

THE CONSORTIUM ...

The Boston Theological Institute is a consortium of university divinity schools, schools of theology, and seminaries. It exists for the following purposes:

- ❖ to further, in and through the constituent schools, theological education that pursues the truth in love, advances the unity of the Church, and brings closer the healing of broken humanity;
- ❖ to create and foster a milieu for dialogue, envisioning and experimentation in theological inquiry and preparation for ministry;
- ❖ to contribute to the formation of church leaders with strong ecumenical commitment;
- ❖ to strengthen the schools for their respective missions and tasks, and to enhance the particular gifts of each of them;
- ❖ to promote and provide opportunities for faculty, curriculum, and program cooperation among the schools;
- ❖ to provide resources for the schools that are best made available through cooperation and coordination.

THE BTI EXISTS TO PROMOTE:

- ❖ Cooperation in *administrative activities*, cross-registration, library access and development, mutual recognition in course and resource allocations, and field education placement;
- ❖ Cooperation in *program development* in such areas as International Mission and Ecumenism, Inter-Religious Dialogue, The Faith and Science Exchange (FASE), Religion and Ecology, Urban Ministerial Education, Spiritual Formation, and Liturgy, Worship and the Arts, Youth and Young Adult Ministry Studies;
- ❖ Cooperation in *academic planning*, with special emphasis of Focused Ecumenical Theological Education (FETE) and Religion and Science.

FACULTY AND INFORMATION

All of the faculty in the BTI schools are possible mentors. The faculty members of the International Mission and Ecumenism Committee of the BTI are persons of first recourse. For information on current IMEC school representatives, contact the BTI Central Office.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ...

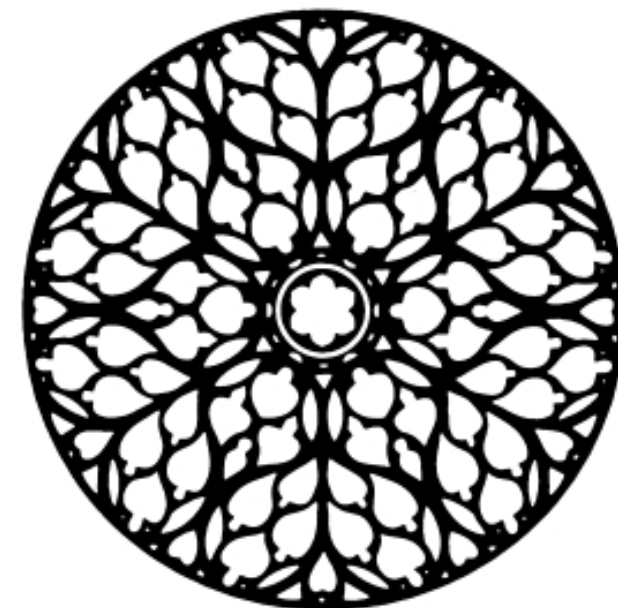
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CERTIFICATE IN SCIENCE AND RELIGION
of the Boston Theological Institute

Certificate in Science and Religion

Given through the
BTI Science and Religion Advisory Committee



In Four Tracks of Study:

1. Religion and the Natural Sciences;
2. Religion and Bioethics;
3. Religion and Ecology; and
4. Religion and Cognitive Science

* Andover Newton Theological School * Boston College Department of Theology *
* Boston University School of Theology * Episcopal Divinity School *
* Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary * Harvard Divinity School *
* Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology * Saint John's Seminary *
* Weston Jesuit School of Theology *

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THE PURPOSE

This Certificate, given through the BTI, is an award by faculty of the consortium. It is a concentration rather than an academic degree. The purpose of the Certificate in Science and Religion is to foster dialogue in these two languages of human understanding. It is designed for students interested in working in pioneer fields of ministry (e.g., pastoral genetics), and those seeking to use a masters degree at a BTI school as an entry point into a doctoral program. It is also designed for persons in the sciences seeking to develop greater sensitivity to theological issues and ethical concerns.

