competence and in case of need helps the counselee to find professional help.

Gift-Based Teamwork and Leadership 3 ECTS (VKTJ.05.04)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- knows the differences and relationships of character traits and spiritual gifts in the perspective of setting and achieving both personal and common goals in life and work;
- can sense and see meaning in the uniqueness of calling in one's own life and in others;
- values the Christian understanding and practice of stewardship attitude toward and investment to the talents;

- can create, motivate, communicate, lead and reflect the team and teamwork in the variety and unity of its members, reaching the goals set before them;
- knows the logic of empowering and delegating for a team and its members in order to shape a team spirit and attitude of work;
- describes and analyse their practical leadership experience in team work relying on their theological and leadership knowledge.

Leading the Church 6ECTS (VKTJ.05.05)

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- is able to orientate in contemporary theories and practices of the organizational culture and leadership;
- understands the uniqueness and logic of development and leadership of the church as organically Christian organization, and can take it into account in their practical life and work;
- knows the logic both in self-leadership as well as in creating, envisioning, empowering, leading, motivating and mentoring a team, and is prepared to practically apply it;
- is ready to envision organizational goals and changes in order to realise them, communicate its importance, realize it together while leading others, and analyse its impact when realized;
- knows the theories of church planting and holistic development and associates them with theology and practical leadership;
- integrates the role of and actions by the church with spreading the Good News in the contemporary civil society;
- analyses and synthesizes personal and common experience of church life and work in theological terms and concepts.

Practical Training in Church Ministry 12 ECTS (VKTJ.05.06)

This will have four 3 ECTS parts – Observation, Homiletics, Pastoral Counselling, and Christian Media.

Learning outcomes. The student who completes the course

- plans and leads the worship services and church activities in a meaningful and purposeful way;
- applies the elementary skills of pastoral work, including preaching, teaching, and counselling under supervision;
- analyses and write various texts for secular and Christian media;
- analyses their professional activity, discusses it with the supervisor, and makes suggestions for improving it.

Specialisation: Practical Mission 20 ECTS (VKTJ.PM)

Learning outcomes. In the end of the specialisation student

- knows the developmental logic of people, distinguishes between people with special needs and uses appropriate methods to support development;
- implements pastoral counselling skills in support of families, knowing the limits

- of their competence;
- knows the nature of Christian social work and the possibilities for its implementation in both the congregation and the community.

This specialisation module consists of the following subjects

1. Developmental Psychology 3 ECTS (VKTJ.PM.01)
2. Counselling People With Special Needs 3 ECTS (VKTJ.PM.02)
3. Family Counselling 3 ECTS (VKTJ.PM.03)
4. Christian Social Work in the Community 3 ECTS (VKTJ.PM.04)
5. Practical Training in Gerontological Deacony 3 ECTS (VKTJ.PM.05)
6. Supervised Practice of Pastoral Counselling 3 ECTS (VKTJ.PM.05)
7. Specialisation Project 5 ECTS (VKTJ.PM.05)

Developmental Psychology 3 ECTS (VKTJ.PM.01)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- knows basic definitions of developmental psychology;
- knows the most important theories of developmental psychology;
- understands the nature of the development crises occurring at different stages of life and their religious significance;
- deals with the person as a whole in the integration of different aspects of development;
- can analyse the development of oneself and others based on the most important theories and concepts of developmental psychology.

Counselling People With Special Needs 3 ECTS (VKTJ.PM.02)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- understands differences of the people with special needs along with their thinking and religious understandings;
- interprets and values the place of people with special needs in the Christian fellowship;
- reflects his/her own communicative experience with the people of special needs and is ready to discuss argumentatively the questions related to such experience.

Family Counselling 3 ECTS (VKTJ.PM.03)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- understands the functioning of the family system and thus can better assist people with different family problems;
- knows why and how to involve the whole family in solving problems;
- can create and use a genogram for helping people;
- implements simpler working methods in support of people in family problems;
- can protect and take care of oneself as a helper.

Christian Social Work in the Community 3 ECTS (VKTJ.PM.04)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- knows the special features of Christian social work;
- has studied some of the working practices of Christian social work;
- knows the theological foundations of Christian social work;
- is able to see the opportunities and risks involved in cooperating with the local government in the social field;

- understands the importance of tolerance in day-to-day social work practice;
- analyses the possibilities of one's own and others for doing social work congregationally.

