

# ST. MARY'S ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE ACADEMIC CATALOG 2023-2024



published by

ST. MARY'S ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE  
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# ST. MARY'S ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE OVERVIEW

## HISTORY

St. Mary's Seminary & University established the Ecumenical Institute of Theology as its graduate evening program in the fall of 1968, as an ecumenical division open to women and men of all faith traditions. The Ecumenical Institute's faculty is drawn from neighboring academic and religious institutions, as well as from the St. Mary's Seminary & University theological faculty. The student body consists of approximately 200 students enrolled in master's, doctoral, and graduate certificate programs. Others are pursuing courses for credit or as auditors for personal enrichment. study of theology and ethics for the first time.

## MISSION

The mission of St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute, the evening division of St. Mary's Seminary & University, is to offer accredited ecumenical theological education at the master's- and post-master's- level to qualified men and women in the greater Baltimore area. Through its academic programs and community events, St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute seeks to provide opportunities for personal or professional enrichment; preparation for voluntary or

professional leadership in a church, school, or community organization; and a basic theological foundation for ministry.

As a center for theological study in a pluralistic society, St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute exists to promote ecumenical and interfaith understanding and to contribute to the formation of a theologically and ethically informed public. At St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute, theological inquiry takes place in an atmosphere that acknowledges the diversity of religions and cultures while emphasizing the Jewish and Christian traditions. The educational program of St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute is intended to stimulate careful reflection leading to knowledge of one's own tradition and respect for the traditions of other people.

#### ACCREDITATION

The Ecumenical Institute is a division of St. Mary's Seminary & University, which is accredited by the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada. It is also accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools with an accreditation status of Non-Compliance Warning.

# MASTER'S-LEVEL PROGRAMS

## MASTER OF ARTS IN THEOLOGY

### OVERVIEW

The Master of Arts in Theology (MAT) is a general theological studies degree that provides foundational studies in the main disciplines of theology, including biblical studies, history, moral theology (theological ethics), spirituality, systematic theology, and ecumenical and interfaith studies. Electives are also available in practical theology and religious education. The degree is earned with the successful completion of 48 credits, including a culminating experience. Students may pursue a general program or concentrate in biblical studies, history, moral theology, or systematic theology.

### DEGREE LEARNING OUTCOMES

MAT graduates will be able to – wisely, faithfully, and responsibly – to

- Interpret biblical texts and articulate Scripture's major theological themes
- Analyze Christian texts, convictions, and practices within the major developments and diversities of Christian tradition
- Interpret the world in all its dimensions theologically



- Integrate ecumenical understanding and respect in articulating one's own faith identity and engaging with others

## THE CURRICULUM

The curriculum of the Master of Arts in Theology program consists of 16 three-credit courses including a culminating experience. The courses include:

- An introduction to theological study and an orientation to biblical studies
- Requirements (with some choice) in six departments
- Three free electives

For their culminating experience, students may do one of the following, depending on their interest, background, and grade point average:

- Participate in a colloquium (integrative seminar) which counts as the 16th course
- Write a thesis which counts as the 16th course

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Graduation requirements for the Master of Arts in Theology are as follows:

- Satisfactory completion of 48 credits, according to specific distribution requirements
- A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 for all courses taken at St. Mary's; students whose

GPA falls below 3.0 risk academic probation or dismissal.

- Satisfactory completion of the culminating experience

The maximum length of time for completion of a degree is 8 years, with a minimum GPA of 3.00.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The following courses are required for the Master of Arts in Theology. Students may attend classes in-person or virtually.

### Introductory Courses (2 courses)

- TH601 Introduction to Theological Study  
Note: TH601 is normally a pre- or co-requisite for other courses in the program; students with prior theological study may petition to waive this course and substitute a free elective.
- BS600 Orientation to Biblical Studies  
Note: BS600 is normally a pre- or co-requisite for most other courses in biblical studies in the program; students with prior academic biblical study may petition to replace this course with a biblical elective.

### Biblical Studies (3 courses)

- BS621 Literature and Theology of the Hebrew Bible
- BS622 Literature and Theology of the New Testament

- One BS elective

#### Ecumenical and Interfaith Studies (1 course)

- Any ES (Ecumenical and Interfaith Studies) course

#### History (2 courses)

- H600 Church History
- Elective History course

#### Systematic and Moral Theology (4 courses)

- ST601 Foundations of Systematic Theology
- MT600 Fundamentals of Theological Ethics
- Two electives from Moral Theology and/or Systematic Theology

#### Spirituality (1 course)

- Any three credit SP (Spirituality) course, except courses in spiritual direction

#### Free Electives (3 courses)

Any courses for which the co- and/or prerequisites are met.

### CULMINATING EXPERIENCE

The Master of Arts in Theology program requires a culminating experience designed to promote integration and to assess overall achievement of degree outcomes. For their culminating experience, students may do one of the following, depending on their interest, background, and GPA:

- Participate in a master's colloquium (TH799, an integrative seminar offered each spring).
- Write a thesis. A GPA of at least 3.80 is required, and a suitable topic must be approved.

## CONCENTRATIONS

Any student may informally focus on an area of the curriculum by choosing departmental courses and electives according to his or her interests. In consultation with their advisor, the Dean, and/or the Director of the M.A. in Theology (MAT) program, students may also design formal concentrations in a specific area (e.g., biblical studies), a narrower sub-discipline of theology (e.g., Old Testament/Hebrew Bible, New Testament), or an inter-disciplinary area (e.g., the Bible and Christian ethics). A concentration consists of six courses (seven if a thesis is written), of which no more than two may be independent studies. Normally the concentration will have a mixture of specific requirements and unspecified electives.

Students wishing to pursue an individualized concentration should meet with either the Dean/Director of the MAT program to select an area of concentration and design the course content of the concentration. The proposed concentration must be approved by both the advisor and the Dean/Director of the MAT program.

# MASTER OF ARTS IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

## OVERVIEW

The Master of Arts in Christian Ministries (MACM) is designed to equip persons for a competent ministry in congregational or other settings.

Students take required foundational studies, select courses to comprise a ministry emphasis, and engage in integration and contextual study including a capstone ministry project in the course Ministry in Context.

## DEGREE LEARNING OUTCOMES

This program of preparation includes not only intellectual but also ministerial and spiritual elements. In developing the understanding and skills necessary for ministry leadership, MACM graduates will be able to

- Integrate Scripture in ministerial identity and practice
- Integrate Christian tradition in ministerial identity and practice
- Demonstrate growth in faith commitment and spiritual awareness
- Design, implement, and assess

contextualized ministry

- Employ ecumenical understanding and respect in working collegially with persons of other Christian traditions

## THE CURRICULUM

The curriculum of the Master of Arts in Christian Ministries program consists of the following components: 48 credits (16 three-credit courses) including seven foundational courses, three ministry integration courses, four ministry focus courses, and one free elective.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Graduation requirements for the Master of Arts in Christian Ministries are as follows:

- Satisfactory completion of 48 credits, according to the core requirements
- A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.7 for all courses taken at St. Mary's; students whose GPA falls below 2.7 risk academic probation or dismissal.
- Satisfactory completion of Ministry-in-Context, the culminating experience.

The maximum length of time for completion of a degree is 8 years, with a minimum GPA of 2.70.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The following courses are required for the Master of Arts in Christian Ministries. Students may attend classes in-person or virtually.

### Foundational Courses (7 courses)

- TH601 Introduction to Theological Study  
**Note:** TH601 is normally a pre- or co-requisite for other courses in the program; students with prior theological study may petition to waive this course and substitute a free elective.
- BS600 Orientation to Biblical Studies  
**Note:** BS600 is normally a pre- or co-requisite for most other courses in biblical studies in the program; students with prior academic biblical study may petition to replace this course with a biblical elective.
- BS621 The Literature and Theology of the Hebrew Bible
- BS622 The Literature and Theology of the New Testament
- ST601 Foundations of Systematic Theology
- MT600 Fundamentals of Theological Ethics
- H600 Church History
- PT718 Christian Worship

### Ministry Integration Courses (9 credit hours ~ 3 courses)

- PT601 Foundations of Christian Ministry (normally the first ministry course taken)

- A suitable course in the oral interpretation of Scripture
- PT799 Ministry in Context (usually the final course in the program)

#### Ministry Focus Courses (4 courses)

Students take four courses in a focused area of ministry, which is declared an Emphasis with approval of the Director of the M.A. in Christian Ministries. These courses are generally PT or SP. However, students may choose not to focus.

One free elective (any course in the curriculum)

#### MINISTRY-IN-CONTEXT

Crucial to any educational program of preparation for ministry is supervised, practical experience and theological reflection on that experience. The Ministry-in-Context component of the M.A. in Christian Ministries (PT799) is the culminating and integrating experience of the degree program. Offered only in the spring semester, Ministry-in-Context is a three-credit course that includes a field placement (with a field advisor) of approximately 10 hours per week (minimum of 120 hours total) and a bi-weekly theological reflection seminar with an instructor and all Ministry-in-Context students for that term. This culminating experience consists of three credits included in the 48 credits in the basic curriculum.

Enrollment in Ministry-in-Context is open only to fully matriculated MACM degree candidates who have completed at least 36 hours toward the degree,



including at least 15 hours of the foundational curriculum and 12 hours of the requirements for their area of ministry emphasis. Normally, students should take Ministry-in-Context in their last term.

Planning for Ministry-in-Context must begin in the spring or summer prior to the year in which the student will take the course, with final arrangements and approval by all involved parties to be completed before December 1 during the fall term in order to graduate the following spring. Placement is based on the area of student interest, site availability, and input from the student's faculty advisor and the program director, after discussion with the individual student. Depending on the emphasis, site placement may be at the student's own church, another church, or a different ministry site. Each student in a placement has both a faculty advisor and an on-site ministerial advisor, often a pastor.

Expectations of the student include regular, enthusiastic participation at the site for the agreed-upon hours each week (totaling a minimum of 120 hours for the semester), growth in ministry skills, and collateral reading.

The purpose of the concurrent theological reflection seminar is to integrate a student's theological education, personal spiritual development, and ministry experience. Since students have different emphases and are not ministering to the same groups of people, the seminar provides great opportunities for students to assist one another's growth. A substantial integrative paper (both scholarly and reflective in character) is required.

