

MASTER OF DIVINITY (MDi)

Luis Fernando Ortiz, Director

The Master of Divinity program is recommended as the basic training for Adventist ministry by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and the North American Division. It is a three-year professional program beginning in the summer or autumn semester of each year. Students can complete the 92-credit program in seven semesters with summers free. However, the Seminary schedule is so arranged that MDiv students who have no deficiencies and who have adequate financial support may accelerate their studies by taking seven semesters in sequence, including summers, and complete the program in less than three years.

C o c e a F a e k

The theological presuppositions which govern the Master of Divinity program are as follows:

Knowing, Being and Doing represent the three domains of learning that characterize any academic pursuit. Consequently, they are not confined to any one course; rather, they are integral parts of all courses taught in the MDiv program.

Knowing

Knowing refers to the cognitive aspect of the program that provides the theoretical basis of the discipline. Because Christian ministry is an outworking of God's revelation, knowing also refers to the endeavor to build theoretical training on a solid scriptural foundation.

- "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the holy is understanding." Proverbs 9:10
- "In a knowledge of God all true knowledge and real development have their source." Education, p. 14

Being

Being refers to the experiential aspect of the program that helps students develop the character of a gospel minister. But because the formation of Christ-like character is possible only through the grace of Christ, being also refers to the transformation taking place outside the classroom through a personal relationship with the risen Lord. Included in this transformation is the development of qualities such as values, attitudes and spiritual maturity befitting a Seventh-day Adventist minister.

- "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus... world and the higher joy of wider service in the world to come." Education, p. 13.

Integration of knowledge and experience is key to intellectual and spiritual growth. Therefore, only when carefully integrated, with God as the center, can Knowing, Being and Doing lead to the

Mi i

In harmony with the mission and core values of the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, the Master of Divinity degree equips spiritually committed men and women with biblical, theological, and ministerial knowledge and skills to prepare them for Christlike servant leadership.

Vi i

The MDiv program:

- Assists students in their development of a Bible-grounded, Christ-centered, Spirit-led approach to scholarly inquiry and ministerial practice in a contemporary context.
- Utilizes faculty and ministry professionals whose servant leadership demonstrates excellence, integrity of character, and a commitment to the centrality of Scripture, the mission and teachings of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and service to God's world.
- Promotes Seventh-day Adventist identity and unity as pedagogical and scholarly goals.
- Embraces the notion of a multicultural community as the legitimate and normative context for learning, worship, and service.
- Produces graduates whose lives reflect balance and demonstrate growth in the competencies required for transformational ministry.

P f i e f h e M a e f D i i G a d a e

Committed to glorifying God, the student graduating with a Master of Divinity from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary demonstrates competencies as a

- Maturing Christian
- Perceptive student of the Bible
- Developing theologian
- Inspiring biblical preacher and worship leader
- Discipling pastor
- Persuasive evangelist and apologist
- Transforming leader
- Prophetic change agent

A i c a i h e P g a

Integration of knowledge and experience is key to intellectual and spiritual growth. Therefore, only when carefully integrated,

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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.

Application Deadline. All documents required for acceptance must be in the Office of Graduate Enrollment by the following dates:

For Summer Enrollment: (Tracks 1 & 2)

- February 1 (International applicants)
- March 1 (Domestic applicants)
(Track 2 students must start in the summer)

For Fall enrollment: (Track 1 only)

- May 1 (International applicants)
- June 1 (Domestic applicants)

Additional application information

- Track 2 students will only be accepted to start during the summer semester.
- Regardless of the track, students may not start in the spring semester.
- Given that applying and obtaining pertinent documents for admission can be a long endeavor, the student must start the application process at least 2–3 months before the dates provided above.

Academic Policies

Residency Requirements. On-campus residency is broken when a student fails to enroll in at least two semesters within one academic year. When this happens, the student must follow the bulletin in force at the time residency is reestablished.

