Courses of Study

Master in Theological Studies

Total credit hours required: 48

In December of 2000, the Faculty adopted a new curriculum for the MTS program. It means to encourage students to prepare for specific areas of ministry in the church and the world. Each MTS student must fulfill certain core requirements common to all. In addition, each MTS student must declare a concentration, and each concentration has its own additional requirements.

Students who enter the program with prior academic work in one or more of the required areas of study are encouraged to apply to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs for assessment and possible permission to fulfill the requirement by other means than the standard introductory course.

Core requirements:

- Old Testament: 4.5 credit hours, fulfilled by taking OT 1, 2, and 3
- New Testament: 4.5 credit hours, fulfilled by taking NT 1, 2, and 3
- Church History: 4.5 credit hours, fulfilled by taking CH 1, 2, and 3
- Systematic Theology: 3 credit hours, fulfilled by taking one of the introductory ST courses, ST1 A, B, or C.
- One elective course taught by a member of the faculty of another school in the Washington Theological Consortium.

Concentrations:

Students must declare a concentration and fulfill its additional requirements:

1. Leadership in the Church
   A. Christian Education or School Chaplaincy: 6 credit hours in Christian Education, 3 credit hours in Pastoral Theology or Theory and Practice of Ministry, and 3 credit hours in Liturgics, Christian Ethics, and/or Global Christianity-Mission and World Religions, plus 3 credit hours of Practicum/Thesis.
   B. Ministry in a Congregational Setting 9 credit hours chosen from among Homiletics, Pastoral Theology or Theory and Practice of Ministry, Liturgics, Christian Ethics, and/or Global Christianity-Mission and World Religions, and 3 credit hours of Biblical Languages, plus 3 credit hours of Practicum/Thesis.
   C. Chaplaincy in Institutions (e.g., ministry in hospital, nursing home or retirement community, or prison) 7.5 credit hours in Pastoral Theology or Theory and Practice of Ministry, and 1.5 credit hours in Global Christianity-Mission and World Religions, and 3 credit hours in Christian Ethics fulfilled by taking CE 1, and 6 credit hours of Field Education in chaplaincy and/or one unit of CPE.

2. Christian Leadership in the World
   A. Discipleship in the World 12 credit hours chosen from the areas of Systematic Theology, Christian Ethics, and/or Global Christianity-Mission and World Religions, plus 3 credit hours of Practicum/Thesis.
   B. Public Ministry (e.g., ministry in social justice or public service) 9 credit hours in Pastoral Theology or Theory and Practice of Ministry and/or Global Christianity-Mission and World Religions, 3 credit hours in Christian Ethics, fulfilled by taking CE 1, plus 3 credit hours
Practicum/Thesis.

3. Academic specialization
   3 credit hours in Christian Ethics fulfilled by taking CE 1, 3 credit hours of biblical language, and
   9 credit hours in a specific academic discipline, plus 3 credit hours of Thesis.

Special application for an interdisciplinary MTS concentration may be made to the Dean or
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. Before approval, consultation with relevant departments
concerning the nature of the concentration and the availability of resources is necessary. Application
must be made by March 15 of the year preceding the student’s final year of study.

Notes: Master in Theological Studies
1. The MTS degree can be earned through part-time study, full-time residency, or any combination of the two. The
degree can be completed in a minimum of two years or a maximum of seven years.
2. Students must take at least one of the required sequences in biblical studies during their first year.
3. In their second year, depending on their concentration, MTS students may be required to do either a "Practicum"
  (MTS 301) or a "Thesis" (MTS 401). While each is normally for three hours credit, students may expand either into a
  six-hour Practicum or Thesis. Students may also elect to do both a Practicum and a Thesis. Since the Practicum is
designed for lay persons, international students in the MTS program who are ordained are required to undertake a
  Thesis (MTS 401).
4. Students may take Clinical Pastoral Education as an elective.
5. Faculty Approval of Registration: Students shall consult with their faculty advisors each semester before
   registering for courses. Advisors shall sign their advisees' registration forms indicating that such consultation has
taken place. The faculty may require a student in the senior year to elect courses it specifies in order to remedy
deficiencies.
6. The January Term is open to all MTS students, although no minimum hours are required.
7. MTS students must normally have declared a concentration before beginning their second year of study or when
   completing 24 credit hours.
8. A grade point average of at least 2.0 is required for the degree.

Full-Time MTS students will attend the August Term for Orientation, Biblical Language, and Oral
Interpretation of Scripture. Those not required to take a biblical language for their MTS concentration are
free to omit it. Part-time students who are required to take a biblical language in their concentration and
are unable to do so in the August Term, will be permitted to fulfill the requirement through the
Consortium or by other means. Requests from part-time students who attend chapel regularly, wish to be
on a chapel team and to read in chapel, without having taken LTG 4, will be considered on a case-by-case
basis.