

## How can I find a thesis or dissertation?

1. To find master's theses that have been written by our own seminary (GRTS) students, you can either enter the author or title if you know it, or for a complete list, do a KEYWORD search in our catalog for Grand Rapids Seminary Thesis (and limit search to 'Cornerstone'). Currently, this should retrieve about 140 theses, a few of which may be accessed full-text online.
2. To search more broadly, there are several options:
  - a. For master's theses or doctoral dissertations related to Bible, theology, or ministry, search the **TREN.com** database. Note that you can limit your search there by Institution (Grand Rapids Baptist is one of the options). If you see a thesis there that you would like to read, but which is not in Miller Library's collection, shoot us an email at Fred.Sweet@cornerstone.edu and we will consider downloading it to our online catalog. Otherwise you would have to buy the thesis yourself, since TREN does not lend its theses, but sells them inexpensively. Note: we currently have about 350 TREN theses in our online catalog; to find them simply do a title search for "Theological Research Exchange Network" (Limit it to Cornerstone, because Puritan Seminary has a separate collection of TREN theses.)
  - b. Another resource for dissertations in ministry and missiology (includes DMin and D.Miss dissertations), try Religion in Ministry from ATLA (<http://RIM.ATLA.com> )
  - c. To locate master's theses or doctoral dissertations in other subject areas (with options to download freely, to borrow via ILL, or to buy), try these sources:
    - i. Miller Library's "[ProQuest Dissertations and Theses](#)" (PQDT) database. PQDT Open provides the full text of open access dissertations and theses free of charge.
    - ii. Use the SUMMON search box (at <http://library.cornerstone.edu> ) to search for your terms or subject or author, and use the left side menu to limit to the Content Type "Dissertation". You may also use the option (at top of Summon page) to "Add results beyond your library's collection"; this will find dissertations and theses around the USA, even if our library does not own a copy.
    - iii. Many higher education websites provide access to their "institutional repositories" and links to their students'/faculty's dissertations. For example: University of Massachusetts has a vast full-text dissertation resource: [Http://scholarworks.umass.edu/etds](http://scholarworks.umass.edu/etds) . Many free scholarly theses can frequently be found by "Googling" the phrase "Open Access Dissertations," or the website <http://OpenThesis.org>.
    - iv. For a universal index of doctoral dissertations in progress, <http://PhDdata.org>
    - v. Looking for a British thesis? There are 250,000+ indexed here: <http://ethos.bl.uk>