Guide to Applicants: Doctor of Divinity

These notes should be read in conjunction with the Regulations for the D.D. Degree.

1. The University of Cambridge may award the D.D. Degree to a graduate of the University who is eligible to apply for the Degree and who has provided proof of distinction by some original contribution to the knowledge of one or more of the subjects listed in Regulation 1 of the Degree (viz., Biblical exegesis, criticism, or history; the nature and grounds of Christian belief; dogmatic theology; the study of other religions in relation to the Christian religion; ecclesiastical history, antiquities, or literature; the philosophy of religion; or such other subject connected with Christian theology as may from time to time be approved by the Degree Committee for the Faculty of Divinity).

The Degree Committee for the Faculty of Divinity offer the following guidance: Insofar as the D.D. Degree is the highest degree awarded by the University in the subject, it should reflect sustained academic achievement at the highest level. As such, the successful candidate should normally have a record of scholarly endeavour covering a decade or more (‘sustained’), and which in the aggregate is world-leading in terms of originality, significance and rigour (‘at the highest level’).

If a candidate wishes to discuss a proposed application before formal submission, this may be done informally with a person of suitable standing in the Faculty of Divinity who might be known to the candidate personally. Alternatively, informal advice may be sought from the Secretary of the Degree Committee for the Faculty (Tel: (01223) 332590).

2. Applications for the Degree shall consist of a collection of published works together with a summary in not more than five hundred words of the field of research covered by these works. Candidates should note that a work is regarded as published only if it is traceable in ordinary catalogues and if it is obtainable at the time of application, or was obtainable at some previous time, by members of the general public through normal channels.

3. The following are not submissible: proofs of papers yet to be published; references to works, whether published or unpublished, of which copies are not submitted; reviews of the applicant’s works; notes by the candidate commenting on his/her works; a curriculum vitae.

4. Two copies of each work should be submitted unless by special permission of the Degree Committee it has been agreed that only one copy may be submitted. The works should be accompanied by (i) two copies of a list of the works submitted, and (ii) the fee (cheque made payable to 'The University of Cambridge').

5. Candidates should note that consideration of an application for the D.D. Degree may take as long as a year and, possibly, longer.

6. Candidates, particularly those applying from overseas, are advised to send their material by registered mail.