Identity, Vision, Mission

Identity

As a Roman Catholic graduate school of theology and ministry, the Aquinas Institute of Theology carries forward an 800-year Dominican tradition that serves the Dominican Family, local churches, and religious communities through its commitments to priestly and Catholic leadership formation, preaching education, and ecumenical and interreligious dialogue. Aquinas Institute teaches men and women, lay, religious, and ordained, to be hopeful about their faith, faithful to the Church, and servants to God’s people in the world. Aquinas Institute is a generous innovator in collaborating with others to teach and to practice theology as a fruit of contemplation, a resource for life, and a ministry to the Church and wider world.

Vision

As a collaborative ministry of the Order of Preachers—Sacra Praedicatio, a Holy Preaching—we will:

- Teach from within our rich Catholic and Dominican Tradition
- Companion students in their human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral formation
- Engage dialogue and forge strategic partnerships across diverse theological, cultural, and religious communities, both face-to-face and online
- Preach in the footsteps of Dominic, teach in the spirit of Thomas Aquinas, and lead with the passion of Catherine of Siena
- Celebrate 800 years of Dominicans doing something new: Theology for Life!

Mission

Impelled by the Catholic faith and the Dominican mission, Aquinas Institute of Theology educates men and women to preach, to teach, to minister, and to lead.
History

A history of tradition and innovation

Aquinas Institute of Theology is rooted deeply in the history of the Order of Preachers, founded by St. Dominic de Guzman in 1216. The first Dominicans were contemplative nuns who devoted themselves to prayer, and itinerant friars who nourished their preaching through rigorous study, prayer, and community life. Within 50 years of the Order’s founding, the Dominicans had established houses in all of the great university cities of Europe. They also had welcomed Thomas Aquinas, who was destined to become one of the Church’s greatest theologians.

Aquinas Institute of Theology began in 1926 in River Forest, Illinois, as the house of philosophical studies for the Dominican Province of St. Joseph. By 1939, the newly established Province of St. Albert the Great made River Forest its center of studies. In the early 1950s, an increase in candidates for the priesthood made it necessary to expand, so a second campus was established in Dubuque, Iowa. A few years later, these two schools became known as Aquinas Institute of Philosophy and Aquinas Institute of Theology. In the mid-1960s, all academic programs were consolidated in Dubuque, and Aquinas Institute accepted its first women religious and lay students.

At about the same time, Aquinas Institute established the first ecumenical consortium in the country with the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary and Wartburg Theological Seminary. In 1968, Aquinas Institute was one of the first Catholic seminaries to seek and gain accreditation from the Association of Theological Schools. By 1979, it was apparent that further changes were necessary to maintain a vital presence in ministry education. The Provincial Council and the Board of Trustees decided that moving close to a Catholic university would strengthen its mission and academic purpose. Aquinas Institute of Theology was invited, after a two-year search, to the campus of Saint Louis University by then-president Thomas Fitzgerald, S.J., and began to hold classes in the former university law school building in 1981.

The first few years were difficult, but by 1990 the school began to grow steadily, and had outgrown its quarters at the old law school by the end of that decade. The Board of Trustees determined in 2002 that the school needed to find a larger space. Aquinas Institute needed a bigger building near campus that would accommodate residential students, as well as the growing number of students enrolled in hybrid cohort programs - programs which combine online coursework with intensive weekends of learning and formation in St. Louis. The school entered an agreement in 2004 to move into the former Standard Adding Machine building at Spring Avenue and Forest Park Parkway, a short block from Saint Louis University’s campus. Renovation of the building began in 2005, and Aquinas Institute moved into the former factory in early 2006.

At the same time, the school identified a pressing need facing the Church’s healing ministry in its preparation of new and future generations of lay leaders in Catholic health care. To respond to this challenge, and building upon its successful Master of Arts in Health Care Mission degree, Aquinas Institute launched the Ashley-O’Rourke Initiative for Health Ministry Leadership, honoring the memory of Benedict Ashley, O.P., and Kevin O’Rourke, O.P.—two Aquinas Institute presidents known internationally for their contributions in the field of health care ethics. The singular focus of this initiative is to develop and deliver theological and spiritual formation programs and experiences for leaders in Catholic health care in order to ensure the integrity of the healing ministry of Jesus into the future.

The school’s most recent enterprise is the Delaplane Initiative for Preaching Excellence. As a graduate school of theology sponsored by the Order of Preachers, Aquinas Institute places a particular value on the education of preachers. Already well known for the prominent role preaching courses play in the Master of Divinity degree, and also for hosting the only Catholic doctoral program in preaching, the school is launching a large grant-funded initiative to rejuvenate and coordinate its ongoing preaching education efforts beyond its regular student body. By means of this Initiative—named to honor Emerita Professor of Homiletics Joan Delaplane, O.P.—Aquinas Institute will offer ongoing preaching education to a diverse North American populace through a variety of pedagogical formats—online, in St. Louis, and onsite with local dioceses and congregations.

For you, the student

In 2014, Aquinas Institute celebrated its 75th anniversary as a theological school. In 2016, the Dominican friars celebrated the 800th Jubilee of their founding as the Order of Preachers. Aquinas Institute is proud to carry on the

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1 The Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada | The Commission on Accrediting
10 Summit Park Drive  |  Pittsburgh, PA 15275-1100  |  Ph: 412.788.6505  |  Fax: 412.788.6510
legacy of St. Dominic, St. Thomas Aquinas, and St. Catherine of Siena—a unique spirituality and a particular approach to theology, one that is rooted in itinerancy, study, contemplation, preaching, and a profound sense of ecclesial mission.

As you proceed in your studies, you will benefit from this long theological and spiritual legacy. Our faculty will enable you to clarify your vocation, and prepare you for a rewarding life of service to the Church as preachers, teachers, ministers, and leaders.
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Governance & Administration

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HONORA WERNER, O.P. • Director of Doctor of Ministry in Preaching
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Resources

Aquinas Institute and Saint Louis University

Aquinas Institute is situated adjacent to the campus of Saint Louis University and has a unique cooperative agreement that allows Aquinas Institute students to have access to all of the academic resources and services of a large Catholic university. Students may cross-register in courses in theology and philosophy at the University, as well as other departments of the College of Arts and Sciences. University students may cross-register in theology and ministry courses at Aquinas Institute. The Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies and the Masters in Social Work is a dual degree program representing the collaboration of Aquinas Institute and the School of Social Service at St. Louis University. In 2009, the Master of Arts in Theology and the Ph.D. in Health Care Ethics was established as a dual degree program between Aquinas Institute and the Department of Health Care Ethics at St. Louis University.

Spiritual Resources

Aquinas Institute, St. Dominic Priory Chapel, Saint Louis University, and College Church offer many opportunities for prayer, liturgy, social action, and spiritual development.

Instructional Technology

Aquinas Institute of Theology maintains an Office of Instructional Technology responsible for providing technology assistance to students, faculty, and staff. Through its partnership with Saint Louis University, Aquinas Institute is also able to provide internet-based access to Pius XII Library's catalog and database resources, student email accounts, media creation labs, and other technology resources.

Library Resources

Aquinas Institute students have access to a wealth of research materials in the Pius XII Library at Saint Louis University. The combined divinity collections of Aquinas Institute and Saint Louis University result in a single specialized divinity collection of more than 180,000 volumes housed at Pius XII Library. The Saint Louis University library system contains significant theological and ministerial resources. Students have access to a number of online services and databases, as well as CD-ROM databases accessible through a local area network. Law and medical libraries are also available for specialized research.

The Aquinas Institute Reference Library houses a collection of reference materials, selected periodicals, and resources of special interest to Dominicans (the Order of Preachers) and their mission. It also provides a computer link to the card catalog and some databases at Saint Louis University Library.

Additional resources available to Aquinas Institute students include over 400,000 volumes in the collections of Kenrick-Glennon Seminary, Eden Theological Seminary, Covenant Theological Seminary, and Concordia Theological Seminary.

Recreational Facilities

Simon Recreation Center at Saint Louis University offers an Olympic-size swimming pool, an exercise room, and indoor track, as well as handball, racquetball, tennis, and basketball courts. Use of these recreational facilities is included in the student fee for all regular Aquinas Institute students.
Academic Programs

The students and faculty of Aquinas Institute value and commit themselves to the following five practices as part of their common theological endeavor and as a means of moving toward our desired outcome:

- excellence in written and oral communication
- close reading of texts
- analysis of social context
- theological reflection
- collaboration

As these practices become habits for ministry, the faculty envisions graduates who embody the following as found in the Graduation Statement of the school: Graduates of Aquinas Institute of Theology are effective preachers, teachers, ministers, and leaders who place special value in the ministry of the Word. They are distinguished by their integration of personal maturity, theological knowledge, cultural awareness, pastoral skill, and spiritual discipline, offered in the service of the Church and the world.

Degree Programs

Aquinas Institute of Theology offers professional and research programs as well as programs fostering personal development and ongoing spiritual and ministerial formation.

The Doctor of Ministry in Preaching (D.Min.), the Master of Divinity (M.Div.), the Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies (M.A.P.S.), the Master of Arts in Health Care Mission (M.A.H.C.M.), and the Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry (M.A.P.M.) are professional degrees. The M.A.P.M. is offered at distance learning sites. The Master of Arts in Theology (M.A.) program focuses on research as well as preparation for teaching and doctoral studies.

Doctor of Ministry in Preaching

In 1982, the United States Catholic Bishops issued *Fulfilled in Your Hearing: The Homily in the Sunday Assembly*. This landmark document on Catholic preaching concludes with a recommendation that a Catholic institution of higher education establish a doctoral-level program in homiletics. Aquinas Institute responded to this challenge with its Doctor of Ministry in Preaching.

Aquinas Institute’s Doctor of Ministry in Preaching assists preachers in developing and honing their unique preaching voices while preparing them to become advocates and educators of preaching in their own settings. Students in the Doctor of Ministry in Preaching work with faculty to achieve the following outcomes:

- Quality preaching that effectively creates connections between scripture and a real-life assembly;
- A habit of preaching preparation grounded in solid biblical exegesis, congregational analysis, sound communication theory, prayer, and awareness of liturgical context proper to the student’s denomination;
- A habit of preaching evaluation grounded in congregational and peer feedback;
- A doctoral-level understanding of how the discipline of preaching intersects with and can be enhanced by other related disciplines (namely systematic theology, biblical hermeneutics, liturgy, history, and communications theory);
- The ability to conduct both academic and qualitative field research toward addressing a particular problem or opportunity in the discipline of preaching resulting in a thesis project;
- Skills for collaboration with others in the service of the Ministry of the Word.