Practical Training in Gerontological Deacony 3 ECTS (VKTJ.PM.05)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- describes and analyses the specifics, work process, organizational culture and development potential of the internship;
- describes the forms of elderly diaconal work in a specific organization;
- relates one's life experience, early education and experience from the internship;
- analyses one's practical activity in the light of theoretical concepts;
- assesses the specialty of the internship in terms of its own professional competencies and shortcomings and sets individual developmental and learning tasks.

Supervised Practice of Pastoral Counselling 3 ECTS (VKTJ.PM.05)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- implements the basic principles of pastoral counselling in practice;
- associates the academic knowledge of different fields with practical work;
- analyses one's values, skills and knowledge on the experience of practice;
- evaluates the specialty of the practice of pastoral counselling in the light of its own professional competencies and shortcomings and sets individual developmental and learning tasks.

Specialisation Project 5 ECTS (VKTJ.PM.06)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the project, the student

- knows how to plan, lead and report projects and implements this knowledge in the area of their specialisation;
- sets clear and theologically sound aim to the project and aligns all activities according to that;
- analyses motivational factors of the target group and the team and executes the project according to these;
- uses effective communication skills with all people involved in the project, is tolerant toward different viewpoints and is open to support the initiative and skills of team members.

Specialisation: Youth Work 20 ECTS (VKTJ.NT)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the module, the student

- knows the developmental logic of people, distinguishes between people with special needs and uses appropriate methods to support development;
- analyses the impact of general youth culture on church youth ministry and can support the spiritual development of children and young people;
- knows the goals and methods of youth work specific to the free church identity and applies them to the specialisation project;
- binds church and youth work to the united and integrated development of the church and can create a family-friendly and youth-friendly environment;
- knows the curriculum, teaching methods and ways of motivating teachers and applies them in the congregational context.

This specialisation module consists of the following subjects

1. Development Psychology 3 ECTS (VKTJ.NT.01)
2. Counselling People With Special Needs 3 ECTS (VKTJ.NT.02)
3. Youth Culture and the Youth Work in the Church 3ECTS (VKTJ.NT.03)
4. Supporting the Spiritual Development of Children and Young People 3 ECTS (VKTJ.NT.04)
5. Family and Youth Friendly Study Environment (practical training in curriculum and teaching methods) 3 ECTS (VKTJ.NT.05)
6. Specialisation Project 5 ECTS (VKTJ.NT.06)

Development Psychology 3 ECTS (VKTJ.NT.01)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- knows basic definitions of developmental psychology;
- knows the most important theories of developmental psychology;
- understands the nature of the development crises occurring at different stages of life and their religious significance;
- deals with the person as a whole in the integration of different aspects of development;
- can analyse the development of oneself and others based on the most important theories and concepts of developmental psychology.

Counselling People With Special Needs 3 ECTS (VKTJ.NT.02)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- understands differences of people with special needs along with their thinking and religious understandings;
- interprets and values the place of people with special needs in the Christian fellowship;
- reflects his/her own communicative experience with the people of special needs and is ready to discuss argumentatively concerning the questions related to such experience.

Youth Culture and the Youth Work in the Church 3ECTS (VKTJ.NT.03)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- understands the nature of national and congregational youth work (0-26 years) and its general and specific goals;
- recognizes the general stages of development of young people, including religious ones, and their evolution and development over time;
- orientates to the principles, fields and outputs of the congregation's youth work;
- understands youth work in the context of education and community work;
- understands his role as a youth worker, can reflect, analyse and maintain his spiritual health;
- knows the main methods and forms of youth work.

Supporting the Spiritual Development of Children and Young People 3 ECTS (VKTJ.NT.04)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- knows the main theories of spiritual development and analyses children and young people of different ages;

- applies techniques that support the main spiritual development in a targeted purposeful and targeted way;
- can support children and young people during moments of religious crisis;
- analyses and creates environments that support spiritual development.

Family and Youth Friendly Study Environment (practical training in curriculum and teaching methods) 3 ECTS (VKTJ.NT.05)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- recognizes the main concepts of a learner-centered curriculum and analyses the quality of curricula with them;
- implements the main aspects of the didactics in the planning of learning;
- knows the main teaching methods and applies them in a learner-centered way.

