

Academic Programs & Policies

Since there is no higher calling in life than to be a proclaimer of God's Word, there is no more worthy enterprise than training faithful men to carry out that charge. The Master's Seminary seeks to fulfill this charge by offering six degree programs:

Master of Divinity (M.Div.), Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.), Diploma of Theology (Dip.Th.), Master of Theology (Th.M.), Doctor of Theology (Th.D.), and Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.).

THE MASTER OF DIVINITY

Purpose

The Master of Divinity curriculum provides a basic three-year program in graduate theological education for those preparing for church or mission vocations requiring ordination. The program is designed to provide a broad biblical, theological, and practical foundation for those entering pastoral, missionary, or other Christian education ministries. The program may also provide a basis for further graduate study leading to such degrees as Master of Theology (Th.M.), Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.), Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), or Doctor of Theology (Th.D.).

In fulfilling the mission of the seminary, as stated and elaborated earlier in this catalog, the Master of Divinity program focuses on three areas of special emphasis: biblical theological understanding, personal growth, and professional preparation. The emphasis on a thorough knowledge and understanding of the Bible is demonstrated throughout the curriculum, especially in direct Bible study courses, and in the biblical language, hermeneutics, and theology courses. The emphasis on personal growth is demonstrated in the required discipleship labs, chapels, and in significant portions of the field education and pastoral ministries courses. The emphasis on professional development is demonstrated primarily through the pastoral ministries, expository preaching, ordination, and counseling courses.

Included in the three broad areas of emphasis outlined above, the Master of Divinity program also intends to:

- Emphasize the primacy of the local church in commissioning for ministry and as the institutional focus for spiritual accountability
- Cultivate an attitude of devotion and worship
- Instill and nurture a missionary and evangelistic zeal
- Encourage growth in godliness, especially as demonstrated in an attitude of love and ministry as a servant, while developing the appropriate skills for leadership
- Advance ability in independent and constructive thought in areas relating to ministry and contemporary concerns
- Promote growth in self-discipline, reading habits, and methodologies so that independent study may be continued as a pattern of life and ministry

The Highest Calling

“A low view of the functions of the ministry will naturally carry with it a low conception of the training necessary for it. . . . And a high view of the functions of the ministry on evangelical lines inevitably produces a high conception of the training which is needed to prepare men for the exercise of these high functions.”

—B.B. Warfield

Admission Requirements

In addition to the general admission requirements listed later in this catalog, enrollment in the Master of Divinity program requires possession of a baccalaureate degree, or the academic equivalent, from an approved institution, with a cumulative grade point average of 2.75 or above (on a 4.0 scale) for all undergraduate work. Applicants who are graduates of unaccredited institutions or who present grade point averages lower than 2.75 may be considered for probationary admission status if their references include unusually high commendations for potential ministry.

Applicants to the program are also expected to present a full program of beginning Greek from the undergraduate level. Applicants without this prerequisite are required to take Beginning Greek at The Master's Seminary (usually in the summer prior to the first or second year of the program) but these credits are in addition to the hours required for graduation.

Graduates of Bible colleges, Christian liberal arts colleges, and secular colleges and universities are encouraged to apply. The seminary recommends that pre-seminary studies include a broad exposure to general education subjects. Normally this should include a minimum of 60 semester hours of liberal arts subjects. In particular, we recommend that adequate attention should be devoted to English composition, literature, speech, logic, and history—especially ancient and world history. Bible courses are also recommended, providing the student is attending an institution where such courses are competently taught in a context of faith and obedience.

Candidacy Status

All students anticipating graduation must first qualify by admission to candidacy status. Admission to candidacy status is the result of faculty evaluations, described below, and constitutes a faculty recommendation that the student be considered as a candidate for graduation, assuming the satisfactory completion of all graduation requirements.

Candidacy Requirements

Admission to the seminary and satisfactory completion of academic requirements are not a guarantee of graduation. Since the seminary's programs are designed to qualify its graduates for positions of pastoral leadership, the faculty and administration will also evaluate annually each student's personal, spiritual, doctrinal, and professional qualifications, qualifications without which any attempt to serve or fill a role in a ministry of the gospel can result in nothing but personal tragedy. The seminary reserves the right to withdraw the privileges of enrollment from those whom after admission may prove to be lacking in these necessary qualifications.

The character qualities, knowledge, and skills described earlier in this catalog as personalized objectives will also serve as a standard for evaluation of progress and for admission to candidacy. Absolute fulfillment of these objectives is an ideal which will never be accomplished but should always be in process. What is expected is evidence of progress toward these objectives, continuing evidence of potential for such progress, increasing desire for such progress, and a genuine repentance when there is failure in evidencing such progress.

Official admission to candidacy status involves two stages and must receive final approval by June 1 following completion of the second year of seminary studies or, for part-time students, by the same date, following completion of 60 hours of seminary credits. Following each year of seminary, the faculty will assess the appropriateness of the student's vocational and educational goals in light of demonstrated abilities and attitudes. Academic records, field education evaluations, discipleship lab involvement, and evidence of continuing personal growth as demonstrated in chapel attendance,

church ministries, etc., may all be examined in these candidacy evaluations. Following evaluation, the Vice President for Academic Administration, or another assigned faculty member will counsel with any students whose progress toward candidacy is questioned and will, by June 1, advise any students for whom candidacy and/or continued enrollment is denied.

Program Requirements

Residence—Master of Divinity students must complete the prescribed three-year curriculum, comprising a minimum of 98 semester hours of credit, with a cumulative grade point average of not less than 2.5. Students transferring from other seminaries may be granted a maximum of 48 semester hours of credit, providing the work conforms to the academic and theological standards of the seminary. The last 12 hours of credit applied toward the degree must be earned in residence at The Master's Seminary unless the student has completed a total of 80 hours or more at The Master's Seminary.

Master of Divinity Thesis—A thesis is optional for Master of Divinity students; however, those who earn a grade point average of 3.25 or higher during their first two years (60 hours) of seminary studies are encouraged to write an original thesis demonstrating their ability to perform biblical and theological research at a scholarly level. The thesis must involve the exegesis of Scripture, employing the original languages as appropriate, either for the purpose of clarifying the meaning of some term(s) or passage(s) in Scripture; or for the purpose of clarifying the biblical evidence relating to some issue(s) of theological or pastoral significance. The thesis must contain not fewer than 50 nor more than 70 pages of text material, with approval based upon literary quality and theological content. Four hours of academic credit, as a part of the 98 hours required for the Master of Divinity degree, will be granted for the thesis project. The student may select a faculty adviser for his thesis project, dependent upon the faculty member's availability and consent, and upon approval of the Vice President for Academic Administration.

In fulfilling the thesis requirements the following deadlines must be observed: (1) The student must register for "M.Div. Thesis" (in the approved area of study) for the final semester prior to scheduled graduation; (2) Topic approval must be secured by the first Friday in September; (3) A first draft, including an adequate bibliographical listing, must be submitted by the second Friday in January; (4) An approved presentation copy, and a photocopy, must be submitted by the first Friday in April. The Master of Divinity thesis must be prepared in conformity with the most recent editions of the seminary's "Guidelines for Theses and Dissertations" and Turabian's *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. Where these sources differ, the seminary's "Guidelines" takes precedence.

Program Flexibility—Graduates of Bible colleges and Christian liberal arts colleges are encouraged to apply to the Vice President for Academic Administration for a *waiver* of any course considered to be repetitious of previous education. When Old Testament Studies or New Testament Studies courses are waived it is required that they be replaced by advanced (preferably exegesis) elective courses in the same discipline. A waiver does not grant credit; it only allows an otherwise required course to be replaced by an elective course. In no case does The Master's Seminary grant credit for course work taken at the undergraduate level.

English Proficiency—All students are required to take a basic English proficiency exam as a part of orientation procedures for the first semester of their enrollment. Students who fail to demonstrate an adequate understanding of basic grammatical features such as the identification of parts of speech, grammatical inflections, and syntactical structures within sentences, will be required to take

the English Refresher supplementary class during Orientation. The Vice President for Academic Administration must approve any exceptions. Students who pass the English proficiency exam but sense a need for more training in English will also be permitted to take these supplementary classes. No additional credit is given for this supplemental course work and no additional tuition is charged.

Time Limitation—All work credited toward the Master of Divinity degree must be completed within six years from the time of matriculation. Any exceptions will be considered only in cases when the student is involved in a full-time ministry, and must receive the approval of the entire faculty.

Graduation Requirements

In addition to the requirements specified in the preceding paragraphs, which include completion of 98 semester hours of credit with a grade point average of 2.5 or above, and admission to candidacy status, each candidate must submit an official Application for Graduation when registering for their final semester prior to graduation. Transfer students must complete at least 50 semester hours of credit at The Master's Seminary. All graduates must be present at the commencement ceremonies unless excused on the basis of a written appeal to the Vice President for Academic Administration. Graduation in absentia will be permitted only in cases of personal emergency or undue hardship.

Master of Divinity Curriculum

Students entering without Beginning Greek are encouraged to enroll in Hebrew Grammar I and II for the first year, enroll in Beginning Greek during the summer between the first and second year (this is in addition to the required 98 hours), and take Greek Exegesis I and II during the second year. An alternative is to enroll in Beginning Greek during the summer prior to the first year, then take Greek Exegesis I and II during the first year and Hebrew Grammar I and II the second year.