Ministry-in-Context students are evaluated by the on-site advisor and the seminar instructor. Students are assigned a course grade by the instructor. Successful completion of Ministry-in-Context requires a grade of B or better. Repeating the Ministry-in-Context experience may be required only in extenuating circumstances.

## SPIRITUAL GROWTH

As a degree designed to equip persons for competent leadership in some form of specialized ministry in congregational or other settings, the M.A. in Christian Ministries (MACM) necessarily has as its chief goal the preparation of ministers, particularly lay ministers.

Spiritual growth within the MACM program takes place largely as a result of a student's own initiatives in this area, aided by certain structures within the program itself. Spiritual growth takes place in five arenas within the program: (1) classes in general; (2) classes in spirituality and related areas; (3) the Ministry-in-Context experience; (4) an external guided spiritual experience lasting at least one academic year (see below); and (5) participation in at least one relevant external conference, retreat, or similar experience per year while matriculated in the program. Students are expected to identify activities in items 4 & 5 in a yearly report.

The last two components require approval by the Director of the MACM program. The one-year experience may be fulfilled by participation in a denominationally based ministry-preparation

program or involvement in some other form of spiritual-growth process outside St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute. The latter might include (a) individual or group spiritual direction or spiritual companioning or (b) participation in a church-sponsored prayer and study cell, covenant discipleship group, small Christian community, etc. The focus, duration, and location of the annual experience are at the discretion of the student, subject to the approval of his or her advisor and the program director. The retreat or conference must be relevant to the student's personal, spiritual, and/or ministerial growth.

#### **M.DIV. PARTNERSHIP LANCASTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute partners with Lancaster Theological Seminary to create a path to the Master of Divinity (M.Div.). Students take the first half of their M.Div. coursework from the Ecumenical Institute, then complete the degree in Lancaster's accessible weekend program.

Students take 12 courses (36 credits) at the EI (11 required and 1 elective), which must be completed within four years. Students then take the final 39 credits at Lancaster over a 4-year period. The weekend classes at Lancaster meet on Friday evenings or Saturday mornings (with lodging available for those who need it).

Lancaster's M.Div. is accredited by the ATS and by the Department of Education of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania/Division of Graduate & Professional Programs.

# CERTIFICATE OF ADVANCED STUDIES (CAS)

## OVERVIEW

The post-master's **Certificate of Advanced Studies in Theology** (CAS) is designed for individuals who possess a master's degree in theology (e.g., MAT.), ministry (e.g., MACM), divinity (e.g., MDiv), or a related field and who desire to continue their theological education with a general or focused program of study. (All qualified graduates of St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute, regardless of degree or year of graduation, may apply.)

The 30-credit (10-course) program can be taken on a full-time or a part-time basis. The program is composed in part of regular courses available to students studying for master's degrees and in part of specialized, advanced study specific to this program. (Advanced standing with credit, up to six credits, may be available for previous advanced work. See details below.) Tuition is the same as for the master's program.

## PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

Successful completion of the CAS will be marked by the ability to demonstrate, both orally and in writing, one of the following major outcomes, depending on the track selected:

- A broadened and deepened understanding of several theological disciplines beyond that appropriate to a master's degree

(general track)

- In-depth understanding of a specific academic area of theology beyond that appropriate to a master's degree (specialized track)
- In-depth understanding of a specific academic area of theology and proficiency in conducting theological research in that area (research track)

## COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAM

All course work must normally be completed within five years from the date of the first course taken toward the CAS (excepting advanced-standing credits). A final GPA of 3.00 is required.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The CAS program consists of ten courses, including at least one colloquium or seminar and one directed reading course. Students may attend classes in-person or virtually. As stated above, the program has three options/tracks: general, specialized, and research (details below). In general, students construct their own curriculum in consultation with the CAS Director and their advisor, as long as the curriculum falls within the program guidelines specified here and does not duplicate previous graduate work.

An intensive directed-reading course called TH790 CAS Directed Reading is the capstone experience of the program. The student is guided by a member

of the faculty on a topic approved by the CAS Director. The course consists of guided reading (approximately 1,500-2,000 pages) on the topic together with appropriate writing projects, normally three critical reviews and a final paper analyzing and synthesizing the materials in the readings.

**(Note:** Tuition for this course is at independent-study rates, 50% higher than regular tuition.) There is no thesis option in the CAS program.

## CAS TRACKS

### GENERAL TRACK

The curriculum for the CAS general track consists of the following:

- Eight 700-level courses or approved 600-level courses that are augmented and taken as 700-level courses,
- At least one seminar or colloquium
- One directed reading course (TH790)

Students in the general track may take up to one approved independent-study course and any number of approved seminars and colloquia in lieu of the 700-level general course offerings.

Students in the general track may take up to six credits in a biblical language at the 600 level.

### SPECIALIZED TRACKS

CAS students may specialize in one of the following areas: Biblical Studies, Ecumenical and Interfaith Studies, Moral and Systematic Theology, and Spirituality. Students who concentrate in one

academic area pursue the following sort of curriculum:

- Eight 700-level courses or approved 600-level courses that are augmented and taken as 700-level courses, with at least **four** courses in one academic area (e.g., Biblical Studies or Moral and Systematic Theology)

**Note for students specializing in Biblical**

**Studies:** All students must take at least four 700-level courses, normally including one OT and one NT course (other than biblical language courses). Students without advanced standing may take up to twelve credits in biblical languages, while students with advanced standing may take up to six credits in biblical languages.

- At least one seminar or colloquium
- One directed reading course (TH790) in a subject related to the area of specialization

Students in a specialized track may take up to two approved independent-study courses and any number of approved seminars and colloquia in lieu of the 700-level general course offerings, as long as four of their total courses (counting courses, seminars, and independent studies) are in their area of specialization.

**RESEARCH TRACK**

CAS students with demonstrated advanced research skills, whose primary interest is in theological research, whether simply as the focus of the CAS

program or in preparation for doctoral studies, may pursue the research track. Students in the research track may specialize in a particular academic area, approved by the CAS Director, or follow a more interdisciplinary program. Areas for the specialized research track include Biblical Studies (NT, OT, or both), Ecumenical and Interfaith Studies, Moral and Systematic Theology, and Spirituality. In consultation with the Director of the CAS, they choose an advisor and work closely with the advisor throughout the program.

The course of study for the research track is as follows:

- Six 700-level courses or approved 600-level courses that are augmented and taken as 700-level courses
- One seminar or colloquium
- One directed reading course (TH790)
- Two guided research projects, TH791 and TH792, each focused on the preparation of a substantive paper or other final project. The subject of the two research projects may be related, though they do not have to be.

#### ADVANCED STANDING AND COURSE WORK OUTSIDE THE PROGRAM

- CAS applicants may petition the Director of the CAS program for up to six credits of advanced standing with credit on the basis of previous advanced course work (e.g., seminars, research projects) at the master's degree program level.



This reduces the number of credits required to 24.

- In addition, up to six credits of post-master's course work taken at St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute, but prior to acceptance into the CAS program, may be counted toward the CAS upon the approval of the CAS Director.
- With the permission of the appropriate seminary administrator(s), students may take up to nine pre-approved credits in St. Mary's School of Theology (SOT). (Please note that the SOT uses a different numbering system; approved courses are generally at the 600 level or higher.)
- No transfer of courses from other institutions into the CAS program is permitted.
- All course work must be completed within five years from the date of the first course taken toward the CAS (excepting advanced-standing credits).

# GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

## OVERVIEW

The certificate programs of St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute are designed primarily to serve the needs of laypersons interested in ministry in churches, schools, and religious or community organizations. The purpose of these programs is to provide students with the opportunity to do focused work in one area of ministry or theological study. Certificates do not certify that a student is competent to engage in any particular form of ministry but that he or she has completed a particular course of study.

St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute offers several post-bachelor's certificates:

- Biblical Studies—15 credits
- CONNECT: Faith, Health, & Medicine—12 credits
- Spirituality—12 credits
- Urban Ministry—21 credits (currently under revision)

Possession of an accredited bachelor's degree is required for admission to a certificate program.

Additional requirements are listed at Admission & Registration.

## POLICIES SPECIFIC TO THE CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

All courses for the certificate must be taken at St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute; no transfer credits are permitted. Students may attend classes in-person or virtually. Courses taken prior to enrollment in the certificate program are counted toward the certificate only with special permission. Courses not required for a certificate must be approved in advance by the student's advisor or the administration before they are counted as part of a student's certificate program.

All course work must be completed within three years. Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 2.7, which is required for completion of the certificate, or risk academic probation or dismissal. Students may enroll in more than one certificate program, or in a certificate and degree program simultaneously, with the approval of their advisor.

Some certificates still require a field-placement experience known as a practicum. The practicum site and work must be approved by the student's advisor, the instructor, and the Director of the M.A. in Christian Ministries program.

Certificates are awarded upon completion of the required courses, not at graduation. Students may normally transfer courses taken for a certificate into a degree program, provided that the courses fulfill degree requirements or can be used as electives.

## BIBLICAL STUDIES

The revised Certificate in Biblical Studies (BS) provides a 15-credit course of study in the essentials of responsible interpretation of the Bible. This certificate is designed for a variety of students: people seeking understanding and personal enrichment, those preparing for further theological study, students and scholars from other disciplines, teachers in private and parochial schools, teachers in churches or religious congregations, and clergy seeking to update or expand their biblical knowledge.

*Required courses include:*

- BS600 Orientation to Biblical Studies
- BS621 Literature & Theology of the Hebrew Bible
- BS622 Literature & Theology of the New Testament
- Two BS electives

## SPIRITUALITY

The revised Certificate in Spirituality introduces students to the resources available for spiritual growth and for facilitating the spiritual formation of others. The program is intended for those interested in the study, practice, and/or transmission of spiritual traditions and practices.

The four courses can be taken in any order. There are no prerequisite courses. Each of the courses will be offered approximately every 2 years.

- SP605 Spiritual Disciplines & Traditions
- SP603 Introduction to Spiritual Care
- SP609 Spiritual Theology
- SP631 Explorations in Christian Spirituality

## CONNECT: FAITH, HEALTH & MEDICINE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

CONNECT is a 12-credit graduate theological certificate program for doctors, nurses, and other medical professionals; chaplains, pastors, and other ministers; and anyone concerned with the challenges of integrating faith and health.