Specialisation Project 5 ECTS (VKTJ.NT.06)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- knows how to plan, lead and report projects and implements this knowledge in the area of their specialisation;
- sets clear and theologically sound aim to the project and aligns all activities accordingly;
- analyses motivational factors of the target group and the team and executes the project according to these;
- uses effective communication skills with all people involved in the project, is tolerant toward different viewpoints and open to support the initiative and skills of team members.

Specialisation: Church Planting and Development 20 ECTS (VKTJ.KRA)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the module, the student

- recognizes and relates to the four key concepts for planting and developing of churches;
- uses cultural and biblical hermeneutics in the process of planting and developing churches;
- analyses oneself as the developer or founder of churches and one's role in the team;
- knows and applies communication and counselling skills in the context of the development of congregations and the management of change;
- can solve conflicts between people and in the organization.

Specialisation module consists of the following subjects

1. The Basic Course for Church Planting 9 ECTS (VKTJ.KRA.01)
2. Change Management and Conflict Resolution 3 ECTS (VKTJ.KRA.02)
3. Practice to Support Church Development 3 ECTS (VKTJ.KRA.03)
4. Specialisation Project 5 ECTS (VKTJ.KRJA.04)

The Basic Course for Church Planting 9 ECTS (VKTJ.KRA.01)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- can team up and develop a clear-vision team;
- understands the essence of discipleship and applies it practically;

- shares and expresses the gospel to a wide audience;
- contributes to new leaders who will have a holistic approach in developing leaders and communities.

Change Management and Conflict Resolution n 3 ECTS (VKTJ.KRA.02)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- understands the phases of the congregations development and associate them with their own experience;
- analyses the threats and opportunities of making changes taking to account the examples of the Church history;
- analyses the causes of conflicts and can prevent and resolve them;
- knows the root causes of the conflicts that arise during the changes and analyses some of them deeply;
- is able to prepare and implement the changes.

Practice to Support Church Development 3 ECTS (VKTJ.KRA.03)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- knows the main possibilities of self-assessment of the church and has implemented them in practice;
- plans focus group interviews and analyse the results obtained in the light of self-analysis;
- plans together with the church its development goals and ways to achieve them;
- knows the basic techniques of mentoring and can apply them in the context of the church.

Specialisation Project 5 ECTS (VKTJ.KRJA.04)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the project, the student

- knows how to plan, lead and report projects and is implementing this knowledge in the area of their specialisation;
- sets clear and theologically sound aims to the project and aligns all activities accordingly;
- analyse motivational factors of the target group and the team and executes the project according to these;
- uses effective communication skills with all people involved in the project, is tolerant toward different viewpoints and open to support the initiative and skills of team members.

Specialisation: Theology 20 ECTS (VKTJ.T)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the module, the student

- knows the Bible's original languages at the beginner's level and uses this knowledge to perform exegesis;
- analyses selected books of the Bible in depth and links the coherent knowledge of the Bible with the free church theological understanding;
- uses a deeper understanding of the Bible's chosen books to promote congregational teaching and promotion through a specialization project.

Specialisation module consists of the following subjects

1. The Greek Language 3ECTS (VKTJ.T.01)
2. The Hebrew Language 3 ECTS (VKTJ.T.02)
3. Exposition of an Old Testament Prophetic Book 3 ECTS (VKTJ.T.03)
4. Exposition of a New Testament Letter 3 ECTS (VKTJ.T.04)
5. Special Seminar on the Gospels 3 ECTS (VKTJ.T.05)
6. Specialisation Project 5 ECTS (VKTJ.T.06)

The Greek Language 3ECTS (VKTJ.T.01)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- knows the most common vocabulary of the New Testament;
- is generally familiar with the grammatical structure and morphology of the New Testament in Greek;
- is able to recognize the cases of nouns, adjectives and pronouns, gender and number, and the time of verbs, style and way of speech, knows the principles of using the prefaces;
- can use the tools of the Greek language;
- has obtained an overview of the most important manuscripts of the New Testament and their types;
- using dictionaries, translates the simpler text of the New Testament.

The Hebrew Language 3 ECTS (VKTJ.T.02)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- knows a selection of the most common vocabulary of the Old Testament;
- reads the Hebrew text of the Old Testament;
- analyses verbal and nominal sentences;
- knows the basic forms of a noun and a strong verb (in the root verb Kal);
- translates the simple prose texts of the Old Testament with the help of the dictionary and tools.