The communal ethos of the school is conveyed by an orientation and a cohort covenanting process early in the program. As a learning community, students and faculty engage in classroom and internet instruction, discussion of readings, and peer evaluation, in conjunction with regular preaching, writing, and self-directed learning projects in order to attain further competency and direction in their ministerial vocation.
The program requires completion of eighteen credit hours of core coursework, six credit hours of elective coursework, and a six-credit-hour thesis project. The sequence of required core courses, taken over three academic years, includes the following courses:
Program Content: (30 hours of academic credit)

Year I
• Theology of Preaching (3 hrs)
• Biblical Hermeneutics and Preaching (3 hrs)

Year II
• Core Homiletic Seminar I (3 hrs)
• History and Preaching (3 hrs)

Year III
• Liturgy and Preaching (3 hrs)
• Core Homiletic Seminar II (3 hrs)
• Thesis Project Seminar

Taken as approved by advisor
• Elective Course Work (6 hrs)
• Thesis Project Research (6 hrs)

Each core course is structured as a four-month study corresponding to either the fall or spring academic term. Courses make use of weekly assignments and internet-supported study periods to augment a midcourse, Monday to Friday, intensive seminar in St. Louis.

In addition to the core curriculum, two three-credit elective courses are taken no sooner than the third year, usually at seminaries or schools other than Aquinas Institute, according to the student’s research interests and learning goals. After completion of electives, and with the Doctor of Ministry Committee’s approval of a final thesis project proposal, the D.Min. candidate can register for Thesis Project Research. This begins the process of researching and writing the thesis project, usually taking place during the fourth year. Students are allowed up to six years to finish the degree in its entirety.

Master of Divinity

The Master of Divinity degree prepares men and women to serve in positions of ecclesial leadership through broad exposure to the theological and pastoral tradition of the Roman Catholic Church; the intentional development of professional ministerial skill and identity; and the fostering of a mature ecclesial spirituality able to sustain one in a life of public leadership.

Upon completion of the degree, the M.Div. graduate will be able to:
• Communicate simply, accurately, and effectively the theological tradition of the Roman Catholic Church in the acts of writing, preaching, teaching, and pastoral care;
• Read, analyze, assess, and critique a wide range of theological positions from a variety of theological disciplines and assist others in doing the same;
• Analyze, assess and critique contemporary cultural contexts in light of the Christian tradition, and assist others in doing the same;
• Lead faith communities in worship, service, and theological reflection;
• Work collaboratively with ministerial peers in a manner that respects professional boundaries.

Program Content: (81 hours of academic credits + 4 spiritual formation units, where applicable)
• Integrative Studies (4 hrs)
  Proseminar (3)
  Integrative Seminar (1)
• Philosophy (3 hrs)
  Use of Philosophy in Theology (3)
• Biblical Studies (9 hrs)
  Bible Interpretation (3)
  Old Testament Scripture Elective (3)
New Testament Scripture Elective (3)
• Systematic Theology (9 hrs)
  Introduction to Theology and Theological Method (3)
  Christology (3)
  Ecclesiology (3)
• Moral Theology (9 hrs)
  Foundations of Catholic Morality (3)
  Ethics of Human Sexuality (3)
  Justice and Catholic Social Teaching (3)
• Historical Studies (6 hrs)
  Church History I (3)
  Church History II (3)
• Pastoral Theology (9 hrs)
  Foundations of Pastoral Care (3)
  Principles of Canon Law (2)
  Canon Law Marriage (2)
  Adult Christian Formation (2)
• Preaching (4 hrs)
  Foundations of Preaching I (2)
  Foundations of Preaching II (2)
• Liturgical Theology (12 hrs)
  Theology of Worship (3)
  Christian Initiation (3)
  Eucharist (3)
  Liturgical Leadership I (baptismal) (2)
  Reconciliation (1) OR Pastoral Care of the Sick (1)
• Professional Ministerial Formation (13-16 hrs)
  Supervised Practice of Ministry I (3)
  Supervised Practice of Ministry II (3)
  Pastoral Year (3 or 6)
  Clinical Pastoral Education (4)
• Where applicable...
  4 units - Human and Spiritual Formation

Additional Requirements for Priesthood Candidates

Note: For priesthood candidates, 35 additional hours of theological coursework and 27 additional hours of philosophical coursework are expected to fulfill the requirements of the Program for Priestly Formation and the recommendations of the Dominican Ratio. The following describes the expectations for Dominican seminarians, though the academic advisor may substitute courses where applicable. Seminarians of other religious congregations may use the following as a template and adapt it as needed.

• Philosophy (30 hrs)
  Use of Philosophy in Theology (3)
  Thomas Aquinas: Life, Thought, and Works (3)
  Philosophical Foundations of Thomas Aquinas (3)
  Seminar on God and Creation in the Thought of Thomas Aquinas (3)
  Seminar on the Human Person and Society in the Thought of Thomas Aquinas (3)
  Seminar on Christ and Sacrament in the Thought of Thomas Aquinas (3)
  Philosophy Electives (in areas of modern, contemporary, American, and Eastern philosophy) (12)
• Integrative Studies (4 hrs)
  Proseminar (3)
  Integrative Seminar (1)
• Biblical Studies (21 hrs)
  Bible Interpretation (3)
  Torah (3)
Prophets (3)
Wisdom OR Psalms (3)
Synoptic Gospels (3) – any of the three
Johannine Literature (3)
Pauline Literature (3)

• **Systematic Theology (18 hrs)**
  Introduction to Theology and Theological Method (3)
  Doctrine of God (3)
  Christology (3)
  Ecclesiology (3)
  Christian Anthropology (3)
  Foundations of Spirituality (3) OR History of Christian Spirituality (3)

• **Moral Theology (12 hrs)**
  Foundations of Catholic Morality (3)
  Justice and Catholic Social Teaching (3)
  Health Care Ethics (3)
  Ethics of Human Sexuality (3)

• **Historical Studies (9 hrs)**
  Church History I (3)
  Church History II (3)
  U.S. Catholic History (3)

• **Pastoral Theology (20 hrs)**
  Foundations of Pastoral Care (3)
  Foundations of Pastoral Counseling (3)
  Principles of Canon Law (2)
  Theology and Spirituality of Marriage and Family (3)
  Premarital Counseling and Preparation (1)
  Domestic Violence Counseling (1)
  Canon Law of Marriage (2)
  Adult Christian Formation (2)
  Theology of Priesthood (3)

• **Preaching (8 hrs)**
  Foundations of Preaching I (2)
  Foundations of Preaching II (2)
  Topics in Preaching I (2)
  Topics in Preaching II (2)

• **Liturgical Theology (14 hrs)**
  Theology of Worship (3)
  Christian Initiation (3)
  Eucharist (3)
  Reconciliation (1)
  Pastoral Care of the Sick (1)
  Liturgical Leadership II (diaconal) (1)
  Liturgical Leadership III (presbyteral) (2)

• **Professional Ministerial Formation (17 hrs)**
  Supervised Practice of Ministry I (3)
  Supervised Practice of Ministry II (3)
  Clinical Pastoral Education (4)
  Pastoral Year (6)
  Diaconal Ministry Practicum (1)
**Master of Arts in Theology**

**Six areas of concentration are available:** Biblical Studies, Historical Studies, Systematic Theology, Moral Theology, Liturgical Theology, and Spirituality.

The Master of Arts in Theology prepares men and women to produce sound theological research and writing. It provides the academic competency required to teach theology at the secondary level. It serves as a prerequisite for work toward a doctorate in theology.

Upon completion of the degree, the M.A. graduate will be able to:

- Undertake self-initiated research in theology;
- Give witness to a general mastery of the theological foundations of the Roman Catholic tradition;
- Articulate the Christian theological tradition in a way that is faithful to its foundations and sensitive to the concerns of the present day;
- Show the inter-relationship of theology and culture in diverse contexts;
- Display the capacity to engage and to integrate fairly various theological viewpoints, and to include them in their theological work.

**Prerequisites:**

12 undergraduate hours in theology and philosophy are required for M.A. applicants. Deficiencies may be made up at once admitted to Aquinas Institute, which will add time beyond that which is ordinarily required to complete the degree. A student needing to make up deficiencies will be so informed by the Dean at the time of admission, and can arrange to make up deficiencies with the assistance of the academic advisor.

**Program Content:** (36 academic credits + Comprehensive Exam, and Thesis or Major Paper)

- **Integrative Studies (3+ hrs)**
  - Proseminar (3)
  - Major Paper OR Thesis (see below for details)
  - Comprehensive Examination (see below for details)
- **Biblical Studies (6 hrs)**
  - Bible Interpretation (3)
  - Scripture Elective (3)
- **Systematic Theology (3 hrs)**
  - Introduction to Theology and Theological Method (3)
- **Moral Theology (3 hrs)**
  - Foundations of Catholic Morality (3)
- **Historical Studies (6 hrs)**
  - Church History I (3)
  - Church History II (3)
- **Electives (15 hrs)**
  - Elective courses are chosen with the student’s advisor to give breadth of knowledge. Up to six of these hours may be research credit if pursuing the Thesis Option.

Students may choose one of two options to demonstrate their skills in research, analysis, and synthesis.

- **Thesis Option:** This option requires 36 hours of coursework (up to six hours of which may be research credit), language competency, and a thesis. This option is especially recommended for those who plan to pursue doctoral studies. Language proficiency (an ancient or modern language suitable to a student’s research interests) demonstrated by written examination is required. Requisite language study should begin early in the program so the student can do research in that language for the thesis. The thesis should be between 50 and 75 pages in length.
- **Major Paper Option:** This option requires 36 hours of coursework and a major paper. The major paper is to be of publishable quality, approximately 25 pages in length, focused in the student’s area of concentration and written under the direction of a professor in that area. The paper may be developed for a particular course and should demonstrate competency in methodology and content appropriate to an M.A. in Theology.
Master of Arts Comprehensive Examination
The M.A. Comprehensive Examination provides a theological synthesis for the student who is completing master’s level studies in theology. Through the examination process, students are expected to demonstrate a breadth of understanding of theology, to articulate publicly a clear mastery of specific theological topics, and to recognize the interrelationships and differences among theological disciplines and methods. The examination has two parts: a four-hour written examination and a one-hour oral examination with a committee of three faculty members.