The CONNECT certificate program is cohort-based, with all enrolled students beginning together. The certificate is organized as five sequential modules plus a practicum that together build understanding and competency

TH651 Text and Tradition: Health, Healing, and Human Flourishing in the Biblical Narrative (3 credits)

Students will identify the central vision of human health and flourishing in Scripture, highlighting the most relevant texts, practices, and topics, and will be able to assess how others (patients, fellow congregants, clients, clinicians) are relating Scripture to their health situations.

TH653 Science Looks at Faith: The “Faith & Health” Movement (1 credit)

Students will critically describe and evaluate connections between faith and health that have been proposed historically and in contemporary “faith and health” studies, becoming competent to

critically assess claims that faith helps or hinders health and healing.

#### TH655 I and Thou – The Imperative of Relationships (1 credit)

Students will explain the importance of relationship in healing, both from individual and communal perspectives, becoming competent to demonstrate healthy relational skills, including respectful interaction, active listening, and caring presence.

#### TH654 Medicine and Morality: The Shape of Curing and Caring in The Christian Tradition (3 credits)

Students will describe how the Christian moral tradition has understood the “good of the body” (i.e., health) and subsequently influenced the historical practice of so-called “western” medicine, becoming competent to evaluate the moral conflicts that often arise between the Christian tradition and modern medical practice.

#### TH652 What People Believe Matters – World Religions’ Views on Health and Illness (2 credits)

Students will identify the beliefs, prayers, and rituals surrounding illness and dying in major world religions, noting similarities and differences between those of Christianity and of non-Christian traditions, and the spiritual practices that each religion encourages for health and flourishing, becoming competent to recognize the importance of

these beliefs and practices, and to respond to them with humility, openness, and hospitality.

PT791 CONNECT Practicum – Faith & Health in Action (2 credits)

At a healthcare, community, or church location, students will place into practice what they have learned in CONNECT.



# DOCTORAL-LEVEL PROGRAM

## DOCTOR OF MINISTRY (DMin)

### OVERVIEW

St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute's Doctor of Ministry Program develops skills in appropriate ministerial research, attends to students' personal and spiritual growth, and culminates in a summative doctoral-level ministry project. The program roots ministry in the mission of God, the ways God is working in a student's context and ministry, and in the student him- or herself. This program is accredited by the Association of Theological Schools and the Middle States Commission on Higher Education with an accreditation status of Non-Compliance Warning.

### EDUCATIONAL GOALS

- To develop gospel attentiveness that recognizes ministry contexts and practices in light of God's mission.
- To develop ministerial wisdom that integrates deep understanding of Christian texts and traditions with practical reasoning about God's mission today.
- To deepen vocational fidelity that unites students' ministry competencies, experiences, and gifts in sustaining service to God's mission.
- To enhance students' missional impact through attentive, wise, faithful ministry.

## PROGRAM STRUCTURE

The DMin is a 30-credit degree, designed to be completed in three years. The program requires:

- Six 3-credit intensive courses (one per term for two years); students can attend in-person or virtually.
- Three 2-credit research online courses
- One ministry project with thesis

## THE CURRICIULUM

- DM862 Reading Scripture
- DM868 Living Doctrine
- DM815 Enculturating Ministry
- DM869 Healing Trauma
- DM816 Leading Leaders
- DM817 Embodying Scripture

## RESEARCH COURSES

- DM801 Researching Ministry (online)
- DM802 Creating Ministry (online)
- DM 803 Proposing Ministry (hybrid)

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Graduation requirements for the Doctor in Ministry as follows:

- Satisfactory completion of 30 credits;
- Students in the DMin program must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.85 after two semesters to remain enrolled in the program;
- Satisfactory completion of the ministry project, thesis, and its defense

The maximum length of time for completion of the degree is 6 years, with a minimum GPA of 3.00.

## ADMISSION AND REGISTRATION

St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute has a rolling admissions policy.

All official materials should be sent to  
Office of Admissions, Ecumenical Institute  
St. Mary's Seminary & University  
5400 Roland Ave.  
Baltimore, MD 21210

### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

#### GENERAL

The general qualification for admission to St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute is a bachelor's degree from a fully accredited school with an appropriate grade point average. In certain circumstances, exceptions are allowed to the requirements of a degree or minimum grade point average.

#### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENT FOR SPECIFIC ADMISSION CATEGORIES

MACM requires a minimum undergraduate GPA of 2.75 (on a four-point scale). *Applicants must be able to articulate, in writing and in person, their understanding of ministry and their particular aptitude for the ministry track selected.*

MAT requires a minimum undergraduate GPA of 2.75 (on a four-point scale).

MDiv in partnership with Lancaster Theological Seminary requires a minimum undergraduate GPA of 2.75 (on a four-point scale).

CAS requires a master's degree in theological studies (e.g., M.A., M.Div.) or its equivalent, with a minimum GPA of 3.30 (on a four-point scale), and evidence of potential for success in advanced theological study at the Ecumenical Institute.

Certificates require a minimum undergraduate GPA of 2.75 (on a four-point scale).

DMin requires a minimum master's degree GPA of 3.0 (on a four-point scale). Also required:

- ATS accredited Master of Divinity or its educational equivalent (defined as at least 72 graduate credits distributed among theology, Bible, and ministerial arts; that includes an appropriate master's degree).
- Ministry experience, current ministry engagement, and evidence of capacity for advanced competence in ministry practice and reflection. Normally, admission requires three years of ministry experience after the first theological degree.
- Commitment to deep theological reflection on the practice of ministry.

Auditor requires minimum undergraduate GPA of 2.0 GPA (on a four-point scale).

## ACADEMIC SKILLS ASSESSMENT

The Academic Skills Assessment is a diagnostic instrument that helps students and prospective students develop stronger reading comprehension and written communication. It is assessed by the Director of the Center for Academic Resilience & Success (CARS). While a certain score on the ASA is not required for admission, the ASA is normally taken by applicants during the admissions process, usually on their home computer, although a student can request to take it onsite if she or he prefers. The results (in addition to recommendations for academic growth) are provided to the student by the CARS Director.

## SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Prospective master's-level students who possess less than a cumulative undergraduate GPA of 2.75 may apply for probationary admission as an Explorations in Theology student. Probationary students must achieve a cumulative GPA of at least 2.7 for their first four courses. The Dean or the Associate Dean (with input from the Director of CARS), who review the progress and re-evaluates the status of all probationary students each term, may also impose other conditions. Probationary students must meet all conditions associated with their probationary admission.

## STUDENTS WITHOUT A BACCALAUREATE DEGREE

St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute admits a limited number of highly qualified students without an accredited baccalaureate degree. Typically these students have several years of college, or have

a degree from a school that is not accredited. In conformity with the following policies, such students may apply for admission as Explorations in Theology or Master of Arts in Christian Ministries students. *All such students will originally be admitted on probationary status.*

For students with 60+ undergraduate hours:

- Transcript verification of all college level work. Assessment of quality.
- Take the Academic Skills Assessment AND write a spiritual/ministry autobiography, followed by consultation with the Director of CARS.
- Required ‘soft start’: either TH601 or an approved course by the Dean.
- Achievement of 2.7 or better GPA after four courses.

For students with fewer than 60 undergraduate hours, there will be an interview with the Dean. If the Dean determines the student has potential for graduate work, the student will take the Academic Skills Assessment (ASA) AND write a spiritual/ministry autobiography, followed by consultation with the Director of CARS. The aggregate score on the ASA and the writing demonstrated by the spiritual/ministry autobiography will determine whether the student is allowed to enroll and, if so, in which classes.

## DUAL-DEGREE AND SECOND-MASTER'S ADMISSION

Prospective or current students may apply to pursue both the M.A. in Theology (MAT) and the M.A. in Christian Ministries (MACM), either simultaneously or sequentially. Applicants must meet the admissions criteria for *each* degree. The following guidelines should be carefully reviewed.

In accordance with accreditation standards, St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute allows up to 24 credits from one degree program to be applied to another degree program. Thus, with careful planning and advising, a student may be able to complete both degrees by earning 72 credits and completing the culminating experience for *each* degree. In certain instances, however, more than 72 credits may be required for the completion of both degrees.

Second-master's students who have earned a St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute certificate (other than the CAS), and who wish to count their certificate courses toward the master's degree, are required to take at least 12 credits beyond the certificate. Students applying for a second master's degree with credits older than 10 years will have such credits evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Each dual-degree program is individually arranged in consultation with the administration. The 24 credits normally applied to both degree programs are TH601, BS600, two biblical courses, MT600, ST601, H600, a spirituality course, and one other courses.

The time limit for the completion of the two degrees



simultaneously or sequentially is normally 10 years from the date of first enrollment in a St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute course.

Students who have earned master's degrees in theological studies from other institutions may apply for an abbreviated second-master's degree in either the M.A. in Christian Ministries or the M.A. in Theology program. Credits previously earned are evaluated and applied according to the criteria listed in the preceding paragraphs and the requirements of the degree program to which application is being made.

An orientation session is **required** of all new master's level students during their first year (preferably in their first term of enrollment); an orientation session is also **required** for all new DMin students. The session is usually held on a Saturday morning at the beginning of each semester and consists of information about the nature of theological inquiry, an overview of the programs and policies of St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute, and a tour of the campus.

## ACADEMIC POLICIES

### ACADEMIC CALENDAR

The academic calendar is maintained in the Year at a Glance Calendar found on the EI website.

### GENERAL STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility of the student to comply with the academic policies of St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute. In addition to timely registration and prompt payment of fees, it is especially imperative to complete the admission requirements and to inform the office in writing of any changes in registration, address, telephone numbers, or email addresses.

It is expected that students already have basic skills in library usage, critical reading, research, and writing term papers. Students are required to research, organize, and write their own papers, and to keep a copy of any work submitted in a course.

### ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Graduate theological education requires a high degree of involvement in the classroom and initiative outside the classroom. Regular attendance – whether in-person or virtually – and informed participation are expected and evaluated in all classes. A necessary absence should be cleared in advance with the professor. More than one absence from a course may result in additional work or a lower grade, at the professor's discretion. More

than three absences may result in administrative withdrawal. These guidelines are in force whether the student attends onsite or online.

