

# MASTER OF ARTS (THEOLOGICAL STUDIES)

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The purpose of the Master of Arts (Theological Studies) is to prepare whole and holy learners for teaching ministries in the church, and to equip others for further studies and eventual vocations in teaching, research, and witness in academic settings. The degree is also suited for those with a non-vocational interest in graduate-level biblical, historical, or theological studies. While their scholarly competencies will be closely assessed in respective courses, students will also be in purposeful dialogue with matters of spiritual and personal formation and leadership competencies particular to church-related teaching ministries and academic vocations in biblical, historical, or theological disciplines. The objectives of the program are as follows:

1. A comprehensive understanding of biblical content, a discerning approach to biblical interpretation, and theological reflection informed by historical traditions;
2. Growth in emotional, spiritual, and relational health resulting in observable love for God and neighbor;
3. Capability and skills in the area of concentration;
4. Intercultural competence for the purpose of advancing the Gospel of Jesus Christ; and
5. Intentional integration of faith, learning, life, and practice.

The degree is awarded upon completion of 52 semester credits.

M.A. (T.S.) students are not required to declare a concentration. For those who choose to pursue a concentration, a complete list of all concentrations available is available in the Concentrations section. Students who choose to earn a concentration may need to take independent studies or extend the length of time to degree completion in order to fulfill the requirements of a particular concentration.

## Master of Arts (Theological Studies) 2

| Code  | Title                                    | Credits   |
|---|--|-----------|
| <b>Master of Arts (Theological Studies)</b> |  |           |
| <b>Core Requirements</b>                    |  |           |
| BT 510                                      | Biblical Hermeneutics                    | 4         |
| BT 615                                      | Exegesis and Biblical Theology           | 4         |
| HS 510                                      | Church History                           | 4         |
| NT 516                                      | Reading New Testament Literature         | 4         |
| OT 516                                      | Reading Old Testament Literature         | 4         |
| TS 535                                      | Theology and Ethics I                    | 4         |
| TS 536                                      | Theology and Ethics II                   | 4         |
| <b>Degree Requirements</b>                  |  |           |
| GS 780                                      | Senior Integrative Seminar               | 4         |
| SP 540                                      | Spiritual and Personal Formation         | 4         |
| <b>Concentration Courses and Electives</b>  |  |           |
| Electives (CBTF Courses) <sup>1</sup>       |  | 16        |
| <b>Other Requirements</b>                   |  |           |
| GS 001                                      | Graduate Research Seminar: Masters Level | 0         |
| SP 001                                      | Formation Assessments: Masters Level     | 0         |
| <b>Total Credits</b>                        |  | <b>52</b> |

<sup>1</sup> CBTF electives are any BI, BT, NT, OT, HS, TS, or PH courses. Students may complete a thesis to fulfill a portion of the required elective credits.

No concentration is required for this degree. If a student is earning a concentration, specific concentration requirements will be taken instead of any CBTF course.

### Biblical Studies Concentration

- M.Div., M.A. (Theological Studies)

The Biblical Studies concentration deepens students' understanding of the Bible's history and its integrative themes, and equips them with additional skills for responsible interpretation of the biblical message. The concentration is also recommended as preparation for advanced degrees in biblical studies. Concentration requires 10 credits of courses in the Biblical Interpretation, Biblical Theology, Old Testament, and/or New Testament subject areas.

### Theological and Historical Studies Concentration

- M.Div., M.A. (Theological Studies)

This concentration acquaints students more fully with the theological resources of the Christian tradition and the church's experience through the centuries. It provides opportunity to develop theological skills and to selectively appropriate from the Christian heritage what may be usefully applied to contemporary challenges and opportunities. The concentration is also recommended as preparation for advanced degrees in these fields. Concentration requires: 10 credits of courses in the Historical Studies, Theological Studies, and/or Philosophy of Religion subject areas.