Dual Master of Arts in Theology/Master of Divinity
A student’s ministerial objectives may include gaining a Master of Arts in Theology degree as well as a Master of Divinity degree. This is possible through entrance into a dual (M.A./M. Div.) program which, while maintaining the distinctive character and orientation of each degree, allows for greater integration of the research or professional elements of each. The dual degree requires 18 additional hours (beyond the 81 required for the M. Div.) of elective coursework, the comprehensive exams, and a major paper or thesis. A student interested in this option should consult with his or her advisor, and must indicate the option at the time of Application for Candidacy.

Dual Master of Arts in Theology/Doctor of Philosophy – Health Care Ethics (Saint Louis University)
Aquinas Institute of Theology and Saint Louis University (SLU) offer a dual M.A./Ph.D. program for students specifically focused in the area of health care ethics. The M.A. at Aquinas Institute provides a strong theological foundation for Ph.D. students in the Catholic concentration of the Ph.D. in Health Care Ethics at SLU. Students study at Aquinas Institute for the first year, and then begin studies at SLU in the second year.

Program Content: (36 academic credits + Comprehensive Exam and Major Paper)
- **Biblical Studies (6 hrs)**
  - Bible Interpretation (3)
  - Scripture Elective (3)
- **Systematic Theology (12 hrs)**
  - Introduction to Theology and Theological Method (3)
  - Christology (3)
  - Ecclesiology (3)
  - Christian Anthropology (3)
- **Historical Studies (3 hrs)**
  - Church History I (3) or Church History II (3)
- **Moral Theology (9 hrs)**
  - Foundations of Catholic Morality (3)
  - Justice and Catholic Social Teaching (3)
  - Ethics of Human Sexuality (3)
- **Electives (6 hrs) – Fulfilled by:**
  - SLU Ph.D. course: Religious Methods in Health Care Ethics (3) or Health Care Ethics in the Catholic Tradition (3)
  - SLU Ph.D. elective (3)

Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies
The Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies degree is ordinarily a two-year program preparing the student for ministry in a variety of pastoral settings. Through coursework in biblical studies, systematic and pastoral theology, integrative seminars, supervised practice of ministry, and other learning experiences, the Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies program seeks to integrate theology and the practice of ministry with the development of an ecclesial pastoral identity.
Upon completion of the degree, the M.A.P.S. graduate will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of major theological, liturgical, and pastoral themes in Catholic theology through effective communication in classroom and pastoral settings;
- Demonstrate an ability to analyze major magisterial, theological, and ritual texts useful in the graduate’s area of focused study;
- Demonstrate an ability to analyze the various religious and social contexts at work in the graduate’s specific pastoral setting;
- Demonstrate, among peers and among members of the communities the graduate serves, the ability to reflect theologically, bringing into conversation the challenges of pastoral ministry, the social context and the wisdom of the tradition;
- Demonstrate among peers and among members of the communities the graduate serves, the personal and professional maturity needed to effectively collaborate with others in ministry;
- Articulate a theology of ministry which is both faithful to the Catholic tradition and sensitive to the unique needs and challenges of the communities they serve;
- Demonstrate competence in a particular ministerial area through focused study in that area.

**Program Content:** (48 academic credits + 3 spiritual formation units, where applicable)

- **Integrative Studies (4 hrs)**
  - Proseminar (3)
  - Integrative Seminar (1)
- **Biblical Studies (6 hrs)**
  - Bible Interpretation (3)
  - Scripture Elective (3)
- **Systematic Theology (9 hrs)**
  - Introduction to Theology and Theological Method (3)
  - Christology (3)
  - Ecclesiology (3)
- **Moral Theology (3 hrs)**
  - Foundations of Catholic Morality (3)
- **Historical Studies (3 hrs)**
  - Church History I (3) or Church History II (3)
- **Litururgical Theology (3 hrs)**
  - Theology of Worship (3)
- **Pastoral Theology (6 hrs)**
  - Foundations of Pastoral and Ethical Care (3)
  - Pastoral Elective (3)
- **Professional Ministerial Formation (6-7 hrs)**
  - Supervised Practice of Ministry I (3)
  - Supervised Practice of Ministry II (3) or Clinical Pastoral Education (4)
  - (Students who take SPM-II or CPE must complete all 8 hours of electives)
- **Electives (8 hrs)**
  - Students will be guided by their advisors to complete their degree program according to theological and ministerial aspirations and goals.
  - **Where applicable...**
  - Human and Spiritual Formation (2 units)
Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies – Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

The Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies with a concentration in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is the first degree of its kind in the world. In accord with the Characteristics of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd #24, the degree is designed to help catechists deepen their knowledge and understanding of scripture and liturgy, as well as heighten their professional development as ministers in the Church. The degree is offered to students in two different formats: an on-campus format and an internet-enhanced cohort format that blends on-campus visits online learning.

Upon completion of the degree, the M.A.P.S. – CGS graduate will be able to:

- Articulate how the ministries of theology and catechesis serve each other and the mission of the Church;
- Communicate the theological and pedagogical approach of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd within the larger framework of Christian religious formation;
- Demonstrate familiarity with the scriptural and liturgical traditions of the Church and the ability to engage children in the theological reflection on these traditions;
- Demonstrate the ability to listen to and assess and address the spiritual needs of individual children while, at the same time, the ability to communicate their spiritual insights to the larger Church;
- Collaborate with ecclesial and school leaders, parents, and other catechists in establishing and maintaining atria in local, diverse faith communities.

Program Content: (48 academic credits + 4 spiritual formation units, where applicable)
- **Integrative Studies (3 hrs)**
  - Proseminar (2)
  - Integrative Seminar (1)

- **Biblical Studies (9 hrs)**
  - Bible Interpretation (3)
  - Hebrew Scriptures (3)
  - Christian Scriptures (3)

- **Systematic Theology (6 hrs)**
  - Introduction to Theology and Theological Method (3)
  - Christology and Christian Anthropology (3)

- **Pastoral Theology (3 hrs)**
  - Foundations of Pastoral & Ethical Care (3)

- **Liturgal Theology (6 hrs)**
  - Theology of Worship (3)
  - Contemporary Issues in Sacramental Theology (3)

- **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Formation (18 hrs)**
  - Level 1 (ages 3-6) (6)
  - Level 2 (ages 6-9) (6)
  - Level 3 (ages 9-12) (6)

- **Professional Ministry Formation (3 hrs)**
  - Supervised Practice of Ministry I (3)

- **Where applicable...**
  - 4 units Spiritual Formation

Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies/Master of Social Work Dual Degree Program

Aquinas Institute of Theology and Saint Louis University School of Social Service offer a dual Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies (M.A.P.S.) and Master of Social Work (M.S.W.) degree.

Through a dual track of coursework, integrative seminars, and fieldwork, the M.A.P.S./M.S.W graduate will be able to:

- Communicate accurately and effectively an understanding of Christian theology as it relates to pastoral care in the practice of social work;
• Demonstrate the ability to synthesize and assess the biological, psychosocial, economic, political, and theological dimensions of societal and health care issues;
• Analyze and assess a client’s pastoral care needs within a larger family and community context;
• Demonstrate the ability to organize and develop social action strategies to enhance the common good and the life of the Church;
• Demonstrate the ability to bring the practice of theological reflection to bear on the practice of social work;
• Collaborate with ministerial peers in the pastoral care of others, especially in the practice of social work;
• Demonstrate the basic skills and ethical boundaries appropriate to the art of pastoral care in the practice of social work.

This dual degree integrates interdisciplinary faculty and curriculum, and offers innovative opportunities for specialized internships. The program provides the framework, skills, and resources for a spiritually motivated faith-based social work practice, and deepens a professional’s commitment to social justice based upon the Gospel. Church ministers can obtain clinical professional licensure and cultivate skills for faith-directed service. Students committed to ministry and social work are able to complete the requirements for both degrees in 80 credit hours, rather than the 105 total hours needed to complete each program separately.

**M.A.P.S. Program Content:** (35 academic credits + 2 human & spiritual formation units, where applicable)
- **Integrative Studies (4 hrs)**
  Proseminar (3)
  Integrative Seminar (1)
- **Biblical Studies (6 hrs)**
  Bible Interpretation (3)
  Scripture Elective (3)
- **Systematic Theology (9 hrs)**
  Introduction to Theology and Theological Method (3)
  Christology (3)
  Ecclesiology (3)
- **Moral Theology (3 hrs)**
  Foundations of Catholic Morality (3)
- **Historical Studies (3 hrs)**
  Church History I (3) OR Church History II (3)
- **Pastoral Theology (7 hrs)**
  Foundations of Pastoral Care (3)
  Pastoral Electives (4)
- **Professional Ministerial Formation (6 or 7 hrs)**
  Supervised Practice of Ministry I (3)
  Supervised Practice of Ministry (3) and Clinical Pastoral Education (4) are fulfilled by two MSW concentration practica.
- **Electives (6 hrs)**
  Ordinarily fulfilled by MSW courses approved by Aquinas Institute.
- **Where applicable...**
  3 units - Human and Spiritual Formation

**M.S.W. Program Content:** (45 academic credits)
- **Professional Foundation Courses (18 hrs)**
  Social Policy (3)
  Human Behavior (3)
  SW Practice Theory I (3)
  SW Practice Theory II (3)
  SW Research (3)
  Practicum I (3)
  Integrative Practice Seminar (0)
- **Concentration Core Courses (12-15 hrs)**
  Concentration Core (3)
  Concentration Core (3)
Concentration Core (3)  
Concentration Core (3) – Health only  
Research Option (3)  
• **Capstone Values and Ethics Courses (3 hrs)**  
Values and Ethics in Social Work Practice (3)  
• **Concentration Practica (9 hrs)**  
Practicum II (2)  
Concentration Integrative Seminar (1)  
Practicum III (3)  
Practicum IV (3)  
• **Electives (12-15 hrs)**  
Ordinarily fulfilled by MAPS courses approved by MSW Program Committee.