Auditors are required to attend more than 50 percent of a course's class sessions in order to have the course audit appear on their transcripts.

Students are also expected to be on time for class – whether attending in-person or virtually – and to silence cell phones and beepers while in class. (Exceptions are made only for physicians, pastors, and other professionals who are on call, and for persons whose immediate family medical situation requires availability.) Students attending virtually are expected to mute their microphones unless they are speaking in class. A detailed policy on attendance and related matters may be found in the Student Handbook.

## ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

St. Mary's is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities. It is St. Mary's policy that all such requests be made to the office of the Registrar. St. Mary's requires supporting documentation for these requests.

The Registrar will review the request and the documentation, consult with the student, and make a decision about the request. The Registrar will provide written notice of the approved accommodation to any faculty or staff member, who may be directly involved in implementing the

accommodation.

#### UNIT OF CREDIT

Most courses are designed to yield three graduate credits. Full-time study is normally nine (9) or more credits per semester. Most St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute students are part-time students taking one or two courses each semester.

#### GRADING SYSTEM

Grades represent the evaluation by the professor of the results of class participation, papers or reports, and written or oral examinations. More specific guidelines about grades and grading are available in the Student Handbook.

Any question concerning a grade must be resolved by the student and the professor within one month of the official notification of grades. Appeals beyond this are made first to the Dean and then to the Faculty, according to procedures outlined in the Student Handbook. The decision of the Faculty is final.

Grade Symbol	Quality Points per Credit Hours	Grade Description
A	4.0	Exceptional
A-	3.7	Excellent
B+	3.3	Very Good
B	3.0	Good
B-	2.7	Acceptable
C+	2.3	Inadequate
C	2.0	Deficient
C-	1.7	Poor
F	0.0	Failure
XF	0.0	Failure for Academic Dishonesty
W		Withdrawal
I		Incomplete

The grade of “I” is a temporary notation indicating that some course work has not been completed by the end of the term, due to some circumstance beyond the student’s control, and that the professor has approved an extension of time. An “I” is never automatically granted; a student must submit a written petition, available for download [here](#) and from the E.I. office that requires the approval of both the professor and the Dean. Dates for the submission of all work to remove Incompletes are published each term by the Registrar’s office.

Unless an extension has been expressly requested, failure to submit outstanding work to the professor by this date will result in a grade of “F” being assigned.

## COURSE FAILURES AND REPEATS

Course grades of F and XF earn no graduate credit. A student who fails a course is subject to probation or, in certain cases, dismissal. (For details, see the Student Handbook.) The grade of “F” is permanently inscribed on the student’s transcript. If a student is placed on probation and is permitted or required to repeat the course, the student may re-take the course one time, normally no more than two years following the term in which the “F” was received. If the student earns a better grade in the repeat course, the original “F” remains on the transcript but is no longer calculated in the student’s GPA; the new grade both appears on the transcript and is calculated as part of the student’s GPA.

A student whose cumulative GPA falls below the minimum for his or her program (3.00 – MAT and CAS; 2.7 – MACM and basic certificates; 2.85 – D.Min.) is also placed on probation. A student on probation for this reason who wishes to repeat a course voluntarily, in order to improve his or her cumulative GPA, may petition the Dean for permission to do so. Permission is normally granted only if the course grade was less than C+ and if the Dean believes that repeating the course will improve not only the student's GPA, but also his or her mastery of the subject. If the student earns a better grade in the repeat course, the original grade remains on the transcript but is no longer calculated in the student's GPA; the new grade both appears on the transcript and is calculated as part of the student's GPA. Voluntary repeat courses must normally be taken no more than two years following the term in which the original course was taken.

## GRADE REQUIREMENTS

Students must maintain the minimum GPA for their programs (i.e., at least a "B" average (GPA 3.0) for the MAT and CAS, and at least a "B-" average (GPA 2.7) for the MACM and basic certificates. A doctoral student must maintain a 2.85 GPA. GPAs are never "rounded up."

Unsatisfactory grades must be balanced by higher grades to maintain the required GPA. A required course yielding a failing grade must be repeated by matriculated certificate and degree candidates who are permitted to remain in their programs.

Only grades from courses taken at St. Mary's are

used to calculate the GPA.

#### LIFE OF CREDITS

Because of the nature of theological research and study, students should have a command of the most recent information available when working toward a degree. It is optimal for credits earned at St. Mary's or transferred from another accredited institution to have been completed with a grade of B or better to be eligible for application to a current degree, but this is decided on a case-by-case basis. Use of these credits must be approved by the Dean and the Registrar. Grades for work in transfer courses are not calculated in the current program GPA.

#### DEAN'S LIST

The annual Dean's List recognizes as many as 15 fully matriculated master's degree candidates (MAT or MACM) with the highest cumulative GPA. Minimum requirements for consideration for the Dean's List are (1) matriculation in a master's degree program; (2) completion of 18 or more credits at the E.I., including a total of six or more credits within at least two of the three terms prior to the announcement of the Dean's List (normally about July 1); (3) a cumulative GPA of 3.85 or better; and (4) no course grade below a B. Dean's List students receive a partial scholarship for one course during the following academic year.



## ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All course assignments are to be done with integrity. Written work is to be the student's own, and care is to be taken to give full documentation for all material quoted or paraphrased from other sources. The standard for written work is the most recent edition of Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, (University of Chicago Press). Plagiarism and the submission of work other than one's own are viewed as serious offenses and grounds for dismissal. A detailed policy on academic integrity and honesty may be found in the Student Handbook.

## GRADE REPORTS AND TRANSCRIPTS

Grade reports are issued at the end of each term. Grade reports will not be issued for any student who has outstanding financial or library obligations (e.g., items checked out of St. Mary's library in the student's name but not returned, plus any library fines).

Written, signed requests for transcripts, which must include the student's date of birth and years of attendance, should be addressed to the Registrar. The form is available on the EI website. Email messages are not acceptable for legal release of records. The charge for both official and unofficial transcripts is \$5 per transcript. Transcripts will not be issued for any student who has failed to fulfill his or her financial or library obligations.

## LEAVES OF ABSENCE

A leave of absence may be granted to a student for up to one year for a certificate (including C.A.S.) candidate and two years for a degree candidate. A student who takes a leave of absence must still complete the certificate or degree in the time period specified in the catalog unless he or she requests, and is granted, an extension due to extenuating circumstances. If a student wishes to extend a leave of absence, it is his or her responsibility to do so by completing the appropriate form, available on the website or in the EI office. Failure to return to classes at the end of one's leave of absence ordinarily results in a loss of matriculancy, unless the student has been in communication with the Administration about his or her status.

## CONCERNS AND GRIEVANCES

Student concerns about a course or grade may often be resolved directly with the professor. Unresolved issues should be addressed using the procedures described in the Student Handbook. The Student Handbook also contains policies for appeals concerning administrative withdrawal, probation, and dismissal.

## PROBATION AND DISMISSAL

Any student (matriculated or not) whose overall GPA falls below the minimum (3.0 for MAT and CAS; 2.7 for MACM and basic certificates; 2.85 for D.Min.) will be placed on academic probation. The student must then bring his or her average back up to the minimum GPA for that program

within the next four courses (or the end of the program, whichever comes first) to avoid dismissal. Any student (matriculated or not) who fails a course or otherwise demonstrates an inability to meet the academic demands of St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute will be placed on academic probation or dismissed. Master's degree candidates who fail the Colloquium, the thesis project, or Ministry-in-Context are normally not permitted to enroll in future courses at St. Mary's Ecumenical for credit, and may be dismissed. In addition, any student who is found guilty of academic dishonesty or other major violations of students' responsibilities, as indicated in St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute's Community- Life Agreement and Community-Life Policies printed in the Student Handbook, will be subject to academic probation or dismissal. Further information is available in the Student Handbook.

#### ACADEMIC PLANNING AND ADVISING

Students taking courses for credit are assigned an advisor. Certificate and degree candidates are assigned an advisor based on their specific area of study. All students are encouraged to seek academic assistance from their advisors, director of their program, or one of the deans, especially in the planning of their program and course selection.

Students who need specialized counseling (e.g., regarding further graduate education) should consult also with the Dean.

The average Ecumenical Institute student takes one or two courses per term and is often somewhat confined, with respect to scheduling classes, by other commitments. The following guidelines are given with the understanding that some students cannot follow the “ideal” program.

All degree and certificate candidates, potential degree and certificate candidates, “seekers” exploring various programs, and students who need a general introduction to theological study should take TH601 during their first or second term. BS600 is also strongly recommended early on for actual or potential degree candidates, and is required for most other biblical studies courses. Students new to theological study may also begin with courses that are part of Explorations in Theology.

Degree-seeking students should then normally continue with foundational courses in each of the core theological disciplines. There is no prescribed order, but the ideal sequence for the first four to six courses would be: (1) biblical core (taking Hebrew Bible before New Testament); (2) ST601 Foundations of Systematic Theology; (3) MT600 Fundamentals of Theological Ethics; and (4) H600. The required course in Spirituality may be taken at any time in the program. Additional required foundational courses (e.g., PT601 in the MACM degree) may be taken later in the program. Students may take courses only after they have completed the appropriate prerequisites.

## RESEARCH AND WRITING ASSISTANCE

Students in need of research and/or writing assistance are urged, and in some cases required, to contact St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute's Director of the Center for Academic Resilience & Success (CARS). Students whose performance on the Academic Skills Assessment, spiritual autobiography (if applicable), or in-class work suggests the need for writing assistance may be required to work with the CARS Director and/or to take a non-credit remedial course in academic writing and reading to continue as a student.

## PERMANENT RECORDS POLICY

1) In addition to biographical information (name, address, state or federally mandated demographic data), St. Mary's keeps the following information on all students, and it becomes part of a student's permanent academic record:

- a) admissions and other test scores;
- b) diocese information (for seminarians);
- c) recommendations (when required for admission);
- d) dates of application, acceptance, registration, matriculation, withdrawal;
- e) academic program(s) information at St. Mary's;
- f) all coursework, with grades, status, dates, and grade point averages;
- g) official transcripts from other institutions;
- h) courses transferred for credit;
- i) photograph of student;
- j) information about other language(s) studied;
- k) correspondence with St. Mary's faculty and administrators relating to student's program;

- l) all information on theses;
- m) comprehensive examinations and examination scores;
- n) information on degree(s) conferred;
- o) other pertinent documents and information (withdrawal, transfer, leave of absence, financial documents that pertain to academic status, dismissal, etc.