Exposition of an Old Testament Prophetic Book 3 ECTS (VKTJ.T.03)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- knows in detail the content and specificities of the Old Testament book of Amos;
- can see the place of this book on the whole of the Bible's canon;
- does the exegesis of the selected texts from the book to the level necessary to preaching;
- understands to transfer its relevant message to our contemporary time.

Exposition of a New Testament Letter 3 ECTS (VKTJ.T.04)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- understands the content and specifics of the message in question;
- is able to find general connections and individual meanings of a text and understands the meaning of the text;
- understands the impact of context on a particular text and takes that into account;
- does exegesis from the New Testament letters to the level necessary to preaching.

Special Seminar on the Gospels 3 ECTS (VKTJ.T.05)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- can analyse the texts of the gospels observed in the course and use the corresponding secondary literature;
- knows the common methods of interpreting the gospel texts;
- using argumentation, is able to explain the meaning of the texts of the Gospels covered in the course.

Specialisation Project 5 ECTS (VKTJ.T.06)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the project, the student

- knows how to plan, lead, and report projects and is implementing this knowledge in the area of their specialisation;
- sets clear and theologically sound aim to the project and aligns all activities according to that;
- analyses motivational factors of the target group and the team and executes the project according to these;
- uses effective communication skills with all people involved in the project, is tolerant toward different understandings and open to support the initiative and skills of team members.

Specialisation: Theology and Practice of Worship (VKTJ.ÜTP)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the module, the student

- orientates in the mind- and language-space of the theology and practice of worship services in the congregation;
- deals with and uses modern worship music as part of the development and heritage of church music;
- implements the experience of the worship service and personal talent in building the church as a whole through the creative cooperation of the various talents.

Specialisation module consists of the following subjects

1. Basic Course of Worship 2 ECTS (VKTJ.ÜTP.01)
2. The Biblical Basis of Worship 3 ECTS (VKTJ.ÜTP.02)
3. The Nature and Forms of Expression of Worship 3 ECTS (VKTJ.ÜTP.03)
4. The Role of Music in the Church Worship Service 3 ECTS (VKTJ.ÜTP.04)
5. Worship as Cooperation 3 ECTS (VKTJ.ÜTP.05)
6. Worship as Creative Event 1 ECTS (VKTJ.ÜTP.06)
7. Specialisation Project 5 ECTS (VKTJ.ÜTP.07)

Basic Course of Worship 2 ECTS (VKTJ.ÜTP.01)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- understands the essence and preconditions of Christian worship;
- describes the role of worship in the Christian congregation;
- analyses oneself as a practitioner of worship;
- implements the best worship practices, working in the team.

The Biblical Bases of Worship 3 ECTS (VKTJ.ÜTP.02)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- describes the concepts of the Old and the New Testament for worship and praise of God;
- compares the difference between the service of God and idolatry in biblical and religious history;
- understands the importance of breathing together as a prerequisite for making music;
- implements practices of creating a spiritually open atmosphere at community circles.

The Nature and Forms of Expression of Worship 3 ECTS (VKTJ.ÜTP.03)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- describes the concept, content, purpose and practice of worship in the biblical heritage and the history of church music;
- explains the means and forms of modern worship service and music;
- analyses the role of hearing and psychology in music and the role of intonation and melody in music;
- explains the prophetic role of the musicians and the spiritual influence in proclaiming a spiritual message.

The Role of Music in the Church Worship Service 3 ECTS (VKTJ.ÜTP.04)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- feels the pulse of life in church's music throughout the year and analyses its role in personal and congregational events;
- knows how to take care of one's voice and how to use, amplify and tune the voice of people and instruments;
- analyses the influence of the church's worship songs on the Christian message and the worship of the congregation;
- is able to plan and implement worship in the whole of the worship service.

Worship as Cooperation 3 ECTS (VKTJ.ÜTP.05)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- knows and, if possible, implements the New Testament assumptions and conclusions of the congregation as a whole and the organization of gift-based teamwork and management;
- analyses the role of leaders in the worship service – the formation, being and staying a leader;
- understands the role of discipleship and mentoring in the development of leaders in relationships and in cooperation with others;
- is able to create and follow the self-development plan of a leader.