**Master of Music with Emphasis in Church Music**

Webster University in St. Louis accepts twelve graduate credits in theology from Aquinas Institute towards its Master of Music with Emphasis in Church Music, a degree fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music. Students must seek admission to both Webster University and Aquinas Institute, and some scholarship funding may be available from Aquinas Institute for the following twelve graduate credits which can be accepted as transfer credits from Aquinas Institute toward the Webster MM in Church Music. The courses accepted as transfer credits are as follows:

Theology of Worship (3)  
Christian Initiation (3)  
Eucharist (3)  
Christian Year/Christian Prayer OR History of Worship (3)

**Master of Arts in Health Care Mission**

The Master of Arts in Health Care Mission is designed to cultivate and nurture in Catholic health care leaders the theological depth and spiritual maturity necessary to ensure the vitality and integrity of the healing ministry of the Church into the future. Meeting this challenge requires Catholic health care leaders who not only grasp the complexities of health care, but who also have a sound knowledge of—and ability to—communicate the Church’s theological tradition. In order to better serve our students, this program was redesigned as an executive, accelerated two-year degree program in 2016.  

Upon completion of the two year internet-enhanced program, the E.M.A.H.C.M. graduate will be equipped to:

- Communicate an understanding of Catholic theological tradition as it relates to the Church’s mission of healing  
- Exercise the ability to work with others in identifying and implementing organizational activities that sustain a robust Catholic identity capable of bringing about systemic change  
- Actively engage the Catholic social teachings to address the realities of health care today  
- Demonstrate the ability to grapple with complex ethical issues in the legal, organizational, and policy arenas experienced in the health care ministry  
- Enter into meaningful and productive discourse with other church leaders (bishops, sponsors, etc.) in promoting and extending the healing ministry of Jesus  
- Function effectively in health care’s highly pluralistic ethical and religious context  
- Demonstrate the qualities and competencies of transformational leadership (e.g. exercises prophetic voice, servant leadership, transformational change) in service of the healing ministry.

The Executive Master of Arts in Health Care Mission degree combines a strong core of theological studies with ministry experience, integration, and spiritual formation. It is offered in an accelerated cohort model: adult learners enroll together and proceed through the entire program as a community, both online and during intensive weekend sessions in St. Louis. Each academic course is offered over ten weeks and consists of the following:
A. Interactive online pre- and post-study periods: Coursework involves assigned readings, study guides, video lectures and posted online threaded discussion of questions or cases. Students are expected to complete the assignments as directed and participate in the online discussions each week.

B. Intensive Weekend: This experience brings students and faculty together for three-and-a-half days of lecture, discussions, casework, and spiritual and leadership formation.

**Spirituality for Ministry Leadership**

Over the course of the entire program, significant time and attention is paid to developing a Spirituality for Ministry Leadership. Students are invited to integrate the theological content of coursework with a deepening awareness of the need for and commitment to action on behalf of the transformational agenda of Catholic health care. Spirituality for Ministry Leadership builds on the formational quality of the entire curriculum, and attends to four dimensions of a leader’s experience:

- **Internal dimension of personal meaning and spirituality (spiritual formation)**
- **External dimension of individual actions as a leader (personal/human formation)**
- **Culture and shared values of Catholic health care as a ministry (intellectual formation)**
- **Business systems and processes through which Catholic health care is conducted (professional leadership formation)**

Understanding the essential interrelation of the four dimensions of leadership, Spirituality for Ministry Leadership emphasizes integration of these dimensions within the person of the leader. Personal transformation is the essential starting point for organizational transformation. Growth in spiritual depth, personal maturity, knowledge and ownership of the mission of Catholic health care, and leadership capabilities will enable ministry leaders to be agents of transformation within Catholic health care and beyond.

**Program Content:** (31 academic credits + 5 units formation)

- **Biblical Studies (3 hrs)**
  Interpreting Sacred Texts for the Healing Ministry (3)
- **Systematic Theology (6 hrs)**
  Practical Theology for Ministry Leaders (3)
  Jesus, the Church, and the Healing Ministry (3)
- **Moral Theology (9 hrs)**
  Catholic Social Teaching: Foundations and Applications for the Healing Ministry (3)
  Health Care Ethics (3)
  Organizational Ethics (3)
- **Liturgical Theology (3 hrs)**
  Sacraments for the Healing Ministry (3)
- **Professional Ministerial Formation (6 hrs)**
  Leadership Competencies for Ministry Leaders (3)
  Advocacy, Ethics, and Public Policy (3)
- **Integrative Studies (4 hrs)**
  Theology of Ministry/Integrative Seminar (4)
- **Spirituality for Ministry Leadership (5 units)**

**Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry – Oklahoma City**

Distance learning or extension education programs meet a crucial need in dioceses where there is a shortage of adequate or accredited ministry training resources. To better serve the Church in these areas, Aquinas Institute offers a distance learning Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry (M.A.P.M.) degree. The M.A.P.M. degree is a four-year program offered entirely on-site in the diocese. The degree is currently being offered in the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City.

The M.A.P.M. degree offers a broad overview of the theory and skills needed by parish directors, pastoral associates, campus ministers, religious educators, permanent deacons and others entrusted with ministry in the
Christian community. Aquinas develops and offers the M.A.P.M. degree in active partnership with local dioceses. Full time and adjunct Aquinas faculty members, trained in distance learning pedagogy, travel to the diocese for the intensive weekend of each course.

The M.A.P.M. degree in Oklahoma City consists of 15 courses in academic theology and ministry, a four-month intensive in the supervised practice of ministry (field education), and a four-hour seminar in spiritual and personal formation that runs concurrent with the academic portion of the degree program. The M.A.P.M. degree is designed to offer the student an integrated experience of academic theology, field education, and spiritual formation for ministry. The students in the M.A.P.M. program come together in the context of community, that of the student cohort of learners, who matriculate together and remain together through the entire program. The cohort experience serves as an integrating feature of the various components of the M.A.P.M. degree.

Upon completion of the degree, the M.A.P.M. graduate will be able to:
- Demonstrate an understanding of major theological, liturgical, and pastoral themes in Catholic theology through effective communication in classroom and pastoral settings;
- Demonstrate an ability to analyze major magisterial, theological, and ritual texts useful in pastoral ministry;
- Demonstrate an ability to analyze the various religious and social contexts at work in the graduate’s pastoral setting;
- Demonstrate, among peers and among members of the communities the graduate serves, the ability to reflect theologically, bringing into conversation the challenges of pastoral ministry, the social context, and the wisdom of the tradition;
- Demonstrate among peers and among members of the communities the graduate serves the personal and professional maturity needed to effectively collaborate with others in ministry;
- Articulate a theology of ministry which is both faithful to the Catholic tradition and sensitive to the unique needs and challenges of the communities the graduate serves;
- Demonstrate competence in a breadth of ministerial knowledge and skills appropriate to general pastoral ministry;
- Cultivate a consistent practice of collaborative learning thanks to membership in a formational cohort that has prepared the graduate for ministry on a pastoral team.

Program Content: (44 academic credits + 4 spiritual formation units)

- **Integrative Studies (5 hrs)**
  Proseminar/Introduction to Theology (3)
  Integrative Seminar (2)

- **Biblical Studies (9 hrs)**
  Bible Interpretation (3)
  Hebrew Scriptures (3)
  Christian Scriptures (3)

- **Systematic Theology (9 hrs)**
  Christology and Christian Anthropology (3)
  Theology of Church and Ministry (3)
  Theology of God (3)

- **Historical Studies (3 hrs)**
  United States Church History (3)

- **Moral Theology (3 hrs)**
  Morality: Personal and Social (3)

- **Liturgical Theology (3 hrs)**
  Theology of Worship and Sacraments (3)

- **Pastoral Theology (9 hrs)**
  Foundations of Pastoral Care (3)
  Proclamation for Evangelization (3)
  Church Polity and Law for Ministry (3)

- **Professional Ministerial Formation (3 hrs)**
  Supervised Practice of Ministry I (3)
• Ministerial and Spiritual Formation (4 units)
  Formative Spirituality for Pastoral Ministry I (1)
  Formative Spirituality for Pastoral Ministry II (1)
  Formative Spirituality for Pastoral Ministry III (1)
  Formative Spirituality for Pastoral Ministry IV (1)

Formation and Field Education

Human Spiritual Formation Program
  Human and Spiritual Formation is a holistic process that seeks to help students develop a strong foundation that will serve them for responding to the challenges and opportunities of life in ministry in service to the Church, both ecclesial and secular. Formation for ministry is one of the key components of Aquinas Institute’s program. We believe that it is essential to partner with the student to develop ministers and leaders in the Church and in the world who are intellectually prepared, spiritually grounded, and who can exercise the appropriate capacities for ministerial relationships.

  Cohort Programs:
  The M.A.H.C.M., M.A.P.M., and M.A.P.S.-C.G.S degree programs have their own individual formation processes, unique to the cohort design of the program. More detailed descriptions of these formation processes can be obtained by contacting the director of the degree program.

  Other Programs:
  Human and Spiritual Formation is a required component of the M.A.P.S., M.A.P.S.-M.S.W, and M.Div. degree programs at Aquinas Institute of Theology, as well as students seeking a Certificate in Pastoral Care. Students in the Pastoral Care Certificate program participate for one year; students in the Masters programs participate for two years.

  Lay students in the M.A. degree program or Spiritual Direction are strongly encouraged to participate in Formation. Non-degree students, others already engaged in full-or-part-time ministry as employees or volunteers, or anyone who wishes to attain a basic foundation in spiritual formation in order to learn how to grow and deepen their personal faith-life throughout the rest of their lives, are highly encouraged to consider this program.

Methods and Process:

  Small communities
  Students meet for a total of twenty weeks over the Fall and Spring semesters and for a day of reflection each semester. Those students at a distance will have the opportunity to participate as well. These meetings include student-led prayer and reflection, discussion and sharing on various assigned readings and activities, as well as providing support, encouragement, and feedback to each other.

  Fostering of self-reflection and self-awareness by reading and reflecting on a weekly basis the assigned articles/chapters. This is a means of surfacing what is evoked and the personal/spiritual impact of the assigned readings.

  Spiritual and developmental histories and psychological assessments are completed by each student during the first year of the formation program, prior to any participation in Supervised Practice of Ministry and the student’s application for Admission to Candidacy, as a means of assessing readiness and overall suitability for ministry.