Any questions regarding St. Mary's retention policy should be directed to the University Registrar.

2) Restrictions are placed on student records in compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and to protect the privacy rights of individuals. These documents may be inspected only by those faculty members or administrators at St. Mary's who have a legitimate educational interest in seeing them. Others may inspect these files or obtain copies of information in a student's record only after the Registrar's Office has received a signed written request or permission form from the student and the student has paid a nominal fee, or as otherwise permitted or required by law. No e-mail requests are accepted.

- 3) Under FERPA, St. Mary's has designated the following student information as "directory" and will release it without prior authorization from the individual student, unless the student has previously restricted its release: Student Legal Name; Local, Permanent and Email Address; Dates of Attendance; Enrollment Status (full-time/part-time); Program of study; Degrees, Honors and Awards conferred and date conferred;

## Class Standing.

St. Mary's does not release this information to third-party vendors or solicitors. A student may restrict the release of directory information by making a written request to the Registrar's Office. If a student no longer wishes to have Directory information withheld, they must also notify the Registrar's Office in writing. Please note that a request to restrict release of directory information will prevent St. Mary's from releasing a student's directory information to prospective employers, student loan servicers, insurance companies and other organizations to which a student would customarily want St. Mary's to transmit information without explicit consent. It will also prevent St. Mary's from listing the student's directory information in publications such as the commencement program, newsletters, etc.

4) Students are at liberty to inspect their own academic files by making an appointment with the Office of the University Registrar. By submitting a letter of application to the University Registrar, a student may 1) inspect and review his or her records, 2) petition to seek amendment of records that the student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights. No part of any record may be inspected by the student without the express written consent of the University Registrar. Permission will be granted within a reasonable time and in no case more than

forty-five (45) days from the date of the receipt of a written request for inspection. Any suspected inaccuracies in any of St. Mary's records should be reported at once to the Office of the University Registrar. Since each institution is responsible for the accuracy of its own files and for correcting them when necessary, St. Mary's will not amend academic documents from other parties which may be in its possession nor forward such records to third parties. This includes documents such as transcripts from other institutions sent to St. Mary's as part of the admissions process.

5) Only those St. Mary's staff members who are directly responsible for students' accounts or billing matters may examine financial documents that relate to a student's stay at St. Mary's.

## NAME CHANGES

St. Mary's Seminary & University requires that all official records bear a student's full and legal first, last, and middle (if applicable) name.

If a student's name has been changed because of marriage, divorce, legal action, etc., the student is required to provide documentation of the change, such as a driver's license, passport, or social security card before the name can be changed in St. Mary's records.

## SUBMISSION OF ORIGINAL WORK AND RETENTION OF COPIES

It is customary for students to submit exams, papers, theses, and other projects to their instructors



for evaluation during a course or as part of their culminating experience in a degree program. When work is submitted for evaluation, the student retains the intellectual property rights to that which has been created, but the original hard-copy or electronic copy submitted becomes the property of St. Mary's Seminary & University. In the case of course work, the instructor evaluates the submitted work and communicates the results of the evaluation to the student. The faculty member, at his or her discretion, may return the work to the student, retain the work, discard the work, or request that the administration retain the work or place the work in the student's academic record.

The administration of St. Mary's also retains the right to request the original work from the instructor and may place it in the student's academic record, store the work elsewhere (e.g., in the library or in a special collection of submitted projects), or discard the work if the student fails to retrieve it in a timely manner after being asked to do so.

It is St. Mary's policy to retain all student work about which the instructor or administration has raised questions about its academic integrity.

It is the student's responsibility to retain a copy of all work submitted for evaluation, which includes all hard copies and electronic versions.

## PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

Partner schools may have additional policies and procedures. For example, MDiv partnership students should consult the policies of Lancaster Theological Seminary.

## TUITION & FEES

All tuition and fees listed here are for 2023-2024 and are subject to change. Current figures are listed each term in the course brochure.

<b>Master's Level Tuition for 2023-2024</b>	
<b>Credit Students</b>	
per 3-credit course	\$1,305/course
per 1-credit course	\$435/course
<b>Audit Students</b>	
per 3-credit course	\$487.50/course
per 3-credit course, St. Mary's alums	\$330/course (no fees required)
Companion Fee	\$165/course
Independent Study	\$1957.50/course
M.A. thesis per term (3 credits of independent study; 2 terms registration required)	\$1957.50/term
M.A. Thesis continuance (per term, excluding summers)	\$400/term

<b>Master's Level Fees (non-refundable) for 2023-2024</b>	
Application fee (one-time)	\$35
Registration fee per term	\$85
Student services fee per term	\$80
Late registration fee	\$90
Late payment fee*	\$30/occurrence
Returned check fee	\$25/occurrence
Graduation fee	\$150
Transcript fee	\$5/transcript

<b>Doctoral Level Tuition &amp; Fees for 2023-2024</b>	
<b>Total Program Fee: \$17,721</b>	
<b>A La Carte as follows:</b>	
Application fee (one-time)	\$35
Course tuition	\$551/credit
Student Services fee	\$85/course
Annual/Completion fee (years 1-4)	\$250/year
Continuation fee	\$500 (5 <sup>th</sup> year) \$1,000 (6 <sup>th</sup> year) \$2,000 (7 <sup>th</sup> year)
Late registration fee	\$90
Late payment fee*	\$30/occurrence
Returned check fee	\$25/occurrence

\*Student will not be penalized while waiting for payment from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

## PAYMENT POLICIES

St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute allows students to register for classes by paying the term's **registration fee**. Full payment of tuition and student services fee, or partial payment with a deferred-payment contract, is due no later than the first day of classes. Deferred-payment contracts, whereby the tuition is payable in installments, without finance charges, are available to new students and continuing students who maintain good credit at St. Mary's. Payments may be made by check, money order, or credit card (VISA, MasterCard, American Express, or Discover).

Each student is fully responsible for his or her own financial obligations. Students who fail to make their full tuition payment, or first installment on a deferred-payment contract, by the first class meeting may have their registrations cancelled.

Students who fail to make a scheduled tuition payment are invoiced and assessed a late-payment fee for each occurrence. Repeated or extended delinquency within a term may result in an administrative withdrawal from the term's class(es). Students who are administratively withdrawn (a) lose all monies paid, (b) are responsible for tuition for the course according to the tuition reduction and refund policy printed below, and (c) receive no credit for the classes in which they were enrolled. Students who fail to meet their financial obligations on time, write checks with insufficient funds, or otherwise establish poor credit at St. Mary's may

not be permitted future registration with a deferred-payment contract.

Students with outstanding financial obligations are not permitted to register for classes, and/or receive a certificate or diploma upon completion.

*A student's financial obligations are considered fulfilled when a check paid to St. Mary's clears the bank or a credit-card transaction is approved.*

#### TUITION REDUCTION AND REFUND

Students who withdraw from a course are obligated to fulfill their financial obligations for the course. The schedule printed below lists the deadlines by which an *official written and signed withdrawal notice* **must** be received by the Registrar in order for the student to be eligible for the corresponding percent of reduction in tuition; see the box on the following page.

Any student who fails to withdraw officially or who is administratively withdrawn is not entitled to a reduction or refund.

Time of Official Withdrawal	Percentage of Tuition Reduction
Before the second class session	100%
Up to 8 hours of meeting time	2/3
Up to 12 hours of meeting time	1/3
After 12 hours of meeting time	0%

## CHARGES OR REFUNDS FOR CHANGES IN REGISTRATION STATUS

Students who change from audit to credit must pay full credit tuition regardless of the date their change in registration status becomes effective.

Students who change from credit to audit pay audit tuition. This change must be made by the mid-point of the term (the specific date is published on the school calendar). The change is made by submitting to the Registrar a signed copy of the Request for Change in Course Status (available on EI website). A student who fails to submit a signed form will not be switched to audit status. A student who submits a signed form after the published deadline must pay full credit tuition.

## FINANCIAL RECORDS POLICY

Financial documents that relate to a student's stay at St. Mary's may be examined only by those parties at St. Mary's who are directly responsible for students' accounts or billing matters.

## E.I. SCHOLARSHIPS

St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute has limited scholarship funds that are awarded to students on the basis of financial need, academic achievement, sponsorship by a church, or other criteria. Auditors are not eligible for scholarships or other forms of financial aid. More information is available on the EI website.



# COURSE DESCRIPTION

## OVERVIEW

The following selection of course descriptions, organized by department, *is representative, but not comprehensive*. New courses are occasionally added according to student need and faculty interest. All courses yield three credits unless otherwise noted.

There are three basic levels of courses: introductory (600 level), and intermediate/advanced (700 level), and doctoral (800-level). They are distinguished as follows:

- Some 600-level courses have one or more pre- or co-requisites (courses that must be taken prior to, or at the same time as, the course listed, unless special permission of the instructor and Dean is obtained).
- The 700-level courses have one or more pre-requisites (courses that must be taken prior to the course listed, unless special permission of the instructor and Dean is obtained). The highest 700-level courses (790s) are advanced seminars.
- The 800-level courses are – for the most part – doctoral level courses; the only exceptions are the two semesters of master's-thesis study.

Note: CAS matriculants may take certain 600-level courses at the 700 level (with some additional work required) with the permission of the instructor and the Dean.

Prerequisites and co-requisites do not normally apply to auditors but may be applied at the discretion of the Dean or the instructor. Note the following abbreviations: PR = prerequisite; CR = co-requisite; PR/CR = either a prerequisite or a co-requisite. Co-requisites may be taken either at the same time as or before the course listed.

Prerequisites and co-requisites may be waived only with the permission of the Dean and the instructor.

In addition to the regularly offered courses listed below, other electives, additional language courses, and independent study courses can be arranged. An independent study is intended to enhance a student's program of study. It is not meant to permit students to take regularly scheduled courses on an individual basis. Contact the St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute office for further information.

A list of course offerings for the fall, spring, or summer term is published on the EI website approximately two months before the term begins.

Most courses are offered on a one-year, two-year, or three-year cycle according to guidelines published in the Student Handbook or supplements to it.