The Certificate may be earned in one of three tracks as defined below. Course work is designed to offer students a significant orientation to their chosen track of study. Students are required to complete coursework in the following areas:

1. * *Orientation to a science* as identified by student interest with an emphasis upon the language, literacy, and methodology of the particular science or sciences;

2. *Philosophical reflection* that contextualizes the orientation, epistemology, and history of the science or sciences;

3. *A course in theology* that offers a basic theory of religion, the role of theological critique, and suggests theological conceptions of God, humanity, and nature;

4. *An ethics literacy course* that offers reflection on ethical issues, practice, and ministry;

5. *A practicum* or some form of practical engagement appropriate to the Track is necessary. It should offer a minimum of 45 hours experience in a laboratory, observatory, or a field setting; and

6. *A course that integrates the language and methodology of science with theological reflection and critique* as offered through the BTI schools.

* Students who are trained in the sciences and have been actively engaged in studying, teaching or working in a scientific discipline may use their training and experience to fulfill this requirement.

The above courses and work may be taken to satisfy other courses in a student's curriculum of study. For completion of the Certificate, this coursework must be followed by an integration paper of no more than 10 pages that illustrates ways in which the student has increased spiritual growth and brought coherence to his or her studies in Religion and Science.

THE NATURE OF THE CERTIFICATE

The Certificate in Science and Religion is awarded by the BTI in recognition of courses taken in Religion and Science through the schools of the Institute. The award is determined by the Science and Religion Advisory Committee composed of faculty who represent each of the BTI schools. The Certificate is available in one of four tracks. The student should consult a faculty member at his or her school to help to determine the track to pursue and the appropriate courses to fulfill the specific track requirements.

The Four Tracks of Study:

- Track 1: Religion and the Natural Sciences
- Track 2: Religion and Bioethics
- Track 3: Religion and Ecology; and
- Track 4: Religion and Cognitive Science

Certificate Requirements:

*Course in Science Literacy

Course in Theology Literacy

Course in Philosophy Literacy

Course in Ethics Literacy

*Course in Integration of Theology and Science:

*Practicum

*Integration Paper

Those requirements marked with an asterisk () must specifically address the track chosen to study for the Certificate:*

- Track 1: Physics, Chemistry, Biology, or Interdisciplinary Fields
- Track 2: Genetic Technologies, Medical Ethics, or "Genethics," or Bioethics
- Track 3: Ecology or Environmental Sciences
- Track 4: Artificial Intelligence, Cognitive Science, and related disciplines.

Two Ways to Earn the Certificate

1. Supplement an existing program for degree candidates in the BTI schools.

2. Register for continuing education programs or special student status in the BTI schools. This program may appeal to clergy on sabbatical leave, or scientists interested in developing greater interest in theological and ethical issues. The Certificate normally is given at the time of the graduation ceremonies in a given year at the respective institutions.

HOW TO DO IT ?

Persons seeking this Certificate are required to seek out a faculty advisor from within his or her school who will cooperate with the Religion and Science Advisory Committee on the student's behalf. This advisor, or mentor, is normally but not necessarily a Religion and Science Advisory Committee member.

Schedule of Administration

1. Application for work on the Certificate may be made at any point in a student's course of study up until the end of the Fall term in the academic year in which the student seeks to graduate or leave the BTI schools.

2. Request for the reception of the Certificate in a given year is to be made by 1 April through the BTI office and in consultation with a student's Certificate advisor.

3. The Faculty Advisory Committee meets annually between 1-15 April to review applications, assign additional students to faculty advisors, and review course offerings for successive year(s). The Faculty Committee is headed by three persons, each representing one of the three tracks.

4. Decisions on applicants and recipients to be made (at stated meeting) and communicated to the Registrars' offices of the schools by 30 April.

HOW TO APPLY

Application for the Certificate may be made by any person enrolled in a BTI member school (e.g., either matriculated students or persons in continuing education in the BTI schools as defined in the course catalogue).

Such requests are to be made no later than the end of the fall term of the academic year in which the student expects to graduate from his or her respective BTI institution.

Persons seeking the Certificate are advised to contact the Science and Religion Certificate representative on their faculty as soon as they are able in their program of study. Alternately, students are welcome to contact the BTI Central Office.

Applications are available from the registrars' offices of the individual BTI schools, through a school's faculty representative to the BTI Science and Religion Advisory Committee, or through the BTI Central Office.