  Establishment of personal and spiritual formation goals for ongoing integration and growth are reviewed and self-evaluated each semester for growth and progress. The student then brings these formation goals into conversation with his or her academic advisor and Field Education Supervisor.
who will help the student develop an academic and pastoral program that will support their achievement.

**Meeting with Formation Director** at least once each semester by phone, video chat, or in person, to discuss goals, progress, and any issues or concerns that need to be addressed.

**Field Education**

The goal of theological field education is to provide a comprehensive experience in ministry with regular supervision of the task and reflection on its meaning. Aiming toward a professional standard of performance, it brings together astute use of classroom learning, discernment of the gifts of the Spirit, vital self-awareness, and reflection relying on the integration of theological, cultural, and experiential data.

**Supervised Practice of Ministry (SPM)**
The basic field education placements, SPM I and II, include five hours per week of ministry at a ministry site; bi-weekly, one-hour appointments with a competent on-site supervisor; and a weekly theological reflection seminar facilitated by a member of the Field Education faculty. The advanced field education placement for lay M.Div. students, SPM III, follows a similar framework and includes eight to ten hours per week of ministry. In each course, students negotiate written learning contracts specifying a ministry, an on-site supervisor, and learning goals. Evaluations are completed based on the student’s learning goals. In the weekly seminar, students learn a method of theological reflection that takes into account Christian tradition, culture, and personal experience. In the context of pastoral case studies, students develop the habit of integrating theology with experience.

**Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)**
CPE is an intensive summer- or semester-long experience of process education at an accredited CPE site under the supervision of a certified CPE supervisor. The basic unit of CPE is integral to the M.Div. program, and is an option in the M.A.P.S. program. In CPE, students learn the skills of pastoral ministry in a professional context of individual and group supervision. Students may apply to CPE programs accredited nationally or internationally by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education or the United States Catholic Conference.

**Internships**
Several field education internships are available, according to a student’s program of study. Internships are arranged through the Director of Field Education in consultation with the student’s academic advisor. All internships include field placement with qualified supervision. The student and supervisor enter into a written learning contract specifying learning goals and ministerial responsibilities for the internship. Written evaluation is based on the fulfillment of these goals and responsibilities. The number of graduate credits received depends upon the duration and content of the internship. SPM and CPE are prerequisites for most internships. Internships listed in this catalog include Pastoral Year and Diaconal Ministry Practicum.

**Graduate Certificate Programs**

To meet the Church’s growing need for ministers formally trained in various fields, Aquinas Institute has developed graduate certificate programs in special areas: spiritual direction, pastoral care, biblical studies, and Thomistic studies. These provide a focused study of 18 graduate credit hours in a specific area. Some areas, such as pastoral care and spiritual direction, combine theological study with supervised practice of ministry. Graduate credits earned for the certificate may be applied to a master’s degree program. Those students who have not done graduate studies prior to certificate study may be required to take the Proseminar as a prerequisite for certificate study.

**Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies**
The Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies provides 18 graduate credits in Biblical Studies. The certificate is designed for those seeking to increase or refresh their understanding of Scripture, those who teach Scripture or conduct Bible Studies in their parish settings, or those who are active in liturgical or retreat ministries. This focused
study of Scripture will assist ministers and others to deepen their appropriation of the Word of God and communicate their enriched understanding of the Scriptures in the various settings of their lives and work.

Program Content: (18 academic credits)
- **Biblical Studies (15 hrs)**
  - Bible Interpretation (3)
  - Old Testament Electives (6)
  - New Testament Electives (6)
- **Electives (3)**
  - In any area desired (3)

**Graduate Certificate in Pastoral Care**

The Graduate Certificate in Pastoral Care is an 18-hour graduate-level ministerial program designed to build upon the student’s ministerial gifts in preparation for pastoral service in the Church and society. The goal of the program is to enhance the ministry of those offering pastoral care by increasing their knowledge and skills through the study of current theological thought from a pastoral perspective and through supervised experiences of pastoral practice. The certificate is not a license to practice pastoral care, but evidence of pastoral care training.

Program Content: (18 academic credits + 2 units formation)
- **Pastoral Theology (9 hrs)**
  - Foundations of Pastoral Care (3)
  - Pastoral Electives (6)
- **Professional Ministerial Formation (6 hrs)**
  - Supervised Practice of Ministry I (3)
  - Supervised Practice of Ministry II (3)
- **Electives (3 hrs)**
  - In any area desired (3)
- **Human and Spiritual Formation (2 units)**
  - Humand and Spiritual Formation I (2)

**Graduate Certificate in Spiritual Direction**

The Certificate in Spiritual Direction, offered in both an on-campus and an online format, is designed for women and men actively serving as spiritual directors or those sensing a call to enter this ministry. The goal of the program is to build upon the student’s spiritual and ministerial gifts and to better equip directors in their ability to walk the spiritual journey with those seeking guidance. Candidates applying must show experience of a call from others for this ministry, commitment to discerning this call, and response to it by developing the skills needed for spiritual direction. Applicants for the certificate program are expected to have experience of receiving spiritual direction prior to formally beginning the program. The program is open to directors and others serving in a variety of pastoral settings. The certificate is not a license to practice spiritual direction but is evidence of training in this area.

This 18 credit-hour program focuses on the biblical and theological foundations of spirituality, a deepened understanding of the theory of spiritual direction, and supervised practice in the art of spiritual direction. The supervised practice of spiritual direction provides guidance and stimulates growth in students’ own spirituality and in the ability to give spiritual direction.

Program Content (18 academic credits)
- **Biblical Studies (3 hrs)**
  - Bible Interpretation (3)
- **Historical Studies (3 hrs)**
  - History of Christian Spirituality (3)
- **Systematic Theology (3 hrs)**
  - Foundations of Spirituality (3)
- **Spiritual Direction (3 hrs)**
  - Spiritual Direction (3)
- **Practicum (6 hrs)**
Practicum I (2) (offered on campus for all spiritual direction students 3rd full week of June every year)
Practicum II (1) (every fall semester)
Practicum III (1) (every spring semester)
Practicum IV (2) (offered on campus for all spiritual direction students 1st full week of June every year)

Graduate Certificate in Thomistic Studies

The Thomistic Studies Certificate is designed for people interested in a focused study of the philosophy of Thomas Aquinas. The certificate is an 18 credit-hour program composed of six courses (three credits each) in philosophy. Ordinarily, students will currently be in graduate programs at Aquinas Institute or one of the other consortium schools. This certificate can be completed concurrently with other degree programs.

The six courses are offered in a three-year cycle of one course a semester. Some courses are offered more frequently to allow for more admission points. Occasionally, a summer course may be offered.

This concentration in Thomistic Studies will provide students of the consortium schools a unique opportunity for a sustained study of Thomas Aquinas in a Dominican theological context. Students with specialties in medieval philosophy and history will find that this program contributes significantly to their areas of interest. Theologians who wish to round out their appropriation of early and contemporary theology also will find this program helpful.

Program Content: (18 academic credits)

• Introductory Sequence (9 hrs)
  Use of Philosophy in Theology (3)
  Thomas Aquinas: Life, Thought, Works (3)
  Philosophical Foundations of Thomas Aquinas (3)

• Seminars (9 hrs)
  God and Creation (3)
  Human Person and Society (3)
  Christ and Sacrament (3)

Non-degree Students

Persons who are not interested in pursuing a certificate or a degree program, but wish to keep up with the development of theological issues and increase the professional skills required for ministry, may register as non-degree students and take courses that meet their personal needs. These courses may be taken for credit or audit. Generally, however, preaching courses, other practica, seminars, and internships must be taken for credit. Qualified students not working toward a graduate degree receive credit for their course work, which will be recorded and, upon request, certified to appropriate institutions. Students must have pre-requisite course work in order to take a course for credit or audit.
Admissions

Application Deadlines:

• For the Doctor of Ministry in Preaching, the Master of Arts in Health Care Mission, and the Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry programs, contact the Admissions Office or visit www.ai.edu.
• For the Master of Divinity, Master of Arts, Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies, Master of Sacred Music, Graduate Certificate Programs, and Non-Degree Students:
  March 15th is the priority deadline for Fall Semester; November 15th is the priority deadline for Spring Semester.

Admission Requirements for Doctor of Ministry in Preaching

The following application materials are required, using the D.Min. application forms provided online or by the Admissions Office:

1. Prerequisite: M.Div. degree or its equivalent and three years of preaching experience.
2. A completed application for Admission to the Doctor of Ministry Program, using the form provided.
3. Official transcripts from the institution where you received your Master of Divinity degree sent directly from the issuing institution to Aquinas Institute.
4. Three letters of recommendation attesting to personal character, academic ability, and ministerial skill from the following persons: your most recent employer, supervisor, or pastor; a colleague in ministry; and an individual who has heard you preach frequently. Please use the forms provided.
5. Nonrefundable application fee of $100.00.
6. For international students:
   • Please provide evidence of financial support for the duration of studies in accord with U.S. Immigration regulations.
   • Proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing English is required. Proficiency will be assessed based on the Preaching Case Study video and written documentation, as assigned below.
7. Submit the following on single-spaced pages with one-inch margins and twelve-point font.
   a. An essay of no more than two pages, describing your understanding of preaching, your strengths and weaknesses as a preacher, personal and professional influences that have shaped your desire to pursue a Doctor of Ministry in Preaching, and how you foresee Doctor of Ministry in Preaching study affecting your growth as a preacher and your future personal and professional life.
   b. Additional essay questions to be answered in brief:
      • Dedicated Study Time: Participants will be required in the midst of full-time ministry to set aside approximately one day per week to study during the full course of the program. Demands can be greater if English is your second language. Additionally, participation in all St. Louis intensive seminars is of the utmost priority. Applicants are asked to discuss these demands upon their time with their families or communities and with sponsors, supervisors, and colleagues in ministry at the time of application. In your own words, tell us how you initially plan to set aside study time. To what extent do you have the endorsement or support of the stakeholders listed above?
      • Pulpit Access: It is important that participants have access to pulpit preaching in conjunction with their study in the program. What pulpits or other preaching opportunities are available to you, and with what frequency do you presently preach?
      • Change of Ministry: Although this program allows for doctoral study in the midst of full-time ministry, a change of ministry in the course of the program can impede a student’s ability to focus on his or her studies. Do you anticipate a change of ministry in the next four years and, if so, when?
      • Computer Proficiency and Internet Access: At a minimum, you must have a Pentium PC or Macintosh multimedia computer, internet access (most students prefer a high-speed connection), a recent version of Word, and up-to-date anti-virus protection. In your own words, tell us the extent to which you presently meet these requirements.
8. Please submit a Preaching Case Study, as assigned below. If you are accepted as a member of the Doctor of Ministry in Preaching cohort, this case study will be retained as part of your student Learning Portfolio.
• Submit a video recording of your own preaching in English in a live liturgical setting in digital form. It is the applicant’s responsibility to secure this recording according to the directions provided in the application materials.
• To accompany the video recording, submit a written case study in English of no more than five single-spaced pages with one-inch margins and twelve-point font. Include the following elements in clearly marked sections:
  1. **Heading:** List name of preacher, date, congregational setting, liturgical context, and references for lectionary or scriptural texts for this preaching.
  2. **Journal:** Include a brief journal of your preaching preparation process, taking into account steps in preaching preparation, including prayer, study, and collaborative preparation.
  3. **Analysis of Congregation:** Include a brief description of the congregation, integrating understandings of social and cultural analysis in terms of the socio-cultural makeup of the congregation and significant events pertinent to congregational life.
  4. **Biblical Hermeneutics:** Write a one-page exegesis of at least one of the preached scriptural texts, with references to source material.
  5. **Preacher’s Reflections:**
     a. In what way do you think your preaching from these Scriptures makes a difference in the everyday faith life of your congregation?
     b. How does this preaching reflect the theological tradition of your denomination?
     c. Reviewing your recording, what would you consider to be your greatest strength? Describe also at least one important area where you need further growth.