Reapplying to 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. Provided the content of the courses are assessed as comparable to the curriculum of the Andrews University Master of Divinity program, students intending to transfer credits into the Master of Divinity Program should be aware of the following policies:

1. A transfer of credits must be made by petition.
2. Transfer credits are granted only for courses in which the grade is B or higher.
3. A student may transfer a maximum of 46 credits (500 level or above) from an uncompleted graduate-level program.
4. Up to 24 credits (500 level or above) may be transferred to the Master of Divinity program from a completed master's-level degree.
5. At least 46 credits must be taken in-residence.

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 this pattern must be approved by the dean prior to the conclusion of the workshop. Students must register at the Academic Records Office 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.

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.

Assessment of Students. 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. The Seminary follows the University graduation procedures and requirements for the conferral of degrees as outlined in this Bulletin on pp. 30–31. A dedication ceremony for graduating seminary students is held on the Sabbath afternoon of graduation weekend, or as announced.

E a c e R e i e e
Social/family

Bible Doctrines/Theology—Two courses; 6 credits
General Church History—Two courses; 6 credits
History of the SDA Church—One course; 2–3 credits
Life and Ministry of Ellen G. White—One course; 2–3 credits

C ic Re i e e

Interdisciplinary Courses 17-18

All students who do not pass or who opt not to take the Biblical Literacy Entrance Exam must take the following course during their first semester in the MDiv program.

GSEM525 The Bible and Biblical History 1

Track 1

DSRE541 Foundations of Biblical Spirituality 3
GSEM534 Issues in Ellen G. White Studies 2
GSEM530 Doctrine of the Sanctuary 2
GSEM539 Issues in Origins 2
GSEM510 Revelation, Inspiration and Hermeneutics 3
GSEM626 Contemporary Adventist Theological Issues 2
GSEM627 Issues in Daniel and Revelation 3

Track 2

DSRE541 Foundations of Biblical Spirituality 3
GSEM534 Issues in Ellen G. White Studies 2
GSEM530 Doctrine of the Sanctuary 2
GSEM539 Issues in Origins 2
GSEM510 Revelation, Inspiration and Hermeneutics 3
GSEM511 Daniel and Revelation 3
GSEM626 Contemporary Adventist Theological Issues 2

Christian Ministry 27-31

Track 1

CHMN539 Church Growth 3
CHMN562 Field Evangelism 3
CHMN631 Field Evangelistic Preaching 3
CHMN543 Christian Leadership in a Changing World 3
DSRE503 Marriage, Family & Interpersonal Relationships 3
CHMN555 Pastoral Counseling 2
CHMN560 Theological Field Education 2
(students in the chaplaincy track may petition for CHMN557 Practicum in Clinical Pastoral Education or CHMN641 Practicum in Military Chaplaincy)

Take four of the following 2-credit courses: 8

The four courses must include CHMN566 or CHMN656; a 600-level Preaching Class or CHMN523; DSRE534 or DSRE610; and CHMN553 or MSSN505

CHMN566 Mobilizing Laity
CHMN656 Holistic Small Groups
600-level Preaching class
CHMN523 Worship: Word & Music
CHMN553 The Church & Social Issues
DSRE534 Ministry to Youth and Young Adults
DSRE610 Teaching for Discipleship
or MSSN505 Christian Responses to Human Needs

Track 2

CHMN539 Church Growth 3
CHMN562 Field Evangelism 3
CHMN631 Field Evangelistic Preaching 3
CHMN543 Christian Leadership in a Changing World 3
DSRE503 Marriage, Family & Interpersonal Relationships 3

- CHIS680 History of Sabbath and Sunday
- CHIS682 Seminar in Church History
- CHIS685 Studies in Church History
- CHIS688 Contemporary Trends

Track 2

- CHIS501 Church History I 2
- CHIS502 Church History II 2
- CHIS503 Church History III 2
- CHIS504 Adventist Heritage 3
- CHIS674 Development of Seventh-day Adventist Theology 3

New Testament

8-15

Students must be careful to attend to the language requirements for each NT course because many of them have Greek language requirements that must be met before enrolling in the class.