## MASTER'S-LEVEL COURSES

### BIBLICAL STUDIES

The Bible has nourished and directed the Jewish and Christian traditions, as believers have heard the revelatory words of God through the history, poetry, prophetic discourses, gospels, and letters it contains. St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute courses in biblical studies are intended to acquaint students with the biblical texts and cultures, the basic skills of biblical interpretation, biblical languages, and the interrelationship between the Bible and other theological disciplines, as well as the life of faith.

#### BS600 ORIENTATION TO BIBLICAL STUDIES

An introduction to academic biblical studies, with attention to the nature and development of biblical literature, tools for research, and methods of interpretation (exegesis). This course is a pre- or co-requisite for most other courses in biblical studies. PR = none.

#### BS611 INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL HEBREW I

A basic course on the grammar and vocabulary of biblical Hebrew. PR = none.

#### BS612 INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL HEBREW II

A continuation of BS611, with reading in the Hebrew Bible. PR = BS611.

## **BS613 INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL GREEK I**

A basic course on the grammar and vocabulary of New Testament Greek. PR = none.

## **BS614 INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL GREEK II**

A continuation of BS613, with reading in the Greek New Testament. PR = BS613.

## **BS621 THE LITERATURE AND THEOLOGY OF THE HEBREW BIBLE**

An introduction to the theological content of the Torah, Prophets, and Writings in their historical and social contexts, with consideration of critical methodology and major themes. PR/CR = BS600.

## **BS622 THE LITERATURE AND THEOLOGY OF THE NEW TESTAMENT**

An exploration of the New Testament in its historical and social settings, focusing on the unique purpose and theology of each writing, with attention to the origins of the New Testament canon. PR/CR = BS600.

## **BS629 SCRIPTURE AND SPIRITUALITY**

An exploration of the intersection between Scripture, theology, and spirituality through a variety of practices. Cross-listed as SP629. PR/CR = NONE

## BS630 THE PROPHETIC LITERATURE

A survey of the major writings of the prophetic movement in ancient Israel from the eighth century B.C.E. until the rise of apocalypticism. PR/CR = BS600, TH601.

## BS669 STUDY TOUR: THE CITIES OF PAUL AND JOHN

A study trip to Turkey and Greece to visit the sites and explore the contexts related to the writings of the Apostle Paul and John the Seer, the author of the Book of Revelation. Cross-listed as H669. PR/CR = BS600, TH601 (or permission of instructor).

## BS690-692 READINGS IN BIBLICAL GREEK I-III

Reading of selected passages of the Greek New Testament to develop facility in grammatical analysis and enlarge vocabulary (2 credits). PR = BS614.

## BS700 BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION IN THE CHURCH

An examination of the role of Scripture and of various methods of biblical study in the life of the church. PR = BS600, TH601, and at least one previous BS course.

### BS711 THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

An exploration of the historical context, literary features, spirituality, and theological significance of the fourth Gospel. PR = BS600, TH601.

### BS714 THE PSALMS

A study of representative psalms as the songs of ancient Israel, Judaism, and the Christian church. PR = BS600, TH601.

### BS715 THE LETTERS & THEOLOGY OF PAUL

An analysis of several of Paul's letters in their historical context and the chief theological and ethical themes in them. PR= BS600, TH601.

### BS716 BIBLICAL AND ECUMENICAL PERSPECTIVES ON MARY

An exploration of Mary's role in Scripture and the life of the church as mother of Jesus and model disciple in light of recent ecumenical scholarship and dialogue. Cross-listed as ES716. PR = TH601 and BS622.

### BS717 GOSPEL OF MARK

An analysis of the composition, content, and theological significance of the Gospel of Mark. PR = BS600, TH601

## BS646 WOMEN IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

A study of the various roles and perspectives on women in the New Testament, women's status in the first century, and their relationship with Jesus. PR = BS600 and BS622.

## BS719 GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

An analysis of the composition, content, and theological significance of the Gospel of Matthew. PR = BS600, TH601

## BS733 ROMANS: PAUL'S GOSPEL THEN AND NOW

An historical, theological, and literary exploration of Paul's most significant letter, with attention to its contemporary implications for faith and life. PR = BS600, TH601.

## BS756 THE GOSPELS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

A study of social justice themes in the four gospels and their application to contemporary social problems. Cross-listed as MT756. PR = BS600, TH601, and BS622.

## **BS757 ETHICS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE IN THE HEBREW BIBLE**

An examination of ethical and social justice themes in the Hebrew Bible and their application to contemporary issues. Cross-listed as MT757. PR = BS600, TH601, and BS621.

## **BS760 FIRST CORINTHIANS**

An historical, exegetical, and theological analysis of Paul's first canonical letter to the Corinthians. PR = BS600, TH601.

## **BS764 THE BOOK OF REVELATION AND ITS INTERPRETERS**

An analysis of the last book of the Bible in its first-century context, and a consideration of some of its many interpretations through the centuries. PR = BS600, TH601.

## **BS794 SEMINAR IN BIBLICAL STUDIES**

A seminar on a topic in biblical studies. PR = BS600, TH601, and at least two additional BS courses, or matriculation in the C.A.S. program.

## **BS795 EXEGESIS OF THE HEBREW BIBLE**

An exegetical seminar on a book or several passages from the Masoretic Text of the Hebrew Bible book or selected passages of various writings. PR = BS600, BS612



## BS796 EXEGESIS OF THE GREEK NEW TESTAMENT

An exegetical seminar on a New Testament book or selected passages of various writings. PR + BS600, BS614

## ECUMENICAL & INTERFAITH STUDIES

Courses in this area investigate the history of ecumenism, theological issues inherent in religious pluralism, and ecumenical and interfaith relations. St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute recognizes the diversity of religious perspectives in contemporary society and fosters mutual respect and understanding of both similarities and differences among people of faith.

### ES625 JUDAISM AND CHRISTIANITY: TWO TYPES OF FAITH

A survey of similarities and differences in Jewish and Christian understandings of God, salvation, messiah, Scripture, incarnation, and other foundational concepts. Cross-listed as ST625. PR = TH60; ST601 recommended.

### ES665 JEWISH-CHRISTIAN STUDIES

The annual Richman-Linehan Course in Jewish-Christian Studies is team taught by Jewish and Christian scholars. The course fosters interfaith engagement in Jewish-Christian studies by selecting a specific focus each year, such as interpretations of scripture, history of relations, contemporary dialogue, theologies, ethics, or worship. Typically, the course cross-lists in at least one other discipline.

### ES703 INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM

A survey of Jewish thought, practice, history, and literature from the biblical period to the present,

with special attention to the contemporary American context. PR/CR = TH601.

#### ES716 BIBLICAL AND ECUMENICAL PERSPECTIVES ON MARY

An exploration of Mary's role in Scripture and the life of the church as mother of Jesus and model disciple in light of recent ecumenical scholarship and dialogue. Cross-listed as BS716. PR = TH601 and BS622.

#### ES718 CHRISTIAN WORSHIP: HISTORY, PRINCIPLES, AND PRACTICE

The annual Rev. Dr. George Gray Toole Course in Christian Worship is taught each spring.

A biblical, theological, historical, and contemporary analysis of worship in the classical Christian tradition, emphasizing commonalities, denominational distinctives, and current issues. Cross-listed as PT718. PR/CR = TH601.

## HISTORY

The development of the beliefs, organization, and socio-political character of the Christian communities both in the East and the West is explored in the history courses of St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute. The roots of our shared religious past as well as the rich heritage of ethnic and denominational traditions are explored as helpful resources for our contemporary self-understanding.

### H600 Church History

A survey of the major theological and historical developments of the Christian church from the early church to the modern day. PR = TH601.

### H601 EARLY AND MEDIEVAL CHURCH

A survey of the major theological and historical developments of the Christian church from the early church to the eve of the Reformation. PR/CR = TH601.

### H603 MODERN CHURCH HISTORY

A survey of the history of Christianity from the 16th-century Reformations to the present. PR/CR = TH601

## H669 STUDY TOUR: THE CITIES OF PAUL AND JOHN

A study trip to Turkey and Greece to visit the sites and explore the contexts related to the writings of the Apostle Paul and John the Seer, the author of the Book of Revelation. Cross-listed as BS669.

PR/CR = BS600, TH601 (or permission of instructor).

## H703 THE LIFE AND WRITINGS OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

An historical, theological, and socio-cultural analysis of King's writings, with attention to influences on his thought and to his legacy. Cross-listed as MT703. PR = TH601.

## H720 THE CHURCH AND THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

An historical, theological and socio-cultural analysis of some of the major people, places and events of the Civil Rights movement, with particular focus on the implications of the movement for the contemporary church. Cross-listed as MT720. PR/CR = TH601.

## MORAL THEOLOGY

The response of faith to classical questions of right and wrong as well as new issues raised by contemporary society make ethics a primary theological concern. In moral theology (theological ethics) courses, the role of Scripture in ethical decision-making, the nature of personhood, the ability to reason, the meaning of virtue, and the testimony of the Christian ethical tradition are investigated in the light of personal and global ethical concerns.

### MT600 FUNDAMENTALS OF THEOLOGICAL ETHICS

A survey of the major foundational themes in Christian ethics, such as sin and virtue, moral development, conscience and character, Scripture and ethics, and approaches to selected contemporary issues. PR/CR = TH601.

### MT691 CONTEMPORARY ROMAN CATHOLIC ECCLESIOLOGY AND ETHICS

An in-depth study of the nature, ministry, and mission of the church in Catholic teaching as the context for examining current issues. Cross-listed as ST691. PR = TH601, MT600, ST601.

### MT703 THE LIFE AND WRITINGS OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

An historical, theological, and socio-cultural

analysis of King's writings, with attention to influences on his thought and to his legacy. Cross-listed as H703. PR = TH601.

#### MT713 THE THEOLOGY AND ETHICS OF HOSPITALITY

An examination of the biblical, theological, and moral aspects of hospitality and their relation to contemporary moral and political issues. Cross-listed as ST713. PR = TH601.

#### MT720 THE CHURCH AND THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

An historical, theological and socio-cultural analysis of some of the major people, places and events of the Civil Rights movement, with particular focus on the implications of the movement for the contemporary church. Cross-listed as H720. PR/CR = TH601.

