

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PhD) in PUBLIC THEOLOGY and WITNESS

Applicants must have the BA or equivalent degree from an accredited college or university.

Applicants shall have the MDiv or a first graduate theological degree providing equivalent theological background or its educational equivalent from an accredited theological institution. Qualifying degrees are to be completed before matriculation in this program with a minimum GPA of 3.5 or equivalent.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate proficiency in the English language.

Applicants whose language of origin is not English and/or previous instruction is not in English must present scores of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) – iBT taken within two years of application to the program. Scores must be reported to ULS by the application deadline, using institution code 2371.

Applicants must commit to the residency requirement on the United Lutheran Seminary's (ULS) Gettysburg campus for the first academic year.

In addition, by 11:59 pm on January 31st applicants must submit a completed and signed online application form, including email addresses for three academic references, an ecclesiastical reference and payment of application fee.

Attached to this application will be a sketch of intellectual history (700–1000 words) outlining your intellectual history, discussing what has led you to pursue Ph.D. studies, your vocational objectives, your reasons for wishing to study at ULS and a clear statement of your commitment to pursue this course of study full time without interruption until its conclusion, and the reasons that you believe this is feasible. (Full time is understood as at least 40 hours per week engaged in activities on campus.)

Also attached to this application will be an academic paper, in English, of at least 20 to 30 pages (in the intended area of specialization and representative of the candidate's best work). It is expected the academic paper will include a link to an online repository where the applicant shares articles, blog posts, videos, etc., demonstrating current involvement and publication in the area of Public Theology & Witness.

Upon submission of this electronic application the Office of Admissions will request electronic references and anticipate the arrival of the applicant's required official transcripts.

Judgment on fulfillment of these requirements rests solely with the Graduate Studies Committee of ULS, which is the admitting body appointed by the faculty for the PhD program.