Students enrolling in The Master's Seminary have one opportunity to pass the Greek proficiency exam, that is the time when they first enter the seminary. Anyone not passing the proficiency exam at their first sitting or anyone not taking the exam when offered at the start of their first semester on campus will be required to enroll in and pass NT 401 and 402 as part of his seminary curriculum before enrolling in NT 603. Grades earned will be factored into the student's grade point average. Those who pass the Greek proficiency exam are expected to enroll in Greek Exegesis I and II for the first year and in Hebrew Grammar I and II for the second year.

Students are encouraged to apply for a waiver of any course considered to be repetitious of previous education. This is especially encouraged for BI 501, 502 and BI 601. If approved, a waiver grants no credit but allows the student to take elective credits instead of the required course(s). Successful completion of proficiency exams, given at the beginning of each school year, is necessary for waiving BI 501, 502, and BI 601. As with the Greek proficiency exam, students wishing to waive these courses must sit the exam when they first enter seminary. Taking the exams at a later time is not permitted.

Students are encouraged to participate in a cross-cultural experience, either in another country or in an area ethnic church, during the senior year or the preceding summer.

Standard Three Year Master of Divinity Program

Junior Year

<u>Fall</u>	<u>Spring</u>
BI 501 OT Studies I 4.0	BI 502 OT Studies II 4.0
BI 505 Hermeneutics 2.0	BI 504 Prayer 2.0
OT 503 Hebrew Grammar I 4.0	OT 504 Hebrew Grammar II 4.0
TH 507 Historical Theology I 3.0	TH 508 Historical Theology II 3.0
PM 507A Introduction to Preaching 2.0	PM 512A Field Ed: Pastoral Counseling 2.0
PM 511 Field Ed: Church Ministries 1.0	PM 522 Discipleship Lab II <u>0.5</u>
PM 521 Discipleship Lab I <u>0.5</u>	15.5
16.5	
<u>Summer</u>	
NT 400 Beginning Greek I & II 4.0	
BI 506 The Pastor's Home <u>2.0</u>	
6.0	

Middler Year

<u>Fall</u>	<u>Spring</u>
BI 601 NT Studies 4.0	NT 604 Greek Exegesis II 4.0
OT 603 Hebrew Exegesis I 2.0	OT 604 Hebrew Exegesis II 2.0
NT 603 Greek Exegesis I 4.0	TH 606 Theology II 3.0
TH 605 Theology I 3.0	PM 606 Expository Preaching I 3.0
PM 612 Field Ed: Worship & Music 1.0	PM 611 Field Ed: Discipleship & Leadership 1.0
PM 621 Discipleship Lab III 0.5	PM 622 Discipleship Lab IV 0.5
Elective <u>2.0</u>	Elective <u>2.0</u>
16.5	15.5

Senior Year

<u>Fall</u>	<u>Spring</u>
BI 701 Ordination Preparation 2.0	OT 796 OT Introduction 3.0
TH 701 Apologetics and Evangelism 4.0	NT 796 NT Introduction 3.0
TH 705 Theology III 4.0	TH 706 Theology IV 4.0
PM 703 Expository Preaching II 3.0	PM 711 Field Ed: Church Administration 1.0
PM 712 Field Ed: Pastoral Ministries 3.0	PM 722 Discipleship Lab VI 0.5
PM 721 Discipleship Lab V <u>0.5</u>	Elective 2.0
16.5	Elective <u>2.0</u>
	15.5

“Three Years in Four” Master of Divinity Program

Because of economic, family, or ministry responsibilities, students often find it necessary to lengthen their time in seminary. Extended seminary programs, however, regularly create their own set of disadvantages, including longer term family and economic pressures, numerous scheduling conflicts, and lessened involvement in chapels and other seminary community activities. In an attempt to alleviate some of the pressures, while at the same time discouraging longer delays, the seminary faculty has designed a “Three Years in Four” curriculum. Students who follow the curriculum below will be able to avoid the schedule conflicts which usually result from random deferrals while completing all degree requirements within four years.

First Year	
<u>Fall</u>	<u>Spring</u>
BI 505 Hermeneutics 2.0	BI 504 Prayer 2.0
OT 503 Hebrew Grammar I 4.0	OT 504 Hebrew Grammar II 4.0
BI 501 OT Studies I 4.0	BI 502 OT Studies II 4.0
PM507A Introduction to Preaching 2.0	PM512A Field Ed: Pastoral Counseling 2.0
PM 511 Field Ed: Church Ministries 1.0	PM 522 Discipleship Lab II <u>0.5</u>
PM 521 Discipleship Lab I <u>0.5</u>	12.5
13.5	
<u>Summer</u>	
NT 400 Beginning Greek I and II 4.0	
BI 506 The Pastor’s Home <u>2.0</u>	
6.0	

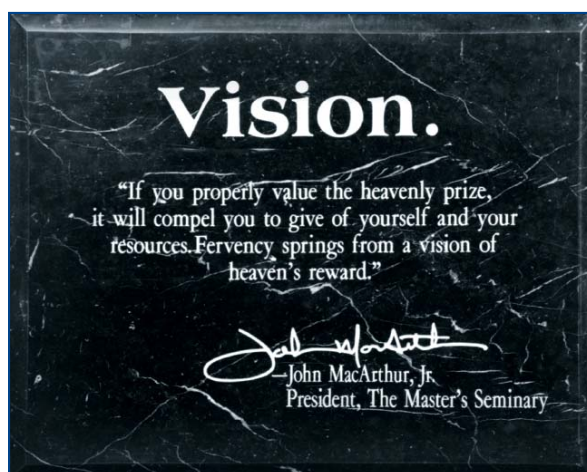
Second Year	
<u>Fall</u>	<u>Spring</u>
TH 507 Historical Theology I 3.0	TH 508 Historical Theology II 3.0
OT 603 Hebrew Exegesis I 2.0	OT 604 Hebrew Exegesis II 2.0
NT 603 Greek Exegesis I 4.0	NT 604 Greek Exegesis II 4.0
TH 605 Theology I 3.0	TH 606 Theology II 3.0
PM 621 Discipleship Lab III <u>0.5</u>	PM 622 Discipleship Lab IV <u>0.5</u>
12.5	
12.5	

Third Year

<u>Fall</u>	<u>Spring</u>
BI 601 NT Studies 4.0	TH 706 Theology IV..... 4.0
TH 701 Apologetics/Evangelism 4.0	PM 606 Expository Preaching I 3.0
TH 705 Theology III 4.0	PM 611 Field Ed: Discipleship & Leadership..... 1.0
PM 612 Field Ed: Worship & Music..... <u>1.0</u>	Elective..... <u>2.0</u>
13.0	10.0

Fourth Year

<u>Fall</u>	<u>Spring</u>
BI 701 Ordination Preparation..... 2.0	OT 796 OT Introduction 3.0
PM 703 Expository Preaching II 3.0	NT 796 NT Introduction 3.0
PM 712 Field Ed.: Pastoral Ministries..... 3.0	PM 711 Field Ed.: Church Administration 1.0
PM 721 Discipleship Lab V..... 0.5	PM 722 Discipleship Lab VI 0.5
Elective <u>2.0</u>	Elective..... 2.0
10.5	Elective..... <u>2.0</u>
	11.5



THE BACHELOR OF THEOLOGY

Purpose

The Bachelor of Theology program has the same purpose as the Master of Divinity program. Like the Master of Divinity program, it is designed to provide a basic three-year program for those planning to invest their lives in church or mission vocations which require ordination. The program offers a broad biblical, theological, and practical foundation for such ministries. The program, however, is offered only to a select number of applicants (limited to five percent of total enrollment) who are beyond the average age of college students (usually at least 30 years of age), who have not completed a baccalaureate degree program but have earned a minimum of 60 semester units of undergraduate general education credits, and who have a consistent record of commendable Christian ministry experience. The nomenclature, Bachelor of Theology, is designed to emphasize the fact that in no case does the seminary offer graduate degrees (master's degrees) for those who have not completed a baccalaureate program.

Admission Requirements

In addition to the requirements listed in the previous paragraph, and to the general admission requirements listed later in this catalog, applicants for the Bachelor of Theology program must present a letter of reference from a church board documenting effective ministry experience and recommending the applicant for intensive study and for continuing ministry.

Program Requirements

The admissions, curriculum, residence, and candidacy requirements for the Bachelor of Theology degree are the same as those for the Master of Divinity degree with the following exceptions:

- A grade point average of only 2.0 is required for graduation
- Writing a thesis is not permitted in the Bachelor of Theology program

THE DIPLOMA OF THEOLOGY

Purpose

The Diploma of Theology program is designed with the same purpose as the Bachelor of Theology program. It is limited to a select number of applicants (limited to five percent of total enrollment) who are beyond the average age of college students and who have a consistent record of commendable Christian ministry experience. However, it differs from the Bachelor of Theology program in that it does not require the minimum of 60 units of undergraduate general education credits. In general, such applicants are older than the average seminary student and have circumstances of life that make the acquisition of an undergraduate education impractical.

Admission Requirements

In addition to the requirements listed in the previous paragraph, and to the general admission requirements listed later in this catalog, applicants for the Diploma of Theology program must present a letter of reference from a church board documenting effective ministry experience and recommending the applicant for intensive study and for continuing ministry.

Program Requirements

The curriculum, residence, and candidacy requirements for the Diploma of Theology are the same as those for the Master of Divinity degree with the following exceptions:

- A grade point average of only 2.0 is required for graduation
- Writing a thesis is not permitted

THE MASTER OF THEOLOGY

Purpose

The Master of Theology curriculum provides a flexible program extending one to four years at the post-Master of Divinity graduate level. It allows for a degree of specialized preparation in Bible Exposition, Old Testament, New Testament, or Systematic Theology beyond what is possible in the basic three-year M.Div. program. While it also may provide a basis for further graduate study leading to more advanced degrees such as Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) or Doctor of Theology (Th.D.), it is, in each case, designed for those preparing for church or mission vocations requiring ordination.