#### MT721 CHRISTIAN BIOETHICS

A survey of fundamental issues in, and current theological perspectives on, topics such as abortion, euthanasia, treatment of terminal illnesses, the ethics of genetic research, patient rights, physician-assisted suicide, and justice issues in health-care delivery. PR = TH601, MT600.

#### MT729 THE THEOLOGY AND ETHICS OF BONHOEFFER

An historical analysis of the life and writings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, with a focus on his work in the areas of Christian theology and ethics. Cross-listed as ST729. PR = TH601, MT600 or ST601.

#### MT748 THE THEOLOGICAL ETHICS OF STANLEY HAUERWAS

This course is an introduction to the theological ethics of Stanley Hauerwas. PR = TH601.

#### MT751 CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ETHICS

An examination of scriptural, theological, and ethical principles of Christian social thought with an emphasis on current ecclesiastical statements and ecumenical approaches to social issues. PR = TH601, MT600.

#### MT756 THE GOSPELS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

A study of social justice themes in the four gospels and their application to contemporary social problems. Cross-listed as BS756. PR = BS600, TH601, and BS622.

#### MT757 ETHICS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE IN THE HEBREW BIBLE

An examination of ethical and social justice themes in the Hebrew Bible and their application to contemporary issues. Cross-listed as BS757. PR = BS600, TH601, and BS621.



## PRACTICAL THEOLOGY

The integration of sound theological method with the realities of ministry and spirituality in the contemporary world is the goal of courses in practical theology at St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute. This department emphasizes both the personal and communal implications of theological study for understanding faith development, pastoral care, ministries of the laity, and worship.

### PT601 FOUNDATIONS OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

A survey of the biblical, theological, and spiritual foundations of ministry, and of the expression of lay and ordained ministry in various Christian traditions. PR/CR = TH601.

### PT604 BIBLICAL STORYTELLING (1.5 cr)

A study of the theory and practice of biblical storytelling as a means of proclamation and spiritual formation. PR/CR – TH601, BS600, and a Testament course.

### PT622 INTRODUCTION TO PASTORAL COUNSELING

An exploration of the theological foundations of counseling, classic and contemporary models and theories, and basic skills, including listening and referring. PR/CR = TH601.

## PT643 LEADING THE RETREAT

An exploration of different types of spiritual retreats and the skills needed for their design, execution, and evaluation. Cross-listed as SP643. PR/CR = TH601.

## PT704 BIBLICAL STORYTELLING: NARRATIVE INTERPRETATION OF SCRIPTURE (1.5 cr)

A study of the theory and practice of biblical storytelling as a means of proclamation and spiritual formation. PR/CR = TH601, BS600, and a Testament course.

## PT705 GRIEF COUNSELING

An exploration of the bereavement process by examining personal stories, biblical narrative, and other resources to develop an integrated approach to persons experiencing various forms of loss and grief. PR = TH601.

## PT709 PREACHING IN THE BLACK CHURCH TRADITION

A theoretical and practical introduction to preaching and the role it plays in the African-American church. PR/CR = TH601, BS600, and at least one additional BS course.

## PT718 CHRISTIAN WORSHIP

The annual Rev. Dr. George Gray Toole Course in Christian Worship is taught each spring. It provides

a biblical, theological, historical, and contemporary analysis of worship in the classical Christian tradition, emphasizing commonalities, denominational distinctives, and current issues. Cross-listed as ES718. PR/CR =TH601

#### **PT719 CRAFTING THE SERMON**

An exploration of the creation of a sermon from Scripture text to final form, designed both for those who proclaim and for those who would be discerning listeners. PR/CR = TH601, BS600, and at least one additional BS course.

#### **PT734 MINISTRY IN THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITY**

An analysis of historical and contemporary issues related to pastoral and lay ministries in African-American churches and communities. PR/CR = TH601.

#### **PT738 FAITH DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE LIFE CYCLE**

An examination of models of psychological, moral, faith, and spiritual development across the life stages, and their implications for the church's ministry of formation and education. Cross-listed as SP738. PR/CR = TH601.

#### **PT742 MINISTRY TO THE ILL AND DYING**

An examination of medical, theological, and pastoral perspectives on illness and death, providing

strategies for ministry to the ill, the recovering, and the dying, whether in home, hospice, or institutional settings. PR/CR = TH601.

#### PT750 URBAN MINISTRIES

An analysis of the theological substructures and organizational models of various kinds of urban ministries. PR/CR = TH601.

#### PT761 ROMAN CATHOLIC SACRAMENTAL THEOLOGY AND CANON LAW FOR PASTORAL MINISTERS

A study of sacramental theology, ecclesiology, and relevant aspects of canon law for those who will engage in parish pastoral ministry. Cross-listed as ST761. PR = TH601 and either ST690 or ST691.

#### PT794 CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION (C.P.E.)

The academic course in conjunction with a unit of CPE. While CPE is experiential, this course explores particular areas of pastoral care from an academic perspective. The CPE unit must be taken at a hospital that is accredited by the Association of Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE, Inc.) to offer CPE. Note: Reduced tuition at the EI may apply, but additional fees charged by the sponsoring hospital apply. PR = completion of 20 credits, including BS621 and BS622 (or equivalent), SP603, and one other approved PT or SP course, plus permission of Director of MACM and acceptance

by the Hopkins program. Note: This course may not be applied to the MAT.

### PT797 URBAN MINISTRY PRACTICUM

A field placement experience in urban ministry. PR = TH601 and PT750, and completion of additional requirements toward certificate or degree as determined by advisor.

### PT799 MINISTRY-IN-CONTEXT

A supervised field placement experience and concurrent theological reflection seminar, open only to M.A. in Christian Ministries candidates who have completed at least 36 credits. PR = completion of degree requirements specified [here](#), plus permission of the instructor and the approval of the placement experience by the middle of the term prior to enrollment in the course.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious education is subsumed under Practical Theology. The following courses serve as foundations in religious education theory, pedagogy, and curriculum.

### RE601 FOUNDATIONS OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

A consideration of the biblical, theological, psychological, and spiritual foundations and current fundamental issues in religious education. PR/CR = TH601.

### RE605 TEACHING AND CURRICULUM IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

An examination of the theory and practice of varied teaching and learning styles, current issues in curriculum and pedagogy, and skills for curriculum design and assessment. PR/CR = TH601.

## SPIRITUALITY

Spirituality refers to one's relationship with God and one's relationship with other persons and all creation because of that primary relationship with God. The courses in spirituality offered by St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute acquaint students with how both Christians and non-Christians, from antiquity to the present, have experienced and described their relationship with God and with how certain practices can foster spiritual growth, not only in an individual but also in congregations.

### SP603 INTRODUCTION TO SPIRITUAL CARE

A consideration of the various types of spiritual care and the loci of such care, comparing it and contrasting it with pastoral care. PR/CR = NONE

### SP605 SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES AND TRADITIONS

An examination of historical and contemporary models of such disciplines as prayer, contemplation, fasting, and silence. PR/CR = NONE

### SP609 SPIRITUAL THEOLOGY

An in-depth exploration of a particular spiritual movement, with its themes and practices, rooted in its historical context. PR/CR = NONE

### SP612 AFRICAN-AMERICAN SPIRITUALITY

An exploration of the distinctive heritage and experiences of African-American Christians and their contributions to the contemporary church.

PR/CR = TH601.

### SP629 SCRIPTURE AND SPIRITUALITY

An exploration of the intersection between Scripture, theology, and spirituality through a variety of practices. Cross-listed as BS629. PR/CR = NONE

### SP631 EXPLORATIONS IN SPIRITUALITY

An examination of different schools of spirituality and the themes they highlight. PR/CR = NONE

### SP643 LEADING THE RETREAT

An exploration of different types of spiritual retreats and the skills needed for their design, execution, and evaluation. Cross-listed as PT643. PR/CR = TH601.

### SP715 THE THEOLOGY AND PRACTICE OF PRAYER

An exploration of Jewish, Catholic, and Protestant theological interpretations of prayer, with reflection on the student's personal and denominational theology of prayer. PR/CR = TH601.



## SP720 INTRODUCTION TO SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

An introduction to various approaches to spiritual friendship and direction as a means to spiritual growth, including individual and group spiritual direction. PR = TH601 and either SP603 or SP605.

## SP738 FAITH DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THE LIFE CYCLE

An examination of models of psychological, moral, faith, and spiritual development across the life stages, and their implications for the church's ministry of formation and education. Cross-listed as PT738. PR/CR = TH601

## SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

Systematic theology is the careful analysis of the philosophical implications and the doctrinal content of faith as expressed in the creeds, doctrines, and theological writings of the Christian tradition. Confessional diversity is acknowledged and explored in the systematic theology courses of St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute. Constructive dialogue and mutual understanding are intended to foster appreciation of the faith of others as well as one's own.

### ST601 FOUNDATIONS OF SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

A survey of basic theological topics, such as revelation, the Triune God, sin and grace, Christ, salvation, and the church, with attention to theological method and historical development. PR/CR = TH601.

### ST623 THEOLOGICAL USES OF PHILOSOPHY

A study of the role of philosophical thinking and of major philosophers in theology. PR = TH601.

### ST625 JUDAISM AND CHRISTIANITY: TWO TYPES OF FAITH

A survey of similarities and differences in Jewish and Christian understandings of God, salvation, messiah, Scripture, incarnation, and other foundational concepts. Cross-listed as ES625. PR = TH60; ST601 recommended.

## ST650 LAUGHTER AND GOD: THE PLACE OF HUMOR IN CHRISTIANITY

A study of the role of humor in the Bible, theology, and Christian life. PR = TH601.

## ST690 PERSPECTIVES IN ROMAN CATHOLIC THEOLOGY

A survey of the task, methods, sources, and principal doctrines of Roman Catholic theology, including God and the Trinity, the church and grace, liturgy and sacraments, and eschatology. PR = TH601, ST601.

## ST691 CONTEMPORARY ROMAN CATHOLIC ECCLESIOLOGY AND ETHICS

An in-depth study of the nature, ministry, and mission of the church in Catholic teaching as the context for examining current issues. Cross-listed as MT691. PR = TH601, MT600, ST601.

## ST693 READINGS IN SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

This one-credit seminar focuses on reading an advanced text in systematic theology. Taken three times, it equals an elective requirement. PR = ST601 and either BS621 or BS622.

