

**Grade Changes.** Grade changes are permitted only in case of computational error and must be made no later than the semester following the one in which the course was taken. A form must be completed by the teacher and signed by the dean before being taken to the Academic Records Office.

**Worship Attendance.** Regular and punctual attendance is required at all chapels for faculty, staff, and students in residence, except special students registered for 7 credits or fewer, and faculty who have assignments off campus or are on an approved research term. Student requests to be excused from this requirement should be addressed to the seminary chaplain in writing. Attendance is also required at special assemblies.

**Final Exams.** The times and dates for final examinations are set by the University and the Seminary at the beginning of every term. Students are expected to adhere to those dates and to integrate them into their planning calendar. The only exceptions to the prescribed dates are illness or dire emergency. Such exceptions must be approved in writing by the Seminary Associate Dean's office. Personal plans, family events, church activities, and the like do not qualify for a change of date.

**Residency Requirements.** Residency requirements for seminary programs appear in the respective program descriptions.

**Time Limits on Degrees.** For time limits applying to seminary degree programs, see the respective program descriptions below. Students who violate the respective time limits must petition the dean for an extension of time, giving reasons for the request and submitting plans for completion of the work. Petitions may be granted by the dean and may require additional qualifying or other examinations, additional course work, or both.

**Transfer Credit.** For limits on credits that may be transferred into the respective seminary programs, see each program description below.

## PROGRAMS

The Master of Divinity degree program provides basic post-graduate professional preparation for ministry with a broad exposure to all fields of theological study. The program applies biblical, historical, educational, linguistic, theological, philosophical, ethical, missiological, pastoral, and evangelistic instruction to the practical work of the church. Practical field experience is a vital part of this program.

## Admission Requirements

All MDiv applicants must meet the Graduate Programs Admission Requirements applicable to all graduate students found on p. 44 and the general seminary requirements on p. 301.

Applicants to the MDiv program must also meet the qualifications listed below:

- hold a baccalaureate degree, usually in theology or religion,
- demonstrate undergraduate work that includes the items in the list of Religion Prerequisites,
- normally hold membership in the Seventh-day Adventist Church inasmuch as the MDiv program is specifically designed for SDA ministers and is sponsored and financed by the SDA church,
- represent high moral integrity with a character, lifestyle, and spiritual commitment reflective of the beliefs and practices of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and show promise of usefulness for Adventist ministry through personal maturity and adequate experience in the Church. (Persons of other faiths who are willing to live in harmony with these standards are welcome to apply.),
- submit an autobiographical history and statement of purpose reflecting the applicant's family and religious development, sense of calling to ministry, experience in church work, and future goals in relationship to the MDiv program. (If married, the spouse of the applicant is also asked to complete a statement in regard to her or his feelings and relationship to the partner's aspirations for future ministry.),
- an interview with a representative of the MDiv program may be required, either by personal contact, telephone, or video,
- complete and return the Sixteen Personality Factor Questionnaire as directed.

## Academic

**Summer Course Load.** The 12-week summer session is divided into three 4-week sessions and the normal course load for any of these sessions may not exceed 5 credits. The total amount of course work during the summer session may not exceed 12 credits.

**Workshop Credit Limit and Grading Pattern.** Master of Divinity students may apply up to 4 workshop credits appropriate to degree requirements. If workshops are taken during the semester breaks, the credits are counted as part of the class load for either the previous or the following semester.

Workshops are graded S/U. Any deviation from the normal grading pattern for all workshops for which academic credit is desired.

**Independent Study Restrictions.** Students in the MDiv program are allowed to register for Independent Study only for a compelling reason such as a schedule conflict or the need to take a subject that is not offered (for a maximum of 8 credits). Normally, Independent Study cannot be used to meet a core requirement. Students must first seek approval from the office of the MDiv director before arranging with a teacher to do Independent Study.

**Residency Requirements.** On-campus residency is broken if a student fails to enroll for at least one semester within a period of three consecutive semesters. When residency is broken, the student must follow the bulletin in force at the time residency is reestablished. Where 12 semester credits or fewer are lacking, the student may graduate under the bulletin in force at the time of his/her initial entrance.

**Re-enrolling in the MDiv Program.** Following an absence of two years or more, a student's previous admission status will have lapsed and the student will need to reapply to the program.

**Transferring Credits to the MDiv Program.** Up to 9 semester credits (earned on a level which corresponds to 500-course numbers of the SDA Theological Seminary) may be transferred from the School of Graduate Studies of Andrews University or from an accredited university provided the courses to be transferred are relevant to the MDiv program and have not been used for a previous degree (in which case only 6 credits may be transferred).

Seventeen credits may be transferred to the MDiv program from an MA in Religion conferred by an accredited SDA institution granting such or similar degrees.

Students who have attended other approved theological seminaries and plan to take an MDiv degree from Andrews University must complete a minimum of 50 semester credits in the Seminary. At least 30 of these credits must be taken in residency programs.

Transfer credit is granted only for courses in which the grade is B or higher.

**Reduced Class Load.** MDiv students whose cumulative GPA falls below 2.50 are required to reduce their course load to no more than 12 semester credits. MDiv students whose cumulative GPA remains below 2.50 for a second consecutive semester are required to withdraw from the Seminary.

When an incomplete has not been cleared by the beginning of the next semester, the course load must be reduced as follows:

- One I—no reduction
- Two I's—load reduced by one 2-3 credit course
- Three I's—load reduced by two 2-3 credit courses

With more than three I's, the student must withdraw from the program until the I's are cleared.

**Student Assessment.** Since the MDiv program prepares individuals for professional and pastoral leadership, periodic assessments are made of the students by the faculty in areas other than academic standing. Areas reviewed are students' spiritual growth, lifestyle reflective of the beliefs and practices of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, social/family relations, and developing potential for ministry. As a result of these assessments, students are affirmed in the MDiv program, advised of needed adjustments, or discontinued from the program.

**Graduation.** Students must register at the Academic Records Office. The Seminary follows the University graduation procedures and requirements for the conferral of degrees as outlined in this Bulletin. A special ceremony for graduating seminary students is held on the Sabbath afternoon of graduation weekend, or as announced.

## General Education

Students are expected to present a broad range of undergraduate general education represented in such studies as accounting, behavioral sciences (including psychology), communication, education, English, fine arts, health, history, philosophy, sociology, and word-processing skills.

In the area of religion and cognate studies, undergraduate work

Andrews University and be applied to elective credits in the MDiv

- Maintain a GPA of 2.50 or above.
- Meet the qualitative standards of the MDiv program (see the Student Assessment section on p. 301 for further details).

## **C c Re e e**

### **General Seminary 12–15**

GSEM510, 530, 534, 539, and 541.

Students lacking an undergraduate course in the Life and Ministry of Ellen G. White must also take GSEM532 prior to taking GSEM534. Students who do not pass or opt not to take the Bible Knowledge Entrance Test must take GSEM525 during their first semester in the MDiv program.

### **Christian Ministry 29–35**

All MDiv students are required to take a minimum of 29 credits in Christian Ministry.

#### **Required courses**

All students take the following courses: CHMN517, 518, 519, 527, 534, 555, 614. In addition, students take one of the following preaching courses: CHMN520, 600, 607, 621, 627, 637, 680.

#### **Courses from NADEI**

