

Master of Divinity Program (M.Div.)

This basic degree program is designed for the theological and professional preparation of students for both ordained and non-ordained ministry. It aims at giving students a general introduction to the major areas of theological inquiry.

Admission Requirements

Candidates for the M.Div. program must possess a previous university degree (i.e.: B.A., B.Ed.). A student's previous university work should include 12 credits in philosophy. Deficiencies in this area must be made up before students will be allowed to proceed into the third year of the program.

Since the M.Div. is a professional as well as an academic degree, a screening process to determine the candidates aptitude for ministry is involved. Initial screening interviews will take place during the candidates first semester at NTC. A second screening interview will be held prior to the student's participation in *STP 470 Theological Field Education* to determine readiness for practicum learning. On-going evaluation may result in a student being asked to interrupt or to leave the program for reasons over and above academic competence.

Procedure for Admission

- a) Complete Application Form and submit with payment of \$40.00 non-refundable application fee;
- b) Arrange for official transcripts to be sent to the Registrar's Office from all high school and post-secondary institutions attended. An official transcript is one that has been received by the Registrar's Office directly from the issuing educational authority. No photocopies allowed.
- c) Personal autobiography and curriculum vitae*.
- d) Three letters of recommendation* from persons qualified to judge the character and intellectual ability of the applicant. Letters must be sent directly to the Registrar's Office.
- e) Security Clearance Check*.
- f) Application Deadlines: August 1st for Fall semester and December 1st for Winter semester.

* *Guidelines available from the Registrar's Office.*

Guidelines for the autobiography, curriculum vitae, letters of reference and security clearance check are sent to applicants upon submission of the Application Form. When all required documentation is received the applicant's file will be reviewed by the Admissions & Evaluations Committee. Applicants conditionally admitted will have an interview with three members of the faculty during their first semester. The interview team is responsible for recommending that the conditional admission be changed to a full admission. The interviewers may also advise that admission to the program is not recommended.

Degree Requirements

The M.Div. degree is awarded upon the completion of 96 credit units distributed as follows: 22 core courses (66 credits), 8 elective courses (24 credits) and field education (6 credits). All requirements for credit in the M.Div. program are normally met through 400/500 level courses. M.Div. Students are also required to:

- Complete BST 400 Introduction to Scripture, STD 400 Introduction to Theology, STD 450 Christology, STP 400 Introduction to Pastoral Theology, and STP 461

- Introduction to Moral Theology during the first year of the program.
- Participate in a non-credit integrative seminar during their senior year.
- Participate in THEO 020 - Lay Formation. Full-time, part-time and distance lay students are required to participate in Lay Formation for six semesters. Lay Formation students are required to have an approved Spiritual Director
- Participate in a mid-program assessment and screening interview early in student's second year (after completing 36-45 credits of study at NTC).
- Have read all of the books listed on the M.Div. required reading list. This basic material constitutes matter for the comprehensive examinations.
- Provide an acceptable written synthesis and pass an oral comprehensive examination on the basics of theology, during the last semester of their program or in the second week of June. The grade received on this exam will constitute 20% for the final grade given for the degree.

Normally, all requirements for the degree should be completed within six years from the date of initial registration in the program. Extenuating circumstances may allow for an extension to be granted by the Dean of the Theology.

Theological Field Education

Theological field education is based on the assumption that theology should not only inform pastoral practice, but that the lived experience of ministry should inform theology. The basic goal of this component of the program is the integration of one's theology through a process of experiential learning. Broadly speaking, its objectives are: personal growth and development, acquisition of pastoral skills for various settings, and learning to do theology in a practical context. Ordinarily this is accomplished through a ministry practicum completed in the second or third year of the M.Div. program. This involves a time commitment of 10 to 12 hours a week throughout the academic year.

Transfer Credits

A student may transfer a maximum of 45 credits towards the M.Div. degree from other recognized colleges and universities. Such credits must not be part of a previous degree program. The transfer of credits is subject to the approval of the NTC Admissions and Evaluations Committee.

THEO 020 Lay Spiritual Formation

CORE COURSES

Foundational Theology **12 Credits**

FTH 400 Early Church History
 FTH 402 Christianity and World Religions
 FTH 410 Medieval Church History
 FTH 411 Modern Church History

Sacred Scripture **15 Credits**

BST 400* Introduction to Scripture
 BST 421 Matthew and Mark
 BST 422 Luke-Acts
 BST 423 Pauline Literature
 BST 424 Johannine Literature

Systematic Theology **21 Credits**

STD 400* Introduction to Theology

STD 401 Theology of Revelation
STD 440 Liturgical & Sacramental Theology **-OR-**
STD 442 Baptism, Confirmation & Eucharist
STD 450* Christology
STD 451 Theology of God
STD 452 Theological Anthropology
STD 453 Ecclesiology

Moral, Pastoral & Spiritual Theology 24 Credits

STP 400* Introduction to Pastoral Theology
STP 461* Introduction to Moral Theology
STP 462 Introduction to Spiritual Theology
STP 463 Theology of Ministry
STP 464 Practice of Ministry
STP 470 Theological Field Education
STP 471 Social Teaching of the Church

Electives 24 Credits

24 elective credits chosen from graduate level courses listed under the foundational, biblical studies, systematic, and moral, pastoral, spiritual theology areas.

Integrative Seminar

MDIV 900 M.Div. Integrative Seminar

Theological Synthesis AND Comprehensive Examination

MDIV 901 M.Div. Synthesis and Comprehensive Exam

The integrative seminar, theological synthesis and comprehensive examination are taken in the final year of the program.

**Courses must be taken during the 1st year of the M.Div. program.*