The D.Min. in Preaching program is administered by the Doctor of Ministry Committee, which is accountable to the Academic Dean. Applications are reviewed by the D.Min. Committee and the Director of Admissions. Upon acceptance into the D.Min. in Preaching Program, the student will receive a formal letter of acceptance.

**Admission Requirements for Masters’ Degrees and Certificate Programs**

A completed application for admission to Aquinas Institute of Theology is comprised of both Part I and Part II of the application.

**PART I**

1. A bachelors’ degree from a recognized institution or its equivalent.
2. A 3.0 or higher Grade Point Average from previous undergraduate/graduate study.
3. A completed Application for Graduate Admission.
4. Official transcripts from the institution where you received your Bachelor’s degree sent directly from the issuing institution to Aquinas Institute.
5. Three letters of recommendation:
   • At least one letter from each of the three reference areas: academic, ministerial, and personal references.
   • Applicants from Religious Orders: One of these letters should be a letter of recommendation/sponsorship from your religious superior.
   • Applicants for M.A.P.S.-CGS: One of these letters should be from a Catechesis formation leader, if possible.
   • Applicants for the Certificate in Spiritual Direction: One of these letters should be from your current spiritual director.

6. **Results of the Miller Analogies Test/Graduate Record Examination**
The Miller Analogies Test is required of all degree applicants. Please check with your local college or university for the testing center nearest you. Applicants who have earned a post-baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution, or whose undergraduate degree is in theology/religious studies may request to have the MAT waived. You must specify “theology” as the program of study for the MAT. Aquinas will accept GRE scores. GRE scores must have been taken in the last five years and must be sent directly from the testing agency. International applicants do not need to take the MAT or GRE.

7. **International Students and those for whom English is a Second Language:**
   • Proficiency in the English language is required. Either a TOEFL or an IELTS certificate of proficiency in English should be sent to the Director of Admissions. All four parts of the computer-based TOEFL test are required; only the academic part of the IELTS test is required. For admission to Aquinas Institute,
the minimum TOEFL score must be 88, with a score of at least 22 in each section; the minimum IELTS score of 7.0 International applicants who possess a four-year undergraduate degree from the U.S., U.K., Canada, or Australia/New Zealand may apply to waive the English proficiency requirement.

B. Applicants who have completed a bachelor’s degree abroad should submit non-U.S. transcripts to an evaluation service for review. The evaluation review report must indicate what the non-U.S. transcripts are equivalent to in United States academic institutions. Aquinas Institute will accept evaluations from any reputable transcript evaluation company. However Aquinas Institute recommends that student use Education Perspectives (EP) if they are beginning the transcript evaluation process because EP is knowledgeable of, and able to, accommodate those coming from a religious seminary or other faith-based institution. The evaluation is waived for applicants who have completed a master’s degree at an accredited U.S. institution.

C. International students must be prepared to provide evidence of financial support for the duration of their studies in accord with U.S. Immigration Regulations. Please contact the Director of Admissions for a financial support verification form.

8. Non-refundable application fee of $50.00.
Application fee may be paid by check or by credit card at the Aquinas Institute website using this link: https://www.ai.edu/OnlinePaymentsandDonations/SubmityourAquinasApplicationFee.aspx

9. Interview with admissions staff and/or faculty is required. Interviews may be conducted by phone or SKYPE for applicants to cohort or online programs.

PART II—Written Essays

1. Personal Assessment.
The Personal Assessment is an important part of your application for admission to Aquinas Institute of Theology. Please limit your personal statement to 1000 words (3 or 4 pages, double spaced). It should highlight the following:
   a. vocational goals, intellectual and pastoral interests
   b. personal assessment of your strengths and weaknesses for theology and ministry
   c. theological and ministerial questions that spark your interest and may relate to your reasons for applying to Aquinas Institute of Theology

2. A maximum 700-word (2 or 3 typed pages, double-spaced) essay reflecting on a select quotation from Timothy Radcliffe, O.P.’s chapter entitled “Wellspring of Hope,” from his book Sing a New Song (Templegate, 1999). Your essay should address the following questions: What does this quote mean to you? What do you find challenging about this quote? What do you find comforting? What can this quote mean in your community and/or ministerial context?
   • Select one of the following quotes:
     A) “Study is a way to holiness, which opens our hearts and minds to each other, builds community and forms us as those who confidently proclaim the coming of the Kingdom.” (page 54)
     B) “The intellectual discipline of our study has this ultimate purpose, to bring us to this moment of conversion when our false images of God are destroyed so that we may draw near to the mystery.” (page 64)
     C) “We can never say an illuminating word about God unless we do theology differently, uncompetitively and with reverence. One cannot do theology alone.” (page 70)

When all admissions materials have been received, they are submitted to the Admissions Committee for review. Upon approval of the application for admission, the student receives a formal acceptance letter. Students who have some portion of the admissions documents outstanding at the time of registration, yet whose profile at that time indicates they will be accepted by the school, may be admitted conditionally but may enroll for no more than nine credit hours without completing their application file.

All applicants must complete Part I of the application process. Part II of the application process differs among cohort programs. The specific requirements are, as follows:

**Special Admissions Requirements for MAHCM & Certificate in Spiritual Direction**

**Master of Arts in Health Care Mission**
In addition to the completion of Part I of the Application for Admission process, the following requirements are specific to this program:

1. Applicants must possess at least a bachelor’s degree, some experience in health care, and a desire to either advance Catholic health care ministry leadership or move into a role of ministry leadership in the future;
2. The three letters of recommendation required in Part I of the application process should be from colleagues familiar with the applicant’s experiences and leadership potential in health care ministry;
3. A 1000-word essay explaining the applicant’s interest in the program and why the applicant believes theological education is important to the future of Catholic health care ministry. In addition, the applicant is asked to explain how participation in the program may shape future career goals.

Certificate in Spiritual Direction
In addition to the completion of Part I and Part II of the Application for Admission process, the following requirements are specific to this program: Questions pertaining to one’s experience and understanding of the nature of spiritual direction.

Admission Requirements for Non-Degree Students:
1. A bachelors’ degree from a recognized institution or its equivalent.
2. A completed Application for Graduate Admission.
3. Official transcript from the college or university where the applicant received his/her highest degree sent directly from the institution to Aquinas Institute.
4. One letter of recommendation from the applicant’s most recent employer, supervisor, pastor, or religious superior.
5. Completion of Written Essay #2 in Part II of Application for Graduate Admission.
6. Non-refundable application fee of $50.00

Admission Requirements for Special Status:
1. A bachelor’s degree or its equivalent from a recognized institution.
2. A completed application for admission.
3. Non-refundable application fee of $50.00

Procedures for Admission to Aquinas Institute
Requests for application forms should be made to the Office of Admissions or downloaded from the Aquinas Institute website (www.ai.edu). All required materials completed for admission should be submitted to the Office of Admissions.

Categories of Students
Graduate Degree Students: Students working toward a graduate degree, with completed application.
Graduate Certificate Students: Students working toward a certificate in a specialized area, with completed application.
Non-Degree Students: Qualified students not working toward a graduate degree or certificate may take courses for credit, audit, or CEU with the approval of their advisor and the Academic Dean. Coursework done by Non-Degree students, if taken for credit, is recorded and may be applied toward a degree or certificate program as well as certified to appropriate institutions.

Types of Admittance
Full Admittance: Accepted as a student working towards a degree or certificate or qualified students not working toward a graduate degree but taking courses for credit or audit.
Full Admittance on Academic Probation: Students whose general profile indicates the ability to do graduate study, but some part of the admission documentation raises a question about that ability. Probation will be lifted by the Academic Dean when the student has completed a semester of course work, or at least six to nine credit hours and maintained a grade point average of 3.0.
Conditional Admission: Students whose general profile indicates that they will be accepted into the school, but some portion of the required admission documents remain outstanding at the time of registration. Full admission will be granted when all admission documents are on file. Any student who still has an incomplete admission dossier at the end of the first semester, after being granted conditional admission, can be asked to leave the school.
Notice on Nondiscriminatory Policy

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY
(See also, Appendix C “Notice of Nondiscriminatory Policy” and Appendix D “Policy Prohibiting Discrimination and Harassment” in the current Student Handbook.)

Aquinas Institute of Theology does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs or activities. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Office of the Academic Dean
Fr. Gregory Heille, O.P.
23 S. Spring Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63108
314-256-8881

Office of the Director of Student Services
Kevin Sweeney
23 S. Spring Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63108
314-256-8803

Procedure for Student Grievance and Appeals

The Right of Fair and Equal Evaluation of Students

The assessment of the quality of a student’s academic performance is one of the major professional responsibilities of faculty members and is solely and properly their responsibility. It is essential for the academic standards of Aquinas Institute and for the integrity of the degrees conferred by the school that the professional judgments of faculty members not be subjected to pressure or other interference from any source.