Track 1

- Choose one** of the following exegesis courses: 3
- NTST633 Social Issues in the New Testament
 - NTST645 Hebrews
 - NTST646 Studies in New Testament Exegesis
 - NTST648 Exegesis of Revelation
 - NTST653 Advanced Studies in the General Epistles
 - NTST655 Advanced Studies in the Gospels
 - NTST658 Advanced Studies in the Pauline Writings
 - NTST678 Seminar in Greek Exegesis

Choose one of the following theology courses: 3

- NTST616 Theology of Luke-Acts
- NTST617 Theology of Matthew
- NTST630 Theology of the Synoptic Gospels
- NTST634 Theology of the Pauline Epistles
- NTST641 Theology of the Johannine Writings
- NTST647 Eschatology
- NTST657 Theology of Hebrews
- NTST667 Studies in New Testament Theology
- NTST668 New Testament Ethics
- NTST676 Jesus in Recent Scholarship
- NTST679 Seminar in New Testament Theology and Ethics

Choose one of the following backgrounds courses: 2

- NTST606 Formation and History of the New Testament
- NTST615 New Testament Archaeology
- NTST626 Seminar in Classical Jewish Literature
- NTST635 Intertestamental Period
- NTST646 Jerusalem in the Time of Jesus
- NTST654 Second Century Christianity
- NTST680 Greco-Roman World
- NTST684 Judaism and the New Testament
- NTST689 Seminar in New Testament Backgrounds

Track 2

- NTST509 Pauline Writings 3
- NTST510 Gospels 3
- NTST515 New Testament Backgrounds 2
- NTST543 Acts and General Epistles 2
- NTST551 Beginning Greek 2
- NTST552 Intermediate Greek 3

Old Testament

8-15

Students must be careful to attend to the language requirements for each OT course as many of them have Hebrew language requirements that must be met before enrolling in the class.

Track 1

Choose one of the following archaeology courses: 2

- OTST510 Archaeology and the Bible
- OTST514 Bible Lands and Their Exploration
- OTST604 History of the Ancient Near East
- OTST614 Archaeology of Palestine
- NTST615 New Testament Archaeology
- OTST635 History of Israel
- OTST638 Archaeology in Evangelism

Choose one of the following exegesis courses: 3

- OTST628 Principles and Methods of OT Exegesis
- OTST633 Social Issues in Old Testament
- OTST639 Studies in Old Testament Exegesis
- OTST664 Pentateuch
- OTST666 Historical Books
- OTST668 Psalms/Wisdom Literature
- OTST674 Daniel
- OTST675 Minor Prophets
- OTST680 Seminar in Old Testament Exegesis
- OTST685 Principles of Hermeneutics
- OTST686 Major Prophets

Choose one of the following theology courses: 3

- OTST619 Theology of the Old Testament
- OTST620 Seminar in Old Testament Theology
- OTST627 Jewish Life and Thought

Track 2

- OTST551 Biblical Hebrew I 3
- OTST552 Biblical Hebrew II 2
- OTST555 Prophets 3
- OTST558 Writings 2
- OTST565 Pentateuch 3

Choose one of the following: 2

- NTST615 New Testament Archaeology
- OTST510 Archaeology and the Bible
- OTST514 Bible Lands and Their Exploration

Theology and Christian Philosophy

8-10

Track 1

- THST540 Doctrine of Salvation 2

Choose one of the following systematic theology courses: 2

- THST555 Ecclesiology and the Practice of Ministry
- THST608 Doctrine of the Sabbath
- THST615 Doctrine of the Church
- THST616 Doctrine of God
- THST617 Worksses:

Choose one of the following ethics courses: 2

THST600 Christian Personal Ethics

THST634 Christian Social Ethics

THST643 Christian Professional Ethics

THST644 Theological Ethics

THST660 Church and Society

Track 2

THST510 Understanding the Christian World 2

THST521 Christian Theology I



The format of the thesis must conform strictly to the Andrews University Standards for Written Work