

research study leading to joint publication. Project to support competency for dissertation research.

**RLED888** (0)

Reduced tuition rate applies.

**RLED930** (3)

Group study in specified areas of Religious Education. Repeatable. Permission of advisor and instructor required.

**RLED950** (3)

A capstone course in which students synthesize their learning experiences by examining the structure of the discipline, discussing its major issues, and reviewing its basic literature. Students make portfolio presentations to demonstrate program competencies. Preferably taken in the last semester of course work.

**RLED995** (1-14)

To be repeated to 14 credits. Doctoral candidates may not register for a cumulative total of more than 4 dissertation credits until they have successfully completed EDRM880 or GSEM854, and their dissertation proposal has been approved.

Roy E. Gane, *Director*

The primary purpose of advanced academic studies leading to the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD): Religion is to provide teacher-scholars for church-operated colleges, seminaries, and universities around the world.

## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

When students apply to the PhD program in religion, they select one of the five areas of study listed below.

### *Adventist Studies*

- Development of Adventist lifestyle
- Development of Adventist theology
- General Adventist history

### *Mission and Ministry Studies*

- Analysis of the biblical, theological, and theoretical basis for mission
- Evangelization of unreached people groups and urban population clusters
- Leadership development for effective church growth, ministry, and evangelistic strategies
- Study of world religions and secularism as a missionary challenge

### *New Testament Studies*

- Development of the Christian community in the first and second centuries
- History and praxis of New Testament exegesis and theology

- Read proficiently in ancient and/or modern languages as noted in the Language Requirements
- Demonstrate the ability to handle doctoral-level work in English. (Standardized proficiency examinations are required of all PhD: Religion program applicants whose native language is other than English.)
- Have 16 prerequisite credits in the chosen area of concentration.
- Depending upon the applicant's academic background, the PhD-ThD Committee may also require proficiency examination(s) before granting admission to the doctoral program.
- GSEM620 Research Methods

**Time to Apply.** Students who desire to enter the program in the autumn semester (the normal entry point) must submit all application materials to the Graduate Admissions Office by the preceding January 15. A few students may be allowed to enter the program in the summer, in which case the application materials must reach the Graduate Admissions Office by the preceding November 30.

The number of students who may enter the program in any given

are registered for GSEM880, GSEM888 (non-credit courses) are counted as full-time students. Students who register for GSEM995 are also counted as full-time students if the work is done on campus and they register for 16 credits in a maximum of six semesters.

**Advanced Standing.** Advanced standing may be considered for students having done post-MA or post-MDiv work in an approved institution if the work is appropriate to the program, carries grades of B or above, and was taken within six years of the students' first enrollment in the PhD Program. Credits earned towards the MA and MDiv degrees are not considered for advanced standing. The director of the PhD and ThD Programs determines the appropriateness, relevance, and currency of the work considered for advanced standing and authorizes such standing. In no case is the minimum residence requirement reduced.

**Time Limits.** The student is required to finish all regular course work and take the comprehensive examinations within 5 years of his/her registration in the program, and to complete all degree requirements within ten years of initial registration. Also, students must complete the dissertation including a formal defense and subsequent revisions in five years or less from the time the comprehensive examinations are passed. The two 5-year time limits apply independently, so that shortening one does not lengthen the other.

## **COMPREHENSIVE**