It is necessary, however, that any course grade be based on evidence of student performance, that students have access to the evidence, that instructors be willing to explain the basis upon which grades are determined, and that grades be determined in accordance with guidelines which are to be announced in the syllabus or during the first quarter of a course term.

Grade Appeals

The following procedures are available only for review of alleged capricious grading, and not for review of the judgment of an instructor in assessing the quality of a student’s work. Capricious grading, as that term is used herein, is limited to one or more of the following:

1. The assignment of a grade to a particular student on some basis other than performance in the course.
2. The assignment of a grade to a particular student by more exacting or demanding standards than were applied to other equivalent student in that section.
3. The assignment of a grade by a substantial departure from the instructor’s announced standards in the syllabus or first quarter of a course term.

A student who believes a final course grade is capricious may seek clarification in writing within three months after the grade has been assigned by the instructor, and where appropriate, redress as follows:

1. The student shall confer with the instructor, informing the instructor of questions concerning the grade and seeking to understand fully the grounds and procedures used in determining the grade. The aim is to reach mutual understanding about the grade, the process by which it was assigned, and to correct errors, if any, in the grade.
2. If after consultation with the instructor the student believes that a grade is capricious, the student will consult the academic dean, who in turn will consult with the instructor and student separately or together in an attempt to reach a resolution of the matter.
3. If this matter has not been resolved to the satisfaction of the student, the student may submit to the academic dean a formal letter of grievance with supporting documentation within thirty days of the end of the pertinent class. The grievance must provide documentation that the instructor’s policies were not adhered to, that the student was not informed of the policies, or that the grade was capriciously assigned. The letter should include a description of the complaint, the relationship of the grievance to the instructor’s syllabus or oral instructions, channels already pursued to resolve the grievance, pertinent documentation, and a summary of the relief sought.

4. The grievance committee will be convened by the academic dean in a timely manner and will conduct interviews with both the student and the teacher and review all pertinent documentation on the issue.

5. This committee shall recommend to the academic dean whether the grade should stand or be changed and shall notify both the student and the instructor of its recommendation. The academic dean shall then render a decision and notify all parties, and a written record shall be kept at all stages of the appeals process.

Other Grievances
In order to ensure the rights of students in relation to faculty prejudice, improper breaches of confidentiality, and limitations upon freedom of expression, the following grievance procedures are established:

1. The student shall take responsibility to discuss any grievance with the faculty member against whom the grievance is directed. The student may also ask his or her faculty adviser to act as a mediator.

2. If the grievance is not resolved to the student’s satisfaction at level one, the student shall submit a written statement of the grievance with supporting documentation to the academic dean within thirty days of the incident. After investigating the accuracy of the facts presented in the written statement, the academic dean shall render a decision and propose any necessary remedies within fourteen days of the submission of the grievance.

3. If the grievance is still not resolved to the student’s satisfaction, the student may appeal to the grievance committee by submitting a letter to the academic dean within three months of the end of the course.

4. If the faculty member against whom the grievance is made is a member of the committee, a substitute committee member will be appointed by the academic dean. If the grievance is directed against the academic dean, the president shall refer it directly to the grievance committee, which will make its recommendation to the president for a final decision.

5. If the grievance is directed against the president and is not able to be satisfactorily resolved between the student and president, the student will submit a letter of formal grievance and supporting documentation to the academic dean to present to the grievance committee. The committee’s decision shall be final, although the president has the right to appeal the committee’s decision to the executive committee of the Board of trustees. The executive committee’s decision shall be final.

6. This policy does not cover financial grievances, which shall be first addressed to the director of finance and administration. If the matter is not satisfactorily resolved, it may be presented in writing to the president, whose decision will be final.

Protection of the Instructor’s Rights
The decision of the grievance committee may not be used as a cause for any disciplinary action or for dismissal of a faculty member before the expiration of a contract period. All pertinent evidence considered by the grievance committee shall be made available to the president when taking independent disciplinary action concerning an instructor according to school procedures.

Committee Procedure for Handling an Academic Grievance
In extenuating circumstances, the chair of the faculty development committee—serving as the grievance committee—may adjust the following procedures to insure a fair and impartial hearing.

The grievance committee functions to facilitate the consideration of matters relating to student academic grievances. The committee is composed of the faculty members and chair of the faculty development committee, excluding the academic dean. Meetings are scheduled by the chair as needed, and to the extent possible the process will be expedited for students whose academic standing is in question.

The grievance committee serves as a hearing committee to address a specific grievance and also serves to assess and make recommendations regarding grievance procedures. The committee chair provides written reports summarizing activities and findings of the committee to the academic dean or, as the case may be, the president or the executive committee.
The academic dean assures that written grievances include required supporting documentation, provides for secretarial support to the committee, receives and acts upon the recommendations of the committee in consultation with its chair, and informs the student, the president, and the committee of the final disposition of a grievance.

The committee chair sets a timetable of meetings, provides members with documentation, presides at meetings, arranges for individuals to appear before the committee for the purpose of clarifying and responding to questions regarding the submitted written statements, approves and distributes committee minutes, compiles and submits a formal written report with recommendations, and confers with the academic dean regarding the report and recommendations.

In its signed report to the academic dean, the committee is to briefly present the grievance and supporting documentation, the activities of the committee pertaining to the case and including the dates and purposes of meetings and the persons interviewed, and the findings and recommendations of the committee. In the case of grade appeals, the report will state the committee’s recommendation whether a grade be upheld or changed, answering whether the instructor adhered to her or his stated policies, whether the student was adequately informed of these policies, and whether the student was given the opportunity to correct deficiencies.

All parties are to maintain confidentiality regarding grievances, documentation, proceedings, and recommendations.
Financial Aid, Tuition & Fees

Aware of differing financial situations of our students, Aquinas Institute of Theology has a number of forms of aid from which a comprehensive financial aid package can be created: President’s Scholarships, Aquinas Institute Grants, and Federal Stafford Loans. All financial aid is contingent upon the applicant being accepted as a student. The following is a general description of these programs. Detailed information and applications are available from the Director of Financial Aid.

Aquinas Institute’s Criteria

Aquinas Aid is awarded on the basis of two criteria:

1. Potential for academic achievement, theological scholarship, and ministerial leadership demonstrated by past academic records, recommendations, written application materials, and a personal interview; or
2. Financial need demonstrated by submission of appropriate documentation.

Aquinas Aid is primarily directed to lay students enrolled in a degree program. Full-time lay students are given priority. (Aquinas Aid for ordained and religious is limited to those pursuing the D.Min. degree. Ordained and members of religious orders should seek financial assistance from their order or diocese). Auditors and other students receiving automatic tuition discounts are not eligible for further grants or scholarships.

Tuition and Fees

Contact the Director of Financial Aid or visit the Aquinas website, www.ai.edu, for current tuition rates as well as helpful links, detailed information, and current application procedures for Aquinas Aid and federal aid.

Application Deadlines

Completed financial aid application forms, available online, and supporting documentation, must be returned no later than March 15th to be assured consideration for the Fall Semester, and no later than November 15th for the Spring Semester. Applications for financial aid are considered after the applicant has been accepted as a student.

Aquinas Scholarships and Grants

Certain scholarships from Aquinas Institute are awarded based on academic achievement, potential for theological scholarship, and ministerial leadership. Most scholarships and grants are determined by the demonstrated financial need of the applicant. The Financial Aid Committee determines the type of financial aid and the amount awarded from Aquinas Institute.

President’s Scholarships: President’s Scholarships cover full tuition and fees for full-time students in the M.A. in Theology, M.A. in Pastoral Studies, or Master of Divinity programs. Presidential scholars must have demonstrated outstanding academic achievement at the undergraduate level and show excellent potential for ministerial leadership in the Church. These scholarships are automatically renewed for up to three and one-half years as long as the recipient maintains a 3.50 GPA and undertakes full-time studies at Aquinas Institute.

Aquinas Tuition Grants: Aquinas Tuition Grants are awarded on the basis of financial need in amounts of up to 35% of tuition to part-time students and up to 60% for full-time students, depending on need.

De Las Casas Scholarships: De Las Casas scholarships cover full tuition and fees for vowed members of the Dominican Order from developing countries who attend Aquinas Institute full time as degree-seeking students. Scholarships are offered to only one member from any particular Dominican congregation at a time.

Brother Duane Brown, O.P. Scholarship: The Brother Duane Brown scholarship provides up to $5,000 per year for Catholic lay students of a minority ethnic background who are preparing for advanced theological study or for ministry in the Church, and who demonstrate financial need. Applicants may be enrolled in any master’s degree program offered at Aquinas Institute.

Alumni Discounts: Aquinas Institute alumni with degrees or certificates are eligible to audit classes for 1/3 the published tuition rate.
**Federal Stafford Loans**

The purpose of the Federal Stafford Loan Program is to provide low cost loans to help students finance their post-secondary education. These loans can be used to pay living expenses as well as tuition and books. Most graduate students can qualify for a Stafford Loan. A student must reapply for Federal Stafford loans each year. Renewal is dependent upon continued need for aid and maintenance of satisfactory academic progress. Federal aid is available to U.S. citizens or eligible non-citizens who qualify. To apply for a Federal Stafford loan, a student must submit a FAFSA, be enrolled in a degree program at least halftime as defined for each program by Aquinas Institute, and be making satisfactory academic progress. A graduate student may be eligible to borrow up to a maximum of $20,500 annually, with a maximum cumulative loan of $138,500. Federal loan disbursements are based on the number of semesters the student is enrolled in a calendar year. Aquinas Institute charges a $25 processing fee each semester for students applying for Federal loans. After a student ceases study or drops below halftime, there is a six-month grace period. At this time you should talk to your loan servicer and decide on the best repayment plan option for you. After the six month grace period you will enter the repayment period.

To begin the Federal loan process, go to this link to obtain a personal identification number and submit a Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA): [http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/)

**Payment of Tuition and Fees:**

All tuition and fees are due at the beginning of the term and are payable in U.S. currency by cash, check, credit card, or bank draft. Diplomas and transcripts will not be released if the student’s financial account is in arrears. Payment programs are available for those who need them. The standard Aquinas Institute payment plan requires that students pay 50% of their balance by the first day of class and submit the Payment Plan Agreement. The remaining balance is paid via Populi in three increments during succeeding months of the semester. Students must provide an account routing number or credit card number to be on file with the business office. A $20 per credit processing fee is added for those using a payment plan. Those who do not make payment arrangements will automatically be assessed a monthly interest charge of 1.5% (18% annual rate) on the unpaid balance at the end of each month.