## ST713 THE THEOLOGY AND ETHICS OF HOSPITALITY

An examination of the biblical, theological, and

moral aspects of hospitality and their relation to contemporary moral and political issues. Cross-listed as MT713. PR = TH601.

### ST721 THE TRIUNE GOD

An exploration of the Christian approach to the mystery of God as Triune, including its biblical roots, the theological tradition, and contemporary voices. PR = TH601, ST601.

### ST723 DREAMS AND DIVINITY

A theological history of the idea of dreams as revelation. PR/CR = TH601.

### ST724 THE PERSON AND WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

A biblical, historical, and theological study of the person and mission of the Spirit. PR = TH601, ST601.

### ST729 THE THEOLOGY AND ETHICS OF BONHOEFFER

An historical analysis of the life and writings of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, with a focus on his work in the areas of Christian theology and ethics. Cross-listed as MT729. PR = TH601, MT600 or ST601.

### ST745 PERSPECTIVES IN BLACK THEOLOGY

A survey of the work of black theologians, including Martin Luther King, Jr., James Cone, and

J. Deotis Roberts, and a consideration of their contributions to black identity and contemporary theology. PR = TH601, ST601.

#### ST761 ROMAN CATHOLIC SACRAMENTAL THEOLOGY AND CANON LAW FOR PASTORAL MINISTERS

A study of sacramental theology, ecclesiology, and relevant aspects of canon law for those who will engage in parish pastoral ministry. Cross-listed as PT761. PR = TH601 and either ST690 or ST691.

#### ST782 CHRISTIANITY AND ITS CRITICS

A survey of critics of Christianity from the early Church to the present, including such figures as Celsus, Hume, Nietzsche, Freud, Hitchens, in order to understand, evaluate, and respond to their critiques. PR = TH601.

#### ST794 SEMINAR IN SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

A seminar on a topic in systematic theology. PR = BS600, TH601, ST601, and at least one additional ST course, or matriculation in the C.A.S. program.

## THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

Courses carrying the prefix TH are introductory or cumulative-experience courses that focus on the integration of various theological disciplines.

### TH601 INTRODUCTION TO THEOLOGICAL STUDY

An introduction to the study of theology, including a survey of its major disciplines, review of research-paper techniques, and hands-on experience with the practical tools and methods of theological research and writing. This three-credit course is a pre- or co-requisite for most 600- and 700-level courses. PR = NONE.

### TH603 PHILOSOPHY IN UNDERSTANDING THEOLOGY

An introduction to significant thinkers and ideas in western philosophy, with the particular aim of engaging in theological discourse. PR = NONE.

### TH651 TEXT AND TRADITION: HEALTH, HEALING, AND HUMAN FLOURISHING IN THE BIBLICAL NARRATIVE (part of CONNECT certificate)

An examination of the central vision of human health and flourishing in Scripture, highlighting the most relevant texts, practices, and topics, in order to assess how others (patients, fellow congregants, clients, clinicians) are relating Scripture to their health situations. (3 credits)

**TH653 SCIENCE LOOKS AT FAITH: THE  
“FAITH & HEALTH” MOVEMENT (part  
of CONNECT certificate)**

A critical evaluation of the connections between faith and health that have been proposed historically and in contemporary “faith and health” studies, in order to become competent in critically assessing claims that faith helps or hinders health and healing. (1 credit)

**TH655 I AND THOU – THE IMPERATIVE OF  
RELATIONSHIPS (part of CONNECT  
certificate)**

An evaluation of the importance of relationship in healing, both from individual and communal perspectives, in order to become competent to demonstrate healthy relational skills, including respectful interaction, active listening, and caring presence. (1 credit)

**TH654 MEDICINE AND MORALITY: THE  
SHAPE OF CURING AND CARING IN THE  
CHRISTIAN TRADITION (part of  
CONNECT certificate)**

An exploration of how the Christian moral tradition has understood the “good of the body” (i.e., health) and subsequently influenced the historical practice of so-called “western” medicine, in order to become competent to evaluate the moral conflicts that often arise between the Christian tradition and modern medical practice. (3 credits)

## TH652 WHAT PEOPLE BELIEVE MATTERS – WORLD RELIGIONS’ VIEWS ON HEALTH AND ILLNESS (part of CONNECT certificate)

Identification of the beliefs, prayers, and rituals surrounding illness and dying in major world religions, highlighting similarities and differences between those of Christianity and of non-Christian traditions, and the spiritual practices that each religion encourages for health and flourishing, in order to become competent to recognize the importance of these beliefs and practices, and respond to them with humility, openness, and hospitality. (2 credits)

## TH790 C.A.S. DIRECTED READING COURSE

An intensive directed-reading course, conducted as an independent study that serves as the capstone experience of the C.A.S. program. PR = completion of most course work for C.A.S. and permission of the Dean.

## TH793 THESIS PROPOSAL PREPARATION

A one-credit course designed to assist students seeking to write a thesis in its proposal preparation. PR = completion of most course work for master’s degree and permission of the Dean.

## TH799 THEOLOGY COLLOQUIUM

An interdisciplinary seminar, with classic readings from Scripture, theology, philosophy, and literature. Available to MAT students as their culminating



degree experience and other students only with permission of the Dean.

#### TH800 M.A. IN THEOLOGY THESIS

The first semester of a two-semester sequence of supervised thesis research.

#### TH801 M.A. IN THEOLOGY THESIS

A continuation of TH800. PR = TH800.

## DOCTORAL-LEVEL COURSES (3 credits)

### DM862 READING SCRIPTURE

An exploration of approaches to reading Scripture for Christian faith, formation, ministries, and mission. Special emphasis will be given to (1) selected parts of the canon (both Testaments, diverse genres); (2) various approaches to reading the Bible as Scripture, including the main Christian traditions and several different cultures; (3) recent developments in theological and missional hermeneutics; and (4) the connection between Scripture and the student's ministry and D.Min. project.

### DM868 LIVING DOCTRINE

An exploration of how theology enlivens Christian understanding, formation, and ministry. Working through the full spectrum of Christian doctrines, the course will note how Christian doctrine serves as a (1) lens for analysis of our current historical situation; (2) script for Christian speaking, living, and ministry; and (3) foundational component of the student's ministry and D.Min. project.

### DM815 ENCULTURATING MINISTRY

Effective ministry incarnates the mission of God in the overall societal context and the specific cultures in which the minister serves. This course will attempt to equip the student to understand both the contemporary worldview and the specific

cultures(s) in which the student is serving, so as to be able to sensitively and effectively embody the good news in that setting.

## DM869 HEALING TRAUMA

Almost every human being has been touched by trauma in some form, and so have many congregations, communities, and institutions. Therefore, all ministry occurs in the context of trauma. This course provides an immersion in understanding the spectrum and nature of trauma, along with its profound effects on the brain, psyche, and spirit. Students will be encouraged to consider the traumas in their lives and their contribution (positive or negative) to the way they do ministry. This course will equip the minister or pastoral helper to be a non-anxious presence, providing unflinching witness to suffering, and to assess the need for other kinds of care, including referral when indicated.

## DM816 LEADING LEADERS

Most ministry involves the exercise of leadership in some capacity. This course prepares students to meet the leadership challenges they are increasingly likely to encounter as their ministry matures. Instruction includes extended times of interaction with senior leaders from diverse denominational and ministry contexts.

## DM817 EMBODYING SCRIPTURE

An exploration of how Scripture finds embodiment

in Christian thinking, feeling, and acting in personal and communal/social dimensions. The course explores how the biblical text, engaged as Scripture, 1) frames how we see and engage the world; 2) forms our character and communities; and 3) patterns our performance of the gospel. The goal is to integrate the traditional disciplines of Christian formation, spirituality, and ethics/moral theology, as well as theo-cultural hermeneutics.

## DOCTORAL-LEVEL RESEARCH COURSES (2 credits)

### DM801 RESEARCHING MINISTRY

Taken during the first year of coursework, this online course prepares students to do high-quality, context specific ministry research. Students will 1) understand why ministry needs research; 2) develop a significant, but achievable research question; 3) begin work on a project-specific bibliography; and 4) identify data needs and potential participants for the development and execution of the envisioned project.

### DM802 CREATING MINISTRY

Taken during the second year of coursework, this online course prepares students to design high quality, high impact ministry. Students will 1) learn to critically examine their context, in order to develop the most appropriate intervention or resource; 2) consider more deeply the most appropriate data to be collected (including the timing of such collection), with emphasis on the

pros and cons of various types of data; 3) learn about various ways to evaluate data; and 4) reflect on their own ministry calling and the role this project plays in that calling.

## DM803 PROPOSING MINISTRY

Ordinarily taken after coursework is completed, this course is a hybrid, beginning online and concluding with an in-person approval of the student's ministry project proposal. Students will develop a feasible proposal (including workable plans for implementation, revision, and documentation) and secure a Project Advisor.

## ADMINISTRATION AND STAFF

Rev. Phillip Brown, P.S.S., J.D., J.C.D., S.T.B.  
President Rector

Rev. Brent Laytham, Ph.D.  
Dean  
Director, M.A. in Theology

Rebecca Hancock, Ph.D.  
Associate Dean  
Director, M.Div. Partnership – Lancaster Seminary

Patricia Fosarelli, M.D., D.Min.  
Director, M.A. in Christian Ministries  
Director, Center for Academic Resilience and  
Success (CARS)

Michael Gorman, Ph.D.  
Director, Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) Program

Rev. Jason Poling, D.Min., S.T.M.  
Director, Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) Program

Galen Zook, M.Div.  
Director of Admissions and Communications

Arryn Milne, B.S.  
Director of Information Services

Alicia Arkell-Kleis  
University Registrar

Marcia Hancock  
Billing Officer

Emily Hicks M.A.  
CANVAS Administrator

# THE MARION BURK KNOTT LIBRARY

The Marion Burk Knott Library of St. Mary's Seminary and University is the largest specialized theological library in the Baltimore area, with additional materials in the areas of philosophy, psychology, pastoral counseling and church history, among others.

## LIBRARY RESOURCES INCLUDE:

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- Special collections: Raymond E. Brown Johannine Collection, John Paul II / Catholic-Jewish Relations Collection, Rare Book Room
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