In addition, the purposes envisioned for the program include the following:

- Preparation of equippers of pastors for foreign assignments in institutional settings where doctoral—level credentials are not prerequisite. Such situations currently arising in third-world churches illustrate the need for teachers to train pastors at an advanced level, but without the need of formal accreditation recognition afforded by terminal educational degrees.
- Advanced preparation for pastoral ministries in local church settings. The program provides for a further sharpening of exegetical and theological skills for those sensing a further educational need beyond their M.Div. training. This would be particularly true for the ones who have no previous formal training in Bible and theology before their M.Div. programs.
- Preparation of pastors who are also inclined toward a calling in theological writing that requires a honing of exegetical and theological skills beyond what the standard M.Div. program offers.

Because the Th.M. program is limited in its enrollment, faculty can devote personal attention to individual students in regard to continuing spiritual and practical development, research techniques, teaching techniques, formal writing style, and supporting areas of pedagogical methodology. These supplementary features will ensure the effective use of advanced exegetical and theological skills gained in the program.

Admissions Requirements

Applicants must present an acceptable undergraduate baccalaureate degree and a Master of Divinity degree, with a 3.25 grade point average in his divinity program. Senior Master of Divinity students who have completed at least 80 semester credit hours by end of current semester are eligible to apply. Acceptance is based upon the applicant's previous education, academic capability, character qualities, ministry involvement, and the recommendation of others. Prerequisite coursework, if any, is provided at no additional cost beyond the per-semester Th.M. tuition fee.

In addition, applicants must also give evidence of the personal, character, and spiritual qualifications necessary for a minister of Christ as outlined in the admissions standards for The Master's Seminary. Graduates of other seminaries must file a full application with the Office of Admissions.

Students currently enrolled at The Master's Seminary may file for admission by submitting the abridged form available in the Admissions Office.

Transfer Credit—Up to four advanced graduate semester credit hours from an accredited theological institution may be applied toward fulfillment of Th.M. course requirements at The Master's Seminary.

Program Requirements

Prerequisites—Applicants must have successfully completed basic courses which parallel the following core classes of the Master of Divinity degree at The Master's Seminary:

- Twelve semester credit hours of Bible courses, in addition to Old and New Testament Introductions (OT 796 and NT 796).
- Twelve semester credit hours of Old Testament language courses (OT 503, OT 504, OT 603, and a Hebrew Exegesis elective).
- Ten semester credit hours of New Testament language beyond Beginning Greek (NT 603, NT 604 and a Greek Exegesis elective).

Twenty semester credit hours of Theology (TH 507, TH 508, TH 605, TH 606, TH 705, TH 706).

Applicants deficient in any of these requirements may take the pre-requisite units while taking other Th.M. courses, but such deficiencies must be completed prior to or during the first year of Th.M. residency. Until these prerequisites are met, applicants will be admitted on a probationary status. Course work taken to fulfill deficiencies is not applicable toward the Th.M. residency requirements.

While not a pre-requisite, it is recommended that students anticipating a Th.M. degree program write a thesis as a part of their M.Div. degree program. Students not writing a thesis must demonstrate the ability to do significant theological research.

Residency—A minimum of two semesters in residence at The Master's Seminary is required for the Master of Theology degree. Residency is understood to be a campus presence of at least one day per week for classes and an additional day per week for library research and consultation with your adviser. Most students would be able to complete most of their course work in one year which would allow them to take a minimal number of courses while working on their thesis project during their second year. For those students with deficiencies, a third year may be necessary.

Program Length—All course work, examinations, and thesis requirements (totaling 30 credit hours) must be completed within four years, beginning on the date of the student's first registration for Th.M. courses at The Master's Seminary. Students may go beyond this four year period only by requesting permission in writing to the seminary faculty. Permission for extension is granted only in cases of extreme emergency. In any case, the student will be required to pay a continuing registration fee for each semester during which he is not enrolled; failure to do so will be viewed as withdrawal from the program.

Concurrent Enrollment—Senior Master of Divinity students who have completed eighty or more semester credit hours and who have been admitted on a probationary status into the Th.M. degree program are permitted to take a maximum of four credit hours per semester of Th.M. courses (with faculty permission) for application to Th.M. program requirements. Such course work must meet all normal Th.M. standards and cannot be credited toward the requirements of other degree programs.

Master of Theology Thesis—An acceptable thesis evidencing a high degree of scholarly competence in the student’s major field must be submitted by all Th.M. candidates. The thesis accounts for 4 hours of academic credit in the 26 hour curriculum and must contain not fewer than 100 nor more than 150 pages of text material. Approval will be based upon literary quality and theological content. Three copies are to be presented to the library for binding. Students who have completed their course work must register as a thesis-non-resident student for each semester the thesis remains outstanding.

In fulfilling the thesis requirements, the following deadlines must be observed:

- The student must register for “Th.M. Thesis” in the approved area of study for the final semester prior to scheduled graduation
- Topic approval must be secured no later than the last Friday in March of the year prior to graduation
- A prospectus (title page, outline, bibliography, and synopsis of argument) is due the last Friday of May
- A first draft must be submitted no later than the second Friday of January
- An approved presentation copy, and two photocopies, must be submitted by the first Friday in April. The adviser may, at his discretion, interject additional deadlines within the broad dates listed above. However, failure to meet the deadline for either the first draft or the final draft will result in the postponement of your anticipated graduation date until the following year.

The Master of Theology thesis must be prepared in conformity with the most recent editions of the seminary’s “Guidelines for Theses and Dissertations” and Turabian’s *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. Where these sources differ, the seminary’s “Guidelines” takes precedence.

Th.M./Th.D. Track

Students intending to pursue the Th.D. degree after completing their Th.M. studies may enroll in a Th.M.-Th.D. Track. Maintaining a good standing in this track will allow a student to accelerate his progress by initiating his Th.D. program (primarily involving the taking of qualifying exams and, in some cases, enrolling in the Dissertation Prospectus course) during the final year of his Th.M. studies.

Graduation Requirements

Degrees are awarded to qualified candidates at the seminary’s spring Commencement. To qualify for graduation, candidates must present an acceptable thesis (4 credit hours) and have completed 22 credit hours of required course work, with no grade less than B- credited toward the Th.M. degree. Candidates must also manifest promise of competency in Christian ministry, exhibit exemplary and consistent Christian character, and must be in accord with the ideals of the institution as recorded in its current catalog.

Cost

Course work taken concurrently with Master of Divinity classes will be charged at the M.Div. rate. Otherwise, all courses taken for Master of Theology credit will be charged at the Th.M. course rate (See Financial Information section).

Curriculum Description for Master of Theology

Major: Bible Exposition

<u>First Semester</u>			<u>Second Semester</u>		
Course #	Course Title	Units	Course #	Course Title	Units
<input type="checkbox"/> BI 847	Pentateuch	2.0	<input type="checkbox"/> BI 852	Isaiah	2.0
<input type="checkbox"/> BI 849	Samuel, Kings, Chronicles	2.0	<input type="checkbox"/> BI 864	Romans	2.0
<input type="checkbox"/> BI 851	Matthew	2.0	<input type="checkbox"/> BI 874	Revelation	2.0
<input type="checkbox"/> BI 853	Hebrews	2.0	<input type="checkbox"/>	NT Exegesis Elective	2.0
<input type="checkbox"/>	OT Exegesis Elective*	<u>2.0</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Elective*	2.0
		10.0	<input type="checkbox"/>	Elective	2.0
			<input type="checkbox"/> BI 838	Thesis	<u>4.0</u>
					16.0

* Students expecting to complete the program in one year should plan to complete these courses during the summer prior to residency.

Major: New Testament

<u>First Semester</u>			<u>Second Semester</u>		
Course #	Course Title	Units	Course #	Course Title	Units
<input type="checkbox"/> NT 851	Advanced Hermeneutics	2.0	<input type="checkbox"/> NT 854	Advanced Greek Grammar II	2.0
<input type="checkbox"/> NT 853	Advanced Greek Grammar I	2.0	<input type="checkbox"/> NT 856	Criticism of Synoptic Gospels	2.0
<input type="checkbox"/> NT 855	NT Textual Criticism	2.0	<input type="checkbox"/>	NT Exegesis Elective	2.0
<input type="checkbox"/>	NT Exegesis Elective	2.0	<input type="checkbox"/>	Theology Elective*	2.0
<input type="checkbox"/>	Elective*	<u>2.0</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	OT Exegesis Elective	2.0
		10.0	<input type="checkbox"/>	Elective	2.0
			<input type="checkbox"/> NT 838	Thesis	<u>4.0</u>
					16.0

* Students expecting to complete the program in one year should plan to complete these courses during the summer prior to residency.

Major: Old Testament

<u>First Semester</u>			<u>Second Semester</u>		
Course #	Course Title	Units	Course #	Course Title	Units
<input type="checkbox"/> OT 832	OT Research Seminar I	2.0	<input type="checkbox"/> OT 834	OT Research Seminar II	2.0
<input type="checkbox"/> OT 843	OT Theological Methods*	2.0	<input type="checkbox"/> OT 840	OT Textual Criticism	2.0
<input type="checkbox"/> OT 871	Advanced Hebrew Readings*	2.0	<input type="checkbox"/> OT 772	Biblical Aramaic**	2.0
<input type="checkbox"/> OT 853	Advanced Hebrew Grammar	2.0	<input type="checkbox"/>	NT Exegesis Elective	2.0
<input type="checkbox"/>	OT Exegesis Elective	<u>2.0</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Theology Elective	2.0
		10.0	<input type="checkbox"/>	Elective	2.0
			<input type="checkbox"/> OT 838	Thesis	<u>4.0</u>
					16.0

* Students expecting to complete the program in one year should plan to complete these courses during the summer prior to residency.

** Students are encouraged to take this course for ThM credit during the final year of their M.Div program.

Major: Theology

<u>First Semester</u>			<u>Second Semester</u>		
Course #	Course Title	Units	Course #	Course Title	Units
<input type="checkbox"/> TH 816	Theology Proper Seminar	2.0	<input type="checkbox"/> TH 824	Soteriology Seminar	2.0
<input type="checkbox"/> TH 819	Pneumatology Seminar	2.0	<input type="checkbox"/> TH 888	Eschatology Seminar	2.0
<input type="checkbox"/>	Elective*	2.0	<input type="checkbox"/>	TH Elective*	2.0
<input type="checkbox"/>	Elective	2.0	<input type="checkbox"/>	TH Elective	2.0
<input type="checkbox"/>	OT Exegesis Elective	<u>2.0</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	NT Exegesis Elective	2.0
		10.0	<input type="checkbox"/>	Elective	2.0
			<input type="checkbox"/> TH 838	Thesis	<u>4.0</u>
					16.0

* Students expecting to complete the program in one year should plan to complete these courses during the summer prior to residency.

THE DOCTOR OF THEOLOGY

Overview

The Doctor of Theology is a three- to five-year program (including writing qualifying exams, dissertation, and completing residency) designed to give a select number of highly qualified Master of Theology (or equivalent) graduates, who have demonstrated the necessary academic abilities, ministry skills, and character qualities, the opportunity to pursue a terminal degree specializing in Bible Exposition, Old Testament, New Testament, or Systematic Theology. The program is based on the study of the original language texts of Scripture and requires an awareness of the entire sweep of historical theology and biblical theology systematically expressed.

The program requires a minimum of twenty-four credit hours of study while in residence, the first of which is the Dissertation Prospectus course (four credit hours). The remaining study load is designed to assist in the research/writing and defense of the dissertation, the full-time load of which is four credit hours per semester. In cases of minor academic deficiency, additional coursework may be assigned (see “Residency Requirements: Coursework” below).

Coursework is not “dumbed-down” to the M.Div. level, nor are doctoral students consigned to a traditional classroom environment. Rather, the delivery mode follows the one-on-one mentoring model, with coursework comprised of directed studies and research seminars.

Objectives

As with the Master of Divinity and the Master of Theology degree programs, the Doctor of Theology program is specifically designed for individuals preparing for those vocations requiring ordination, with special emphasis given to training the next generation of professors to staff seminary and college/university biblical studies faculties.

The purposes of the program include:

- Preparing equippers of pastors for assignments in institutional settings where doctoral-level credentials are a prerequisite
- Providing pastors and equippers of pastors opportunity to further sharpen their exegetical and theological skills beyond their Master of Theology studies
- Equipping pastors who are also inclined toward a calling in theological writing that requires the highest level of exegetical and theological training

To achieve the above purposes, the program is designed to enable the student to:

- Develop an expertise in a specialized area of biblical and theological study through original research
- Expand his breadth of knowledge beyond the scope of his specific discipline and dissertation topic
- Defend ideas and refute error among peers
- Enhance teaching ability
- Demonstrate proficiency in effective writing skills

Design

The program is designed to permit the student to remain in his present location/occupation while completing the qualifying exams and the German language exam. For that reason, the exams are

prerequisite to matriculation. Only after successfully completing these exams would the student need to relocate to begin his residency and to research and write the dissertation. Other programs often require students to relocate at the beginning of their doctoral studies, leaving students in the precarious position of not knowing if they will successfully complete the course work, pass the qualifying exams, or complete the dissertation. In contrast, this program allows students to complete the qualifying and language exams prior to interrupting family life and initiating residency. Then, once begun, residency focuses predominantly on researching, writing, and defending the dissertation—a process that enjoys the benefits of frequent, personal interaction with one’s mentor, unlimited access to the finest library resources, and uninterrupted concentration on research and writing.

Administration

The Director of Doctoral Studies gives oversight to the program. Working closely with each doctoral student’s mentor and the Doctoral Studies Committee (comprised of the Dean, the senior faculty member of each discipline, and the Director of Libraries), the Director of Doctoral Studies oversees the orderly and timely completion of each student’s program.

Degree Nomenclature

While the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) nomenclature has been applied in recent years to terminal degrees offered in biblical and theological studies, The Master’s Seminary remains committed to keeping the purpose of the program central in both curricula content and degree nomenclature. Therefore, given the purpose and nature of the program, the Doctor of Theology (Th.D.) nomenclature is embraced, since it most accurately reflects the need of our constituency and the purpose for offering the degree.

Prerequisites

The program is based on the (post-Master of Divinity) Master of Theology degree, in which approximately twenty-two semester credit hours of course work plus a research thesis are required. Applicants without a Th.M. degree are encouraged to enroll in the Th.M.-Th.D. Track. Maintaining a good standing in this track will allow a student to accelerate his progress by initiating his Th.D. program (primarily involving the taking of qualifying exams and, in some cases, enrolling in the Dissertation Prospectus course) during the final year of his Th.M. studies.

Admission Requirements

The program, as outlined below, involves significant personal interaction between the faculty mentor and the student. Consequently, as a general rule, enrollment is limited to a maximum of two persons per discipline for each full-time faculty holding a terminal degree in that discipline. Permission to initiate application procedures is generally granted upon successful completion of the Master of Theology thesis.

Academic—A recognized Master of Theology degree or its equivalent (consisting of approximately twenty-two semester credit hours of course work), with an acceptable research thesis, provides the academic basis for the program. In addition, a scholastic record that demonstrates superior ability and offers promise of success in studies at the doctoral level is expected. Normally, a grade point average of 3.5 or above in all previous seminary studies is required. When deemed appropriate, Graduate Record Examination (GRE, aptitude section) scores may be required.

Character—In keeping with the purpose of The Master’s Seminary and the qualifications necessary for a minister of Christ (see 1 Timothy 3:1–7 and Titus 1:6–9), the seminary requests references from the applicant’s pastor, former professors, and employers to evaluate his Christian testimony,

spiritual vibrancy, and personal character. Failure in any of these areas after enrollment may constitute adequate grounds for disciplinary action or dismissal from the program.

Doctrinal—Essential agreement with the Statement of Faith of The Master’s Seminary is required of applicants. Failure to disclose any significant doctrinal difference in the application itself will be regarded as a breach of the character requirements noted above.

Experience—In order to expedite and achieve the purposes of the program, applicants must have demonstrated effective teaching and pastoral capabilities prior to admission into the program.

Pre-matriculation Qualifying Exams

The nature of the program specifies that the qualifying exams be successfully completed prior to matriculation. Although some class work may be required in cases where a deficiency in a student’s previous education is noted (see “Residency Requirements: Course Work” below), the completion of the qualifying exams prior to matriculation allows the student to focus primarily on writing the dissertation while in residence. Except for the Oral Interview, each of these exams may be taken off-site. The exams, including guidelines and study questions to assist preparation, are available from the Director of Doctoral Studies.

General Background—A series of five, four-hour exams are given to assess the applicant’s general academic ability in the areas representing his previous seminary studies. Weaknesses discovered in any of these five exams may require additional course work:

- Bible Knowledge
- Old Testament Hebrew and related introductory matters
- New Testament Greek and related introductory matters
- Christian Theology
- Church History

Specialized Background—Covering the applicant’s chosen discipline, this exam is designed to determine his general awareness of the selected field of doctoral study, his current position on certain salient issues relevant to that discipline, and his ability to express himself cogently in writing. Weaknesses noted in this exam would be covered in the Directed Readings exam.

Oral Interview—Upon successful completion of the Specialized Background exam, a personal interview will be arranged with the Doctoral Studies Committee. The interview, along with the application, transcripts and previous examinations, will be the basis for assigning additional course work (if any) due to academic deficiency and for determining the content of the Directed Readings exam. If married, the Committee may request an interview with the applicant’s wife as well.

Directed Readings—A major reading list with study guidelines, based on the weaknesses discovered in the Specialized Background exam and Oral Interview, will be sent to the applicant following the Oral Interview. Once the prescribed readings have been completed, an exam covering them will be given.

German Language—The ability to read significant theological sources in German is deemed vital to research at the doctoral level. Consequently, the seminary offers GR 900 Theological German. This two credit-hour course, designed to prepare the student for the qualifying exam, introduces the vocabulary, grammar, and sentence structure and enables the student to read, understand, and translate original sources written in German. The final exam, requiring a minimum passing grade of 86%, functions as a substitute for the German qualifying exam. Because the course is prerequisite, grades do not count toward one’s grade point average.

Academic Adviser

At the time of admission into the program, the doctoral studies committee will assign an adviser to oversee the applicant's qualifying exams and subsequent research and writing. The adviser will assess the student's previous education and review his General Background and Specialized Background exams (cf. "Oral Interview" above), assigning additional course work as deemed necessary. At any time during residency, additional course work may be required of the student by his adviser.

Residency Requirements

Continuous Enrollment—Because the nature of this program does not allow for non-residency or ABD ("All But Dissertation") status, the student is expected to relocate to the area and to personally interact with his adviser on a bi-weekly basis. The program specifically requires that the student enroll for each semester successively (summers excluded) until the first draft has been accepted by his dissertation committee; premature departure will result in termination of the program.

Foreign Language Proficiency—In addition to German, each student must demonstrate the ability to read relevant sources in a second non-biblical foreign language (e.g., French, Modern Hebrew, Latin, or Dutch) as determined by one's dissertation topic. The exam is based on material pertinent to the area of one's dissertation and must show proficiency. The exam is administered by the student's academic adviser and must be completed prior to the start of the student's second year of residence.

Course Work—A student must enroll in a minimum of twenty-four credit hours of study (see "Overview" on page 38) during his academic residency, the first of which would be the Dissertation Prospectus course (four credit hours). These courses, the full-time load of which is four credit hours per semester, are selected in consultation with the adviser, and are designed to assist in the dissertation research. Any course work required due to deficiency would be additional. A grade of B- or higher is required.

Dissertation Prospectus—Each student begins his first semester of residence by enrolling in the Dissertation Prospectus course. This course will allow the student, under the adviser's supervision, to refine the dissertation topic, defend its choice, establish its need, and outline the procedure for its undertaking. An extensive bibliography is also included. The Dissertation Topic Confirmation fee, payable at the time of enrollment in this course, authorizes the librarian to conduct a search of all known writings on the proposed topic and provides the student with significant bibliographic data.

Approval of the prospectus by the adviser and eventual admission to candidacy status does not guarantee acceptance of the proposed dissertation, but merely grants permission to prepare and submit the first draft of the dissertation to the committee for evaluation.

Length of Program—Although the actual length of the program may vary, depending on one's capability and commitment, a three-year residency can usually be expected. The maximum time allowable to complete the program is four years from the date residency is initiated. Only in rare circumstances will this requirement be relaxed, and then the Doctoral Studies Committee must be fully satisfied that there is sufficient justification for an extension. Request for an extension must be made in writing to the Director of Doctoral Studies.

Advanced Standing/Transfer Credit

Students with previous training in the course to be pursued will be required to submit official transcripts upon enrollment. The transcripts will be evaluated and appropriate credit given. Credits

allowed will be recorded on enrollment record and the length of the course shortened proportionately. In addition, the student and the Department of Veteran Affairs (DVA) will be notified.

Admission to Candidacy Status

Application to Candidacy—Upon successful completion of the additional foreign language requirements, the Dissertation Prospectus course, and any additional course work assigned by the academic adviser due to deficiency (cf. “Qualifying Exams” above), the student may apply for formal admission to candidacy. An application for admission to candidacy status form is available from the Director of Doctoral Studies.

Dissertation Committee—Once admission to candidacy has been approved by the Doctoral Studies Committee, the Director of Doctoral Studies will, in consultation with the academic adviser, select the faculty members who will serve on the student’s dissertation committee. The committee will generally consist of the student’s academic adviser (serving as chair), a second faculty member from the area of specialization, and a faculty member from another discipline or institution. Any unforeseen changes in committee membership will be made by the Director of Doctoral Studies in consultation with the academic adviser.

Dissertation Requirements

Dissertation Research—The dissertation is expected to embody the results of original research and make a significant contribution to knowledge in the field of concentration. In light of the structure and philosophy of the program, the dissertation should evidence a high level of scholarly competence and theological awareness. Special study carrels with computer hookups are available for the exclusive use of doctoral students. The librarian will conduct a search of all known writings on the proposed topic for each student and provide him with significant bibliographic data.

Dissertation Length—An acceptable dissertation, consisting of not less than 250 pages or more than 400 pages of text material, must be submitted to the dissertation committee by the student



prior to breaking residence. While the dissertation must adhere strictly to the length stipulations, approval is based on doctrinal integrity, literary quality, and academic competency.

Dissertation Format—All dissertation drafts must be prepared in conformity with the latest editions of the seminary’s “Guidelines for Papers, Theses, and Dissertations” and Turabian’s *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. Where these sources differ, the seminary’s “Guidelines” takes precedence.

Dissertation Deadlines & Acceptance—The first draft of the dissertation is due no later than September 1 of the year prior to anticipated graduation and should be submitted in triplicate, plus one electronic copy as an institutional backup, to the Director of Doctoral Studies for proper tracking. If major revisions are required by the dissertation committee, the student should be prepared to delay graduation by a full year. Final acceptance is predicated upon acceptance of the first draft by the dissertation committee, successful oral defense of the dissertation, and an acceptable final draft.

Dissertation Defense—Once the dissertation committee deems the dissertation draft ready, the student is required to defend the dissertation before his academic adviser (acting as chair) and the dissertation committee. Scheduled no later than February 1 of the year of anticipated graduation, the date and place of the defense are announced to all faculty so that interested members may attend. Two copies of the table of contents with a ten-to-fifteen page annotated outline of the dissertation must be presented to the dissertation chair no later than two weeks prior to the oral defense. Following the defense, the faculty will be given opportunity to make suggestions to the student’s dissertation committee. Subsequently, the dissertation committee and the Director of Doctoral Studies will meet to decide upon one of the following actions:

- Approve the dissertation and its defense, subject to any minor revisions required by the committee
- Delay graduation by rejecting the dissertation and its defense until major revisions are completed under the direction of the academic adviser, necessitating another defense for the following year
- Reject the dissertation and its defense and terminate the student’s program

The chair of the student’s dissertation committee will immediately notify the student of the committee’s decision.

Graduation Specifics

Once approval of the dissertation and its defense has been granted, the student must submit by the first Friday in April the following items:

- An “Application for Graduation”
- An approved original printed copy, three photocopies, and one electronic copy of the dissertation to the Director of Doctoral Studies; each copy must include a one-page single-spaced abstract (Additional personal copies may be submitted for binding.)
- A vitae sheet, written in narrative style and including the date and place of birth, a summary of the candidate’s professional and academic career and degrees earned, publications, memberships, and special honors

THE DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

Philosophy

The program is designed to permit the student to remain in his present ministry while completing the degree program. However, the student should allot enough time to complete the work with excellence. The program will demand 600–800 hours a year for three years to complete. Although many of these hours should already be scheduled in expository preaching preparation, some hours will have to be devoted to the program above and beyond one's present ministry. As much as possible, the seminar projects and Preaching Research Project will relate directly to the ongoing expository ministry in one's local church.

Program Description

Purpose—The Doctor of Ministry degree in Expository Preaching is designed to equip pastors and church leaders in the skills of sermon preparation and public exposition of Scripture. The program engages the classical disciplines of exegesis (principles and practice of interpretation), exposition (principles and practice of content synthesis), and eloquence (principles and practice of rhetoric) to enhance sermon preparation and delivery. The degree is intended for ministry professionals who desire further education but who simultaneously wish to remain on their respective fields of service. The D.Min. curriculum builds upon the Master of Divinity or Master of Theology degrees, but strongly focuses on the skills needed for the exposition of Scripture.

Character and Commitments—Both faculty and students involved in the TMS D.Min. program are to model the following characteristics and commitments of a master expositor:

Four Characteristics of a Faithful Expositor:

- A true disciple of Christ
- A spiritually mature man
- A humble man with a shepherd's heart
- An honest critic regarding the value and quality of his own ministry

Four Commitments to Christ-exalting Preaching:

- A resolute commitment to a high view of Scripture
- An unwavering practice of a historical/grammatical approach to interpreting Scripture
- A firm devotion to an effective delivery style that is true to the text of Scripture yet relevant to his congregation
- A thorough familiarity with and adherence to the orthodox doctrines of the Christian faith as outlined in the TMS Statement of Faith

Focus—Like the TMS Master of Divinity program, the Doctor of Ministry program focuses on three areas of special emphasis: biblical/theological understanding, personal growth, and professional enhancement. A thorough understanding of the Bible and theology is further developed through the material prepared for D.Min. seminars. Hermeneutical practice, biblical language use, and contemporary discussion form the basis of the work done by the pastor before arrival on campus. Personal growth is fostered through interaction between the pastor, his professor, and fellow students at on-campus seminars and ongoing contacts. Professional enhancement is furthered by the application of the seminar material in a post-seminar ministry project with professional and peer feedback. A final Preaching Research Project reviews and applies the material of the program to a specific area of expository preaching.

Distinctives—The TMS Doctor of Ministry degree offers the following distinctives:

- Designed for the seasoned M.Div./Th.M. pastor who has the capabilities and desires to improve both the content and delivery of his expository preaching
- Uniquely focused curriculum on the exegesis and exposition of Scripture
- Taught by both seminary professors and full-time expositors
- Required elder qualifications, as taught in 1 Timothy 3:1–7 and Titus 1:5–9, as a basis for entrance into the program

Design of the Program—Following the historical design of D.Min. programs, the TMS D.Min. program is designed to permit the student to remain in his present ministry location. The seminars will be offered in a two-week period in July and a one-week period in January. Each of the seminar periods will commence on a Wednesday and end on a Tuesday. Consequently, the student will be absent from his pulpit three Sundays during the year. The seminar projects will necessitate that the student be preaching on a weekly basis in his home church. The oral defense of the Preaching Research Project will be on-campus, but will be scheduled mid-week to allow the student time to travel without missing a Sunday in his church.

Overview of the Program—The overall program and individual seminars are intended to develop the student/preacher in the three classical disciplines of sermon preparation. Each seminar embraces one or more pedagogical goals relating to these three disciplines. The following table displays the pedagogical categorization of the individual seminars, without regard for curriculum sequence:

Seminars Categorized by Pedagogical Emphasis

<u>Exegesis</u> (Principles & Practice of Hermeneutics)	<u>Exposition</u> (Principles & Practice of Content Synthesis)	<u>Eloquence</u> (Principles & Practice of Rhetoric)
Doctoral Research & Methods	Doctoral Research & Methods	Doctoral Research & Methods
_____	Historical & Contemporary Models of Exp. Preaching	Historical & Contemporary Models of Exp. Preaching
Hermeneutics & Exposition	Hermeneutics & Exposition	_____
Preaching the Old Testament	Preaching the Old Testament	Preaching the Old Testament
Preaching the New Testament	Preaching the New Testament	Preaching the New Testament
Theological Trends & Doctrinal Preaching	Theological Trends & Doctrinal Preaching	Theological Trends & Doctrinal Preaching
_____	Homiletics & Sermon Delivery	Homiletics & Sermon Delivery
Forums 1–4	Forums 1–4	Forums 1–4

Each seminar is conducted to enhance the skills and knowledge relating to two or three of the sermon preparation disciplines respectively. The sequence of the curriculum is designed to be linear, progressing from seminars exploring the more general and historical issues of expository preaching to studies in specific biblical genres of Old and New Testaments, and culminating in an intensive examination of rhetorical/homiletical theory and models (see “Seminars Categorized by Time Sequence”).

Seminars Categorized by Time Sequence (*and units earned*)

	FALL (July)	SPRING (January)
Year 1	Beginning Personal Preaching Evaluation (1.0)	Preaching the Old Testament (4.0)
	Doctoral Research & Methods (1.0)	
	Historical & Contemporary Models of Expository Preaching (3.0)	
	Hermeneutics & Exposition (4.0)	Forum Two (0.5)
	Forum One (0.5)	
Year 2	Preaching the New Testament (4.0)	Homiletics & Sermon Delivery (4.0)
	Theological Trends & Doctrinal Preaching (4.0)	
	Forum Three (0.5)	Forum Four (0.5)
Year 3		Final Personal Preaching Evaluation (1.0)
	Preaching Research Project (4.0)	Preaching Research Project (4.0)

Assessments—Students will be assessed at each stage of learning through the program in knowledge and skills. The primary instrument for assessing knowledge is the seminar evaluation, while skills are assessed through personal preaching critiques.

1. Personal Preaching Critique Evaluation—To assess progress in preaching skills, each student is asked upon admission, but prior to the first on-site seminar, to preach assigned texts from the Old and New Testaments. Study files for each sermon are to be submitted, including lexical and syntactical studies, background and contextual observations, and expository assimilation. These initial sermons will be videotaped and archived by the student and TMS. After completion of the final seminar, the student will preach new sermons from the same texts. The final videotapes and study files will be reviewed and compared by a TMS faculty member. Assessments will be made on the degree of improvement in exegesis, exposition, and eloquence.
2. Seminar Evaluation—Each seminar syllabus includes specific learning objectives, outlining what the student is expected to accomplish. Students are assessed by the quality of their completed assignments before, during, and after each seminar. Following each individual seminar, the student will involve leaders and congregants of his church in a simple but thorough assessment of the content and delivery of a sermon series of at least four to six weeks of sermons. The student will interact with written evaluations from the evaluators as well as a discussion group made up of the evaluators. While TMS faculty evaluations reflect an academic/professional assessment, those of church leadership and congregants reflect a most important aspect of a D.Min. degree, thereby impacting the vocation of the student.

Admission to Candidacy Status

Application to Candidacy—For a student to achieve candidacy all classes must be completed with an overall grade-point average of 3.0 (with no grade below B-). Additionally, the initial and final evaluation of the student's assigned sermon tapes must receive a favorable review, reflecting significant

improvement. The student must also have received approval of his D.Min. Preaching Research Project proposal. Upon completion of the above, the student may apply for formal admission to candidacy. An Application for Admission to Candidacy Status form is available from the D.Min. office. The D.Min. Committee will review the application and, upon evidence of the above stated requirements and the continuation of a biblical standard of character (ethos) as measured by the elder-qualification standards of 1 Timothy 3:1–7 and Titus 1:5–9, will advance the student to candidacy status.

Length of Program—The D.Min. program is to be completed in two years (twice a year) of on-campus seminars plus one year for completing the Preaching Research Project. Exceptions are made only in cases of extreme emergency.

Graduation Requirements—Candidates for the D.Min. degree must complete all seminar work and the Preaching Research Project with a minimum of a 3.0 GPA. The completion of the minimal requirements does not automatically qualify the student for the degree. The candidate must have demonstrated to the faculty both the continuation of a biblical standard of character, as measured by the elder-qualification standards of 1 Timothy 3:1–7 and Titus 1:5–9, and an expository proficiency. All financial obligations to TMS must be met before the awarding of the diploma and the issuing of transcripts.

Admissions Requirements

1. Normally, a minimum of five years of post-M.Div./Th.M. experience, including the weekly exposition of Scripture.
2. Completion of an application (available from the TMS admissions office or the TMS Web site), in which the following are required:
 - Personal history, academic history, and employment history
 - Dated ministry history
 - Doctrinal agreement section
 - Personal testimony, ministry summary, and objectives for pursuing the D.Min. degree
 - Three references
 - Ministry associate
 - Church leader
 - Church member
3. Official transcripts verifying academic credentials: An M.Div. degree with at least a 3.0 GPA
4. A letter of support from the pastor's leadership board
5. Successful completion of a personal interview
6. A videotape/DVD containing two of the applicant's sermons, one from the Old Testament and one from the New Testament. The applicant is to include exegetical research notes and copies of the notes or manuscripts from which the sermons were preached.
7. Essays dealing with biblical, theological, and ministry topics to determine the applicant's writing ability.

Please note that the application, letter of support, and videotape(s)/DVD(s) must be received by December 15 of the year before the student plans to begin the program. By March 1, all transcripts, personal interview record, and admission essays must be in the TMS office. Once the applicant is officially accepted, he will begin his work in Personal Preaching Evaluation. This preparatory D.Min. course must be completed by June 15. The student will then begin his seminars with his cohort (7–15 students) in July at TMS. Be advised that each of the July seminars will require pre-seminar work, so it will be required that the applicant work ahead of these deadlines.

Initial Matriculation Requirements

Doctoral Research and Methods Seminar—Each student begins his on-campus seminar work in Doctoral Research and Methods. This seminar will give him guidance as to how to choose, develop, and complete his final project. The completion of this seminar will result in the student's proposed Preaching Research Project and tentative schedule for completion.

Mentor/Adviser—The Director of the Doctor of Ministry program, based on the student's chosen topic for his Preaching Research Project, will assign a mentor/adviser to oversee the applicant's studies. This mentor/adviser will direct the research, evaluation, and writing of the student's Preaching Research Project.

On-Campus Requirements

Each student will be placed in a cohort of 7 (minimum) to 15 (maximum) students who will begin the on-campus seminars in July of each year. The student must take each seminar in the proscribed order with his cohort. Only an emergency, as approved by the D.Min. Director, would allow the student to delay his seminars with his assigned cohort and be assigned to a later group. The student is advised that once he enters the program he is committing himself to the orderly completion of all of the required seminars.

Preaching Research Project Requirements

The final phase of the D.Min. process involves the development and implementation of the Preaching Research Project. This component of the program is intended to demonstrate the student's knowledge, preaching skills, research methods, theological understanding, and practical ministry abilities. The Preaching Research Project should exhibit the student's ability to relate preaching knowledge (demonstrated in research) with his preaching skills.

Because valuable research and data will be accumulated during the seminar coursework, each student is expected to decide his project topic by the second on-site seminar visit to TMS (January term). The role of the student's faculty adviser will be to insure a meaningful and significant project. Final approval for the Preaching Research Project must be gained by the third on-site seminar visit to TMS (July of second year). The D.Min. Director and project adviser must approve all projects.

The length of the Preaching Research Project will be no less than 100 pages and no more than 200 pages. It must include doctoral level research as well as professional experience. Each thesis will be individually designed around the student's preaching context.

The Project Format—All project drafts must be prepared in conformity with the latest editions of the seminary's *Guidelines for Theses and Dissertations*, Turabian's *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, and Walker & Taylor's *The Columbia Guide to Online Style*. Where these sources differ, the seminary's *Guidelines* takes precedence.

The Project Deadlines and Acceptance—The outline, chapter one, and bibliography of the Preaching Research Project are due no later than July 1 of the year prior to anticipated graduation. A complete initial draft (DM 937) of the Preaching Research Project is due no later than November 1 of the semester prior to anticipated graduation. A final draft of the Project (DM 938), incorporating any corrections and/or suggestions of the readers, is due February 15 of the anticipated semester of graduation and should be submitted in triplicate, plus one electronic copy as an institutional backup, to the D.Min. Director for proper tracking.

The Oral Defense of the Project—Once the project adviser deems the final draft is ready, a defense, chaired by the student's mentor/adviser, will be conducted on the TMS campus. Scheduled no later than April 1 of the semester of anticipated graduation, the date and place of the defense will be announced to all faculty so that interested members may attend. Two copies of the table of contents, with a ten-to-fifteen page, annotated outline of the project, must be presented to the project chair no later than two weeks prior to the oral defense.

Following the defense, the faculty will be given opportunity to make suggestions to the D.Min. candidate and his adviser. Subsequently, the project adviser and the D.Min. Director will meet to decide upon one of the following actions:

- Approve the project and its defense, subject to any minor revisions required by the committee;
- Delay graduation by rejecting the dissertation and its defense until major revisions are completed under the direction of the mentor/adviser, necessitating another defense for the following year;
- Reject the project and its defense and terminate the student's program.

The project adviser will immediately notify the student of the group's decision.

Graduation Specifics

Once approval of the Preaching Research Project and its defense has been granted, the student must submit by the first Friday in April the following items:

- An "Application for Graduation."
- An approved original printed copy, three photocopies, and one electronic copy of the final project to the Director of the Doctor of Ministry Program. Each copy must include a one-page, single-spaced abstract. Additional copies for personal use may be submitted for binding.
- A vitae sheet, written in narrative style and including the date and place of birth, a summary of the candidate's professional and academic career, degrees earned, publications, memberships, and special honors.

Payment of Accounts

All tuition, fees, and charges are due and payable upon registration for all required seminars. Registration is required 30 days before a seminar(s) begins.

Refunds

Refunds of tuition payments will only be made in the case of an emergency. Please submit the request in writing to the D.Min. Director.

Housing and Related Items

To further encourage cohort community and peer exchange, TMS has arranged for a common living location and transportation provision. Meal arrangements are the responsibility of the student.

All required seminars will begin on Wednesday and end on Tuesday. It is the student's responsibility to arrange his travel to arrive on the TMS campus by 7:00 A.M. on the Wednesday morning that the seminar begins. He should plan to be on campus through the end of the on-campus term. No early departures will be allowed, except for emergencies.

GENERAL ACADEMIC POLICIES

Academic Load

The minimum full-time M.Div. load is 11.5 hours of credit. The minimum full-time load for a Th.M. student is 4 semester hours of credit. The minimum full-time D.Min. load is 8.5 hours of credit for fall (July) semester and 4.5 hours of credit for spring (January) semester. The D.Min. program does not have part-time status. Any M.Div. student enrolled for fewer than 11.5 hours of credit or any Th.M. student enrolled for less than 4 credit hours during a regular semester will be classified as a part-time student. Students enrolled part-time may be ineligible to have student loans deferred.

The normal unit of credit consists of one class hour (50 minutes) a week for a semester. In some cases, such as with Beginning Greek, some Expository Preaching classes, and Discipleship Labs, a unit of credit may require more than one hour of class time per week.

Students who find it necessary to work more than 20 hours per week should plan to carry a lower academic load than the normally scheduled 15.5 to 16.5 hours.

Students on academic probation may be required to limit the number of hours of enrollment. Those on final academic probation are not permitted to take more than 12 hours of course work in any semester.

Class Scheduling

Most seminary classes are scheduled between 7:30 A.M. and 4:50 P.M. on Tuesday through Friday. The Pastor's Home course (BI 506) is generally scheduled in the evenings to allow wives to attend with their husbands.

A block system of class scheduling is used, so that two-hour classes meet only once per week and four-hour classes meet twice per week. Depending on subject matter, three-hour classes meet either once or twice per week. This block system offers an advantage for commuters since it makes it possible to carry a significant class load even when it is impossible to be on campus for more than one or two days per week.

Regular Student Classifications

Depending on the number of semester hours of course work completed, students are generally classified as follows:

Junior: Fewer than 32 hours

Middler: 32 to 62 hours

Senior: Above 62 hours

The primary exception to the above is that classification as a senior requires an expected May graduation within one year. Students completing graduation requirements at the end of a summer session (except for those completing 4 hours or less) and those completing graduation requirements during the fall or winterim sessions are counted as members of the senior class graduating the following May.

Part-Time Students

Any M.Div. student enrolling for fewer than 11.5 semester hours of credit during a regular semester will be classified as a part-time student. Applicants intending to enroll on a part-time basis should be aware that, while part-time enrollment is permitted as space allows, admission preference is

given to those applying for full-time status. Full-time enrollment (completing at least 11.5 semester hours of credit each semester) is required for students receiving full benefits as veterans, for students receiving social security benefits, and for all students receiving financial aid (cf. Academic Load above).

Special Students

Students who are not intending to complete a program or who have not been officially admitted to a degree program are classified as special students. For purposes of class organization they are counted as members of the Junior class. Enrollment as a special student is permitted for no more than 12 credit hours for one semester. Permission to enroll for an additional 12 credit hours must be requested by the student and approved by the Director of Admissions. Enrollment with special student status is especially encouraged for winterim and summer sessions.



Auditors

Auditing is not encouraged and rarely permitted. Busy pastors, missionaries on furlough, or other Christian workers may occasionally be admitted as auditors to selected courses after making proper application to the Administration office. Though no credits or grade points are involved, auditors

are required to pay regular tuition charges and other appropriate fees. They are also expected to meet class attendance requirements. Those who do not do so will receive the “grade” of W—whether or not they have officially withdrawn.

At the discretion of the administration, or the professor involved, auditing is not permitted for some courses, especially for seminar, laboratory, or practicum classes. In other courses, auditing may be permitted only if the student is willing to complete certain course assignments as specified by the professor. An auditor may enroll for only one semester as a “full-time” auditor (11.5 hours or more), or for a cumulative maximum of 24 semester hours of course work.

A student may change from credit to audit only during the first two weeks of the semester.

Recording of Lectures and Chapels

No personal audio or video recordings of any class sessions may be made without securing the permission of the professor. Professors may legitimately choose not to allow such recording. When permission is granted, unless special permission is also secured from the Vice President for Academic Administration, it is understood that the recording is to be used only by the student(s) registered in the course involved. No public use or reduplication is permitted without permission of both the professor and the seminary Vice President for Academic Administration. The recording of one class, or several classes, or portions of classes, when absence is necessary, may generally be

permitted, but such recordings should not be collected, copied, or preserved for other uses. In no case should the professor be expected to arrange for the recording or asked to operate the recording devices. Occasionally, when daily recording is helpful for a student attending the course, as with certain handicapped persons, it is understood that the cassettes (or other recording materials) are to be re-used on a regular basis and not collected or preserved for later use after the course. Some professors will not permit individual or personal recording but will instead loan officially prepared recordings for use in case of emergency absences. These may not be duplicated.

In rare cases may a student record, or have recorded, an entire course or a major portion of a course in lieu of attending classes or as a way to solve a scheduling conflict. Exception may be granted in the case of unavoidable scheduling conflicts during the final two semesters before graduation, but not even then if one of the two conflicting classes is an elective.

Personal recording of chapel sessions is not permitted. With rare exceptions (such as in cases when an author presents copyrighted material), audio recordings of chapel messages are available from the seminary website.

Arranged Courses

Students who have completed a minimum of 60 credit hours may occasionally wish to pursue an elective course or topic of interest that is not currently offered in a classroom setting. In such cases, the student is encouraged to discuss the possibility of arranging an independent study course with a professor from that discipline. In no case may a required course be so arranged unless it is in the student's final year, and then only if it conflicts with another required course.

Advising

Each regular student will be assigned a faculty adviser. The adviser will provide academic counsel at all preregistration and registration periods and will also be available for personal and vocational counseling. Academic and other advising is also available from the Vice President for Academic Administration. Although the seminary attempts to provide adequate academic advising, final responsibility for meeting all program, residence, and graduation requirements, including conformity with all assigned deadlines, rests with the student.

Attendance

All students are expected to be prompt and faithful in class attendance. Unexcused absence for the equivalent of one week of the class time for any class is allowed without penalty in a given course to provide for absences due to personal reasons or to fulfill ministry opportunities. Students are responsible for all work required, including any assignments missed because of absence. Professors are not under obligation to review missed assignments or provide supplementary instruction for students who miss classes. Whenever possible the student should consult with the professor for any instructions or assignments in advance of a foreseeable absence. Excused absence is permitted in cases of sickness or emergency, but in no case may the number of absences for any course exceed the equivalent of three weeks of class time. When absences exceed this limit, a grade of W, WP, WF, or F is required as appropriate. Individual faculty members are responsible to clarify any additional attendance policies, and corresponding penalties, for each class.

Examinations

Except in cases of illness or family emergency, students are expected to be present for any scheduled examination. Requests to take an examination at any time other than the time scheduled must be addressed to and approved by the class professor.

Class Changes

To drop or add classes after registration, students must have the approval, on the appropriate form, of the professor. Courses may be “dropped” (without remaining on the transcript record) and new courses added only within the first two weeks of the semester. A fee of \$5.00 is charged for each change of program.

Grading policies for withdrawing after the second week of a semester are found later in this catalog under the heading “Withdrawal.”

Course Papers

All assigned course and term papers are to be submitted in thesis form unless the professor indicates otherwise. All papers should be prepared in conformity with the latest editions of the seminary’s *Guidelines for Theses and Dissertations* and Turabian’s *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. Where these sources differ, the seminary’s “Guidelines” takes precedence.

Public Information

The Master’s Seminary complies with the provisions of the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. The seminary does not permit access to, or the release of, personally identifiable information, or educational records, to any individual without the written consent of the student, with the following exceptions:

- All records are available to the administrators, faculty, or staff of the seminary, having legitimate educational concerns
- Appropriate information is released to medical personnel when the health of the student or others would be endangered by the withholding of information
- Appropriate information is supplied to financial aid personnel in connection with an application for such aid
- Specified data is given to the governmental officials and agencies designated by law, or in compliance with a judicial order

Additionally, the seminary may release “directory information” unless the student withholds permission. Directory information is defined as: the student’s name, address, telephone number, previous institutions attended, program of enrollment, honors, and degrees conferred. The seminary recognizes the right of the student to limit or prohibit disclosure of this information. In view, however, of this statement of disclosure, the seminary assumes that failure on the part of any student to request the withholding of this information indicates permission for such disclosure. Requests to limit or withhold this information should be submitted to the Administration office.

Winterim and Summer Sessions

A limited selection of courses is offered in winterim and summer sessions. Except for Beginning Greek, which is scheduled each summer, students should not plan for a substantive part of curriculum requirements to be offered in these sessions. One elective course each winterim will usually be offered by an outstanding guest lecturer (list of past lecturers is noted on the following page). Winterim students are permitted to pay for it by adding it to their spring semester bill. However, one must enroll in a minimum of 11.5 units in the spring semester (in addition to the winterim units) to maintain full-time status.