**Satisfactory Academic Process:** Students must maintain good standing, defined as a grade average of “B” (3.00), to remain eligible for financial aid. If they fail to do so, they will be allowed one additional semester on probation in which to return to good standing. If they do not achieve good standing in that semester, they will be ineligible for future aid. They may reapply if they later meet the academic requirements of their program.

**Withdrawals and Refunds:** Approved withdrawals from a course or from Aquinas Institute of Theology may entitle a student to a tuition refund. See “Registration Procedures: Withdrawing from Aquinas Institute” in the Student Handbook for regulations governing withdrawal. Fees are not refunded for any reason in the case of withdrawal. Tuition, whether for withdrawal from Aquinas Institute of Theology or from a class, is refunded according to the following schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time of Withdrawal as Approved by Dean / Percentage of Tuition Refunded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>For Fall and Spring semesters prior to the end of:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second full week........................................................................100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third week..................................................................................80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth week.................................................................70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifth week..............................................................................60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sixth week..............................................................................40%</td>
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<td>After sixth week........................................................................0%</td>
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<tr>
<th>For all MAHCM courses (begins the first day of class)</th>
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<tr>
<td>First full week........................................................................100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second full week.......................................................................50%</td>
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<td><em>(no refunds after second week)</em></td>
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<th>For Summer Courses prior to the end of:</th>
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<tr>
<td>First full week........................................................................60%</td>
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<td>Second full week.......................................................................40%</td>
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For students in the MAPS - Catechesis of the Good Shepherd or the MAHCM programs, the refund schedule begins the first day of class, not the first day of the official semester in which it falls.

Refunds due to any student who withdraws from Aquinas Institute of Theology or from a class and who has received financial assistance during the semester will be made only after federal and state regulations have been met. Aquinas Institute financial aid is adjusted according to the refund policy.
Course Descriptions

Courses are listed with course number and title, a description, and the semester hours of credit. Courses fall into these eleven divisions: Biblical Studies, Cross-Disciplinary Studies, Dominican Studies, Homiletics, Historical Studies, Liturgical Theology, Professional Ministerial Formation, Moral Theology, Philosophy, Pastoral Theology, and Systematic Theology. Each division is indicated by three letters and each course by a 500 or 600 number, with a prefix letter. All 500 courses are on a Master’s level; all 600 courses are Doctoral level courses. Some courses are restricted because of prerequisites, limited maximum enrollment, or ecclesiastical requirements. The schedule of courses for a given term may be obtained from the Registrar’s Office.

Biblical Studies

BIB-D502 Bible Interpretation
The question “What does the biblical text mean?” will be the focus as students explore what have become the more significant contemporary approaches to biblical interpretation. The Bible will be viewed variously from the perspectives of the worlds behind, of/in, and in front of the text, using hermeneutical methods ranging from the typological to the historical-critical to the liberationist, post-modern. Textual grounding will be achieved through hermeneutical analysis of select passages in both Testaments. This course is a prerequisite for all Scripture electives. 3 hours.

BIB-D506 Torah/Pentateuch
A literary-analytical and theological study of Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. Pentateuchal themes explored include: covenant, wilderness, Exodus, Decalogue, ancient Near Eastern mythological literatures, origin stories and historicity, creation stories and evolution, and ancient Near Eastern cult. Select passages from the Torah will be interpreted through historical-critical, social-scientific, narrative-analytical, and reader-response liberationist lenses. Fulfills a ‘core’ Scripture requirement. [Prerequisite: Bible Interpretation] 3 hours.

BIB-D513 Prophets
A study of the origin and development of prophecy in ancient Israel/Judah within the context of the Near East. Special attention will be given to the books of the following classical prophets: Amos, Hosea, the three Isaiahs, Micah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel. Interpretation of the prophetic books will emphasize the historical-critical method along with contemporary social justice, liberation-theological, and feminist approaches. A close reading of selected prophetic texts will round out the course. Fulfills a ‘core’ Scripture requirement. [Prerequisite: Bible Interpretation] 3 hours.

BIB-D514 Wisdom Literature
A balanced historical-critical and contemporary liberationist study of the Roman Catholic wisdom books: Proverbs, Job, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs (Canticle of Canticles), Sirach, Wisdom of Solomon, and the wisdom Psalms. Wisdom themes explored include: guidelines for successful living and coping, God and evil, human suffering and sin, sexual love, God as passionate lover, the Wisdom Woman, and wisdom as Israel’s religion. Fulfills a ‘core’ Scripture requirement. [Prerequisite: Bible Interpretation] 3 hours.

BIB-D515 The Psalms
A study of the 150 Psalms and their liturgical use from ancient Israel’s time to the present. The Psalter will be re-organized into six prayer genres (praise, trust, wisdom, royal, lament, and thanksgiving), followed by a close historical-critical and reader-response analysis of select Psalms from each prayer genre and sample musical selections from Gregorian Chant to disco. Fulfills a ‘core’ Scripture requirement. [Prerequisite: Bible Interpretation] 3 hours.

BIB-D521 Synoptic Gospels: The Gospel of Matthew
An analysis of the Gospel of Matthew. Participants in the course will explore its literary structures and distinctive Christological themes. Particular attention will be given to Matthew’s use of pre-existing literary and theological sources, the relationship between Matthew and Torah, as well as Matthew’s references to prophetic literature. Fulfills a ‘core’ Scripture requirement. [Prerequisite: Bible Interpretation] 3 hours.

BIB-D522 Synoptic Gospels: The Gospel of Mark
An analysis of the Gospel of Mark. Participants in the course will study the Markan narrative structure and the gospel’s distinctive Christology. Particular attention will be paid to the apocalyptic dimension of Mark, the role of the
Twelve, as well as the theme of the “messianic secret.” Fulfills a ‘core’ Scripture requirement. [Prerequisite: Bible Interpretation] 3 hours.

BIB-D537 Johannine Literature
An exploration of the Fourth Gospel for its distinctive witness, literary structures, and theological developments. Participants in the course will analyze selected narrative and discursive pericopae using several models, including narrative, social-scientific, and liberationist criticism. Fulfills a ‘core’ Scripture requirement. [Prerequisite: Bible Interpretation] 3 hours.

BIB-D538 Pauline Literature
An introduction to the Pauline epistolary genre within the context of the mid-first century Mediterranean world. The course includes an exploration of the seven authentic letters with considerations of literary (narrative and rhetorical), social-scientific, and feminist criticism to understand the theological emphases that are developed for each community. Fulfills a ‘core’ Scripture requirement. [Prerequisite: Bible Interpretation] 3 hours.

BIB-D541 Acts of the Apostles

BIB-D542 Book of Revelation
A consideration of the literary structures and theological themes of the Book of Revelation. Participants in the course will examine the culture of apocalyptic expectation, and the purposes of symbols and references in the Book of Revelation. Opportunities will be given to engage in comparative studies of other examples of apocalyptic literature contemporary with the Book of Revelation. [Prerequisite: Bible Interpretation] 3 hours.

BIB-D545 Deutero-Pauline Literature
A consideration of the literary forms and the theology of the letters written in the name of Paul after his death (2 Thessalonians, Colossians, Ephesians, 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, and Titus) in their epistolary, rhetorical, and ecclesial contexts. The course compares the theology, Christology, and ecclesiology of the Pauline homologoumena to that found in the deutero-Pauline letters through close readings of selected pericopae. [Prerequisite: Bible Interpretation] 3 hours.

BIB-D546 The Catholic Epistle
Analysis of the non-Pauline epistolary literature of the New Testament: 1 Peter, 2 Peter, James, Jude, and Hebrews. Participants in the course will analyze the literary structures and distinctive theologies of each letter as expressions and critiques of Jewish Christianity. [Prerequisite: Bible Interpretation] 3 hours.

BIB-D575 Special Studies in Hebrew Scriptures
BIB-D576 Special Studies in Christian Scriptures
Elective courses offered on special topics. Announced in the course schedule. 1-3 hours.

BIB-D599 Directed Readings in Biblical Studies
[Degree students only.] Variable credit.

Cross-Disciplinary Studies
CDS-D500 Proseminar
The Proseminar immerses incoming degree students in a communal exploration and pursuit of practices that are essential for theological study and ministerial formation at Aquinas Institute of Theology: written and oral communication, close reading of texts, analysis of social context, theological reflection, and collaboration. Over the course of the semester, the student will have the opportunity to study and engage these practices so that they become habits. Students will also set goals for future development in each area as part of preparation for the admission to candidacy process. 3 hours.
CDS-D550 Integrative Seminar
A one-credit seminar designed to aid graduating ministry students in articulating, integrating, and evaluating core themes in their operative theology. 1 hour.

Dominican Studies

DOM-D501 Philosophical Foundations of Thomas Aquinas
A survey of the major philosophical emphases and Aristotelian concepts in the theology of Aquinas, from principles of logic and epistemology, to metaphysics and natural theology. (Cross listed with PHL-D501) 3 hours.

DOM-D506 Thomas Aquinas: Life, Thought, Works
An introduction to Thomas Aquinas - his life, thought, and works - and the patristic and medieval background that gives context to his writing. Students will have the opportunity to survey Thomas’s works from biblical commentaries to commentaries on Aristotle, from the Summa Contra Gentiles and Summa Theologiae to poetry. The assessment of Thomas’s achievements in their historical context will lay a foundation for later Thomistic study. (Cross listed with PHL-D506) 3 hours.

DOM-D510 God and Creation in the Thought of Thomas Aquinas: a Seminar
A consideration of selected questions from the Prima Pars of Aquinas’s Summa Theologiae, the philosophical concepts and theological themes in Aquinas’s treatment of sacred doctrine, the existence of God, the Trinity, and creation. Aquinas’s work will be placed in dialogue with modern science, contemporary cosmologies, and process theologies. [Prerequisite: Thomas Aquinas: Life, Thought, Works and Philosophical Foundations of Thomas Aquinas] (Cross listed with PHL-D510) 3 hours.

DOM-D515 Human Person and Society in the Thought of Thomas Aquinas: a Seