



## M.A. (Philosophy & Apologetics)

Lincoln Christian Seminary

[www.lincolinchristian.edu](http://www.lincolinchristian.edu)

2017-18

Program Director and Advisor: Dr. Rich Knopp

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Graduate students may specialize in Philosophy & Apologetics for either an MA or MDiv degree.<sup>1</sup>

### MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE PROGRAM

(Philosophy and Apologetics)

The Master of Arts (Philosophy and Apologetics) is designed to help students understand and defend a Christian worldview in the context of classical philosophical problems and contemporary philosophical, religious, and cultural challenges. It offers a balanced approach to the nature of philosophy and Christian apologetics that includes a variety of course options in philosophy, apologetics, and related areas of theology and biblical studies. Students who intend to pursue doctoral work are encouraged to complete a master's thesis.

Master of Arts (Philosophy and Apologetics) graduates will:

1. Comprehend the major questions and contributions of philosophy, especially as they intersect with the Christian faith.
2. Understand and be able to communicate effectively with those who possess a variety of cultural and philosophical mindsets.
3. Recognize and be able to respond compassionately and cogently to criticisms of the Christian faith.
4. Construct and be able to advocate a plausible philosophy that is appropriately informed by divine revelation and theological reflection.

### MASTER OF DIVINITY DEGREE PROGRAM

(Philosophy and Apologetics)

The MDiv degree also offers a specialization in Philosophy & Apologetics. It requires 12 semester hours of approved coursework in Philosophy & Apologetics in the 75-hour MDiv degree.

#### Program Professors:

- [Richard Knopp](#), Program Director, MA, MDiv, PhD (University of Illinois)
- [Christopher Ben Simpson](#), MA, MA, PhD (University of Nottingham)
- [Bob Rea](#), MDiv, PhD (St. Louis University)
- [Steve Cone](#), MA, MA, PhD (Boston College)
- [Robert Kurka](#), MDiv, DMin (Trinity Evangelical)

<sup>1</sup> Some scholarship aid may be available from the Loftis Foundation as part of the Room for Doubt apologetics initiative for a limited number of highly qualified candidates who specialize in Philosophy & Apologetics, especially in the MA program. A scholarship application is required.

### M.A. (Philosophy and Apologetics)

Required Courses<sup>2</sup> (15)

US 500 Orientation to LCU (0)

LS 501 Graduate Research and Writing<sup>3</sup> (0)

PH 604 Christianity and the Philosophy of Religion\*

PH 605 Science, Theology, and Philosophy\*

PH 710 Understanding Contemporary Mindsets\*

CH 600 Christianity Through the Ages\* OR

CH 602 Early Christian Centuries\*

TH 701 Modern Theology 1\*

Program Electives<sup>2</sup> (15)

AP 500 Contemporary Religious Movements

AP 603 Types of Apologetics

AP 606 Ethics

AP 720 Bioethical Issues

AP 899 Special Issues in Apologetics

AP 900 Research in Apologetics

PH 602 Ancient Philosophy

PH 603 Medieval Philosophy

PH 701 Modern Philosophy

PH 702 Contemporary Philosophy

PH 610 Kierkegaard

NT 754 Text and Canon of the Bible

OT 605 Advanced Old Testament Introduction

CH 600 Christianity Through the Ages

CH 602 Early Christian Centuries

CH 603 Medieval Christianity

TH 600 Systematic Theology

TH 607 Doctrine of Christ

TH 717 Cultural Hermeneutics

TH 787 Theology and Postmodernity

TH 833 The Trinity

TH ??? Nietzsche and Theology (new course)

Thesis OR Additional Courses and  
Comprehensive Exam (6)

Total (36)

<sup>2</sup> Some required courses and program electives are cross-listed as apologetics (AP), philosophy (PH), and theology (TH) classes. Students register for the course number that best fits their focus and their future academic intentions.

<sup>3</sup> Not required of all students; see LCS Catalog.

\* Students who have had upper-division undergraduate coursework comparable to the designated courses and have passed with a "C" or better may substitute another course in the same area with approval from the student's faculty advisor.