Pastors, missionaries, and other Christian workers are encouraged to take advantage of the Winterim courses as special students.

Winterim Distinguished Scholars Series

- 1993 Kenneth L. Barker, Scope of OT Theology as Fulfilled in Christ's First and Second Advents
- 1994 John A. Sproule, Exposition of Hebrews
- 1995 John Woodbridge, History of Evangelicalism and Fundamentalism
- 1996 Stanley D. Toussaint, Galatians
- 1997 Walter C. Kaiser, Old Testament Ethics
- 1998 George W. Knight, III, Studies in the Pastoral Epistles
- 1999 John S. Feinberg, Continuity & Discontinuity between the Testaments
- 2000 Thomas R. Edgar, Gifts of the Holy Spirit in Acts & 1 Corinthians
- 2001 Eugene Merrill, Theology of the Pentateuch
- 2002 Harold Hoehner, Ephesians
- 2003 Wayne Grudem, Biblical Manhood and Womanhood
- 2004 Steven Lawson, Preaching from the Psalms
- 2005 R. Kent Hughes, Paul's Concept of Ministry in Second Corinthians
- 2006 Ralph Alexander, Ezekiel
- 2007 John D. Hannah, Life of Jonathan Edwards
- 2008 Douglas Moo, Epistle of James
- 2009 Daniel Block, Worship in the Old Testament

Israel Studies

The Master's Seminary, through the Israel Bible Extension (IBEX) program of The Master's College, offers graduate and post-graduate training in the fields of biblical history, geography, customs, archaeology, and Modern Hebrew while studying in Israel. Study at the IBEX campus, located just west of Jerusalem in the beautiful Judean hills, affords the student extensive cross-cultural exposure and interaction, and provides an excellent foundation for additional biblical studies. Whether for an entire semester or for an intensive, three-week overview each May, course work is designed to interface with the seminary's general education requirements. Information is available from the IBEX office at The Master's College or from Prof. Swanson in the seminary library.

Lands of Paul Studies

The Master's Seminary offers seminary credit for a Master's College study trip offered each summer (May-June), retracing the missionary journeys of Paul in Turkey and Greece, including the seven churches of Revelation. The trip also includes visits to 44 major biblical and historical sites, including Istanbul, Tarsus, Ephesus, Troy, Athens, Corinth, Thessalonica, and Philippi. Students will receive information regarding this trip via email.

Foreign Studies in Missions

In order to expand the world-vision of its students, The Master's Seminary encourages students to participate in ministry trips in foreign countries and in study programs sponsored by the seminary, by Grace Community Church, or by other approved missions agencies or churches that sponsor foreign internship programs. These programs are designed to introduce students, both practically and academically, to both specialized and non-specialized missionary service while under the direction of approved missiologists. In all cases where seminary credit is approved, special course

assignments designed by the seminary faculty must be fulfilled. Approval will be granted for more than four hours of credit only when the foreign stay involves actual *in situ* class work.

Grading System

To distinguish various levels of achievement in the mastery of subject material, in effectiveness of research, in fulfillment of assignments and responsibilities, or in improvement in personal and ministry skills, as appropriate for each course, the seminary employs the following grading symbols:

- A and A- = Exceptional achievement
- B+, B, and B- = Above average achievement
- C+, C, and C- = Fair or average achievement
- D+, D, and D- = Below average, minimally acceptable achievement
- F = Unacceptable achievement, failure
- I = Incomplete work
- W = Withdrawal during the third through the sixth weeks of regular semesters
- WP = Withdrawal while passing during the seventh through the twelfth weeks
- WF = Withdrawal while failing during the seventh through the twelfth weeks, or any withdrawal after the twelfth week

Grade points are awarded according to the following scale:

- A = 4 points for each semester hour
- A- = 3.7 points per credit hour
- B+ = 3.3 points per credit hour
- B = 3 points per credit hour
- B- = 2.7 points per credit hour
- C+ = 2.3 points per credit hour
- C = 2 points per credit hour
- C- = 1.7 points per credit hour
- D+ = 1.3 points per credit hour
- D = 1 points per credit hour
- D- = 0.7 points per credit hour
- F = 0 points per credit hour
- WF = 0 points per credit hour
- I = Not counted until changed

The grading symbols W and WP do not affect grade point averages and the courses for which they are assigned do not count in computing credit hours attempted.

A failing grade (F or WF) is never removed from the student's transcript. Any student who receives a grade of C or below may retake the course. However, when the course is repeated, the second grade is recorded in such a manner as to delete any negative effect of the failing grade (F or WF) when computing grade points.

The following system for converting number grades or percentages to letter grades, where appropriate, is in general use:

A	96–100	C	80–83
A-	94–95	C-	78–79
B+	92–93	D+	76–77
B	88–91	D	72–75
B-	86–87	D-	70–71
C+	84–85	F	69 and below

Withdrawal

A grade of W indicates withdrawal during the third through the sixth weeks of the semester (or failure to meet attendance or other requirements as an auditor). Withdrawal during the second six weeks of the period results in a WP if the student is passing, or a WF if the student is not passing at the time of withdrawal. All withdrawals after the twelfth week of the semester are recorded as Failures (F). Information on refunds and penalties for failure to withdraw officially may be found later in this catalog.

Incomplete

A grade of I may be granted only in instances of unusual circumstances such as an extended serious illness. An Incomplete (I) indicates that the work done for the course has been acceptable but that some portion of the required work is incomplete for an excusable reason. Requests for an Incomplete must be addressed, in writing, to the Vice President for Academic Administration, and must be approved, or rejected, by a faculty committee. An Incomplete (I) automatically becomes a Failure (F) unless the requirements are satisfactorily completed within 60 days after the end of the semester. No exceptions or additional extensions will be granted except upon written petition by the student and special action by the Vice President for Academic Administration.

Probation

A student may be admitted on academic probation for a variety of reasons, including an inadequate academic record or graduation from an unaccredited institution.

The term “probation” refers to a status, assigned by institutional regulations or administrative decision, which indicates that the student has failed to meet the stated expectations of the seminary. In the majority of cases it is the result of unsatisfactory academic performance. Unless the probationary status is removed at the end of the semester of probation the student will be placed on final probation. A student may be on probation for one semester only, and on final probation for one semester only. A student on probation may, at the discretion of the Vice President for Academic Administration, be limited in hours of enrollment and thus required to lengthen the time required for completing the remainder of his program. A student on final probation is not permitted to enroll for more than 12 hours of course work in any semester.

A student whose cumulative grade point average falls below 2.5 (or 2.0 for Bachelor of Theology and Diploma of Theology students, and 3.0 for Master of Theology students) will be placed on probation for the following semester. If the minimum grade point average is not achieved at the end of the semester of probation the student will be placed on final probation. A student on final probation for any regular semester must terminate his program at the end of that semester if the final probationary status is not removed by achieving the cumulative grade point average required for graduation from his program.

A student whose program has been terminated for academic reasons may appeal this action. Such an appeal must be addressed to the faculty, through the Administration office, in writing, and must include an explanation of why the minimum academic requirements were not met and why consideration of an exception is warranted. The appeal must be received within two weeks of notification of termination. The faculty decision with regard to the appeal is final.

An application for admission after termination for academic reasons may be considered only after a full academic year of non-enrollment.

A student whose program has been terminated for academic reasons may appeal to the faculty, through the Administration office, for permission to enroll as a special student for a maximum of one full semester (or 16 hours).

Satisfactory Progress

For a full-time student satisfactory academic progress is defined as requiring completion of a minimum of 11.5 semester hours of credit per semester with a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or higher (or 2.0 for B.Th. and Dip.Th. students). Full-time students are expected to complete all graduation requirements within three-to-five years from the date of matriculation.

For a part-time student satisfactory academic progress is defined as requiring completion of a minimum of 6 semester hours of credit in any semester with a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or higher (or 2.0 for B.Th. and Dip.Th. students). Part-time students are expected to complete all graduation requirements within six years from the date of matriculation.

Application for Graduation

Students anticipating graduation in May must complete an Application for Graduation form available from the Administration office. This must be completed when registering for the final semester prior to graduation.

Academic Honors

Any student in the Master of Divinity, Bachelor of Theology, and Diploma of Theology programs who completes at least sixty hours of his program at The Master's Seminary with a high grade point average is eligible, upon graduation, for academic honors as follows:

- 3.700–3.799 Cum Laude
- 3.800–3.899 Magna Cum Laude
- 3.900–4.000 Summa Cum Laude

All grade point averages are based exclusively on course work completed at The Master's Seminary.



Continuing Registration

A student enrolled in any program is expected to register for each successive semester until graduation from that program. To maintain active student status a student who does not register for credits, either class or thesis credits, during any regular semester must register for Continuing Registration. This may be viewed as a non-credit course which is required whenever there would otherwise be an interruption in the student's program. A student may register for Continuing Registration for no more than two successive semesters. Continuing Registration counts as regular enrollment and does not lengthen the six-year maximum time allowed for graduation. Continuing Registration is not required for students who skip a semester of enrollment in order to be involved in an approved cross-cultural or missionary internship.

The fee for Continuing Registration is \$50. A student who fails to register for either course credits, thesis credits, or Continuing Registration during any semester regularly scheduled for his program will be dropped from the program and must re-apply for admission prior to any subsequent registration. If re-admission is granted, the student must meet any changed program requirements (i.e., he is admitted under the requirements given in the current catalog).