

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

ABOUT THE MASTER OF DIVINITY DEGREE

The Master of Divinity degree prepares students for a variety of ministry opportunities such as church leadership, social ministry, chaplaincy, education, missions, and church music ministry. Students who sense a call to pastoral ministry, full-time vocational ministry, or who desire to prepare for an academic career in college or university teaching are especially encouraged to pursue the Master of Divinity.

The core curriculum is designed to prepare students pursuing full-time vocational or bi-vocational ministry with the basic biblical, theological, historical, and ministerial foundations needed for Christian ministry. Concentrations are offered to assist students with focusing on a particular area of ministry. A minimum of 18 hours in an area of concentration of the 90 required for the Master of Divinity are needed for an individual to meet the requirements to complete a concentration as part of the degree program. A minimum of 18 hours in a concentration must be included in the 90 hours required for the degree.

Faculty advisers are available to counsel with students regarding course selection. Throughout the curriculum, students are led to develop their spiritual lives and to engage in theological reflection and dialogue. Also, additional electives are available for students to study in the areas of their interests and gifts.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CONCENTRATION

The Christian Education concentration within the Master of Divinity degree prepares students for various educational leadership positions. The curriculum encompasses courses in age-based ministry for children and youth, adult Christian education, biblical teaching for all ages, designing church educational programs, church leadership and communication, and pastoral care within the church. Graduates will be well prepared to lead educational programming and initiatives within a church setting or other Christian organizations.

The Christian Education concentration is flexible in order to meet the needs of individual ministry callings. Course work opportunities include field-based studies and practice, as well as the ability to take approved courses within the School of Education to count towards the concentration electives.

MASTER OF DIVINITY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION CONCENTRATION

Minimum of 18 hours beyond core requirements

FOUNDATIONS (6 HOURS)

Introduction to Christian Education (3) OR Christian Education and Faith Development (3)

The Christian Educator (3) OR The Pastoral Ministry (3)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY (6-9 HOURS)

One of the following: Age Group Ministry (2), Ministry with Preschoolers and Children (2), Ministry with Youth and College Students (2), Ministry with Adults (2)

Seminar in Christian Education (3)

Biblical and Theological Foundations for Age Group Ministry (3)

Teaching the Bible with Youth and Adults (3)

Designing Church Programs and Ministries (2)

Any Christian foundation education courses, approved graduate courses in the School of Education, preaching and teaching courses, or Bible book courses

CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP & COMMUNICATION (3-6 HOURS)

The Practice of Preaching (3)

The Ministry of Writing (3)

Current Issues in Church Renewal (3)

Music Ministry with Children (2)

Any course in music leadership, specialized leadership and administration, or worship

CARE-GIVING AND DISCIPLESHIP (3-6 HOURS)

Crisis Intervention (3)

Ethics, Spirituality, and Religion in the Helping Professions (3)

Life-Span Development (3)

The Child, Family, and Congregation (2)

The Church and Family (3)

Any course in missions or evangelism, advanced pastoral care, or counseling



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