Worship as Creative Event 1 ECTS (VKTJ.ÜTP.06)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- can plan a worship vision and visualize worship using religious symbols and liturgical elements;
- knows how to develop worship artistically and technologically, so that the result is a worship service using five senses, feeling the sixth;
- creates new worship songs in the Estonian language and new musical language.

Specialisation Project 5 ECTS (VKTJ.ÜTP.07)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the project, the student

- knows how to plan, lead and report projects and is implementing this knowledge in the area of their specialisation;
- sets clear and theologically sound aims to the project and aligns all activities according to that;
- analyses motivational factors of the target group and the team and executes the project according to these;
- uses effective communication skills with all people involved in the project, is tolerant toward different understandings and open to support the initiative and skills of team members.

Elective courses 15 ECTS (VKTJ.06)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the module, the student

- uses a foreign language for the understanding of the basic definitions and basic texts of religious theology and in practical work for self-expression at least B2 language-user level;
- understands the basic concepts of philosophy and argues logically in both written texts and oral speech;
- knows the key skills of communication and applies them in the area of their congregational work.

Elective module consists of the following subjects

1. Foreign Language (Theological English) 6 ECTS (VKTJ.06.01)
2. Introduction to Philosophy 3 ECTS (VKTJ.06.02)
3. Communication Psychology 3 ECTS (VKTJ.06.03)
4. Exposition of the Book of Revelation 3 ECTS (VKTJ.06.04)
5. Subjects from other specialisations

Foreign Language (theological English) 6 ECTS (VKTJ.06.01)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- understands the difference between general English, academic English, and theological English, using each appropriately;
- understands and is able to practice effective reading strategies of academic materials in English, including understanding, remembering, and applying what they read;
- has learned vocabulary strategies to help them read English material more effectively;
- builds on their knowledge of English grammar and sentence structure;
- has learned more about the Bible, theology, God, and Christology, and apply this knowledge to other theological studies;
- identifies the main idea and topic sentences in academic writing and readings, and use both tools in their own writing.

Introduction to Philosophy 3 ECTS (VKTJ.06.02)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- knows the main stages of philosophy development;
- can name the main representatives of philosophic schools;
- is able to formulate the problems occurring across the history of philosophy;
- is able to distinguish philosophical thinking from everyday and scientific thinking;
- is able to distinguish philosophical thinking from religious and theological thinking;
- is able to analyse simpler philosophical texts, can use elementary philosophical argumentation.

Communication Psychology 3 ECTS (VKTJ.06.03)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- is able to recognize, formulate and express appropriate expectations to one's communication partner;
- knows and can use the levels of adequate self-expression and active listening techniques;
- is able to name feelings and distinguishes between masking feelings and initial feelings;
- analyses the "love languages" of oneself and others;
- knows how to create open and healthy relationships in the team and community;
- knows different conflict resolution styles. Can use constructive conflict resolution techniques and distinguish them from the four main ineffective behaviours.

Exposition of the Book of Revelation 3 ECTS (VKTJ.06.04)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- understands the basic methods of interpretation of John's revelation;
- knows the structure of this book and its meaning for the interpretation of the book;
- understands the central issues, values and future expectations of this book;
- understands the meaning of the book for pastoral counselling

Open electives 6 ECTS

Students will choose their own optional subjects from any of the higher education curricula. The overarching goal of open electives is self-development, expanding the horizons and deepening professional competences.

Graduation Thesis module 12 ECTS (VKTJ.07)

The module consists of the following subjects

1. Practical Training in Research 3 ECTS (VKTJ.07.01)
2. Graduation Thesis 9 ECTS (VKTJ.07.02)

Practical Training in Research 3 ECTS (VKTJ.07.01)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the course, the student

- describes the key components and content of academic research in the field of theology;

- applies main methods of academic research within the framework of one selected topic;
- demonstrates different analytical skills, depending on the research goals;
- formulates results according to the criteria of academic writing.

Graduation Thesis 9 ECTS (VKTJ.07.02)

Learning outcomes. After completion of the graduation thesis, the student

- chooses an actual theological or managerial problem and uses research or practical project methodology to solve it;
- is able to analyse professional literature, collect empirical data or carry out a practical project, create links between theory and practice and formulate substantiated conclusions and recommendations;
- writes the thesis in accordance with the seminary's academic writing guidelines;
- in oral defence, expresses oneself in a clear and understandable way, and explains ones graduation theses using the knowledge achieved by completing the curriculum.