



## BACHELOR IN THEOLOGY GUIDED THESIS

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### **GUIDED THESIS ASSIGNMENT:**

The LABI student thesis is a creative interpretive project supported by research that offers evidence of an original point of view. Students will demonstrate a capacity for independent research, an ability to organize, and present evidence logically and proficiency. The thesis demonstrates originality, critical and independent thinking, appropriate format, and documentation. Students will compile their thesis guided by a faculty member who has mutual interest, knowledge, and expertise in the area of the selected topic. The guided thesis is not completed within one semester, but under the guidance of the faculty member, will be developed on a continual basis in the student's final year.

### In Preparation for The Thesis:

- Student must select a thesis topic and faculty member who is willing to serve as an advisor by the end of the sixth semester.
  - Begin research, bibliography, and literature review by the beginning of the seventh semester.
  - Submit thesis proposal to faculty advisor by the beginning of the seventh semester.
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### **THESIS TOPIC INSTRUCTIONS**

**Urban Theology Program Objective: The graduate from our program will be able to demonstrate a wide range of knowledge and experiences related to applied urban ministerial practice. This includes skills such as understanding and ministering to the contemporary problems and realities of race, justice, culture, environment, and poverty issues that impact the contextual setting of urban ministry. Graduates will value an urban context and gain knowledge in how to minister within this setting.**

The thesis must focus on a specific biblical text, theological theme, or ministerial topic related to urban theology. The student can apply a certain biblical, theological, or ministerial perspective to an issue or problem related to urban theology. The thesis may build upon and elaborate work done in a previous paper. The thesis may be written within the context of a course in which the student is currently enrolled, or as part of a directed study, or as an additional paper outside of current coursework.

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### **THESIS PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

After the student has found a faculty member who will guide his or her thesis, the student must submit a thesis proposal form before the second week of the seventh semester to the academic office or email to [portfolio@labi.edu](mailto:portfolio@labi.edu). Graduation applications will not be approved without thesis proposals. The thesis proposal must include:

- Student name
  - Paper topic or title
  - One-page description of thesis
  - Faculty adviser signature
  - Expected completion date
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### **APPROVED THESIS IS:**

- Written according to the format of SBL or Chicago Manual of Style
- Following formatting guidelines
- Ranges between 5,000 to 7,500 words (20-30 pages double spaced)
- Approved with all faculty committee signatures
- Submitted to academic office
- Assessed on a pass or fail scale



**THESIS PROPOSAL FORM**  
**BACHELOR IN THEOLOGY**

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After the student has found a faculty member who will guide his or her thesis, the student must submit this thesis proposal form before the second week of the seventh semester to portfolio@labi.edu. Graduation applications will not be approved without thesis proposals. All portions of the thesis proposal form must be filled out.

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Paper Topic or Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Description of Thesis:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Adviser Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Anticipated Completion Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

SUBMIT THESIS PROPOSAL FORM TO THE ACADEMIC OFFICE OR EMAIL TO PORTFOLIO@LABI.EDU NO LATER THAN THE SECOND WEEK OF THE SEVENTH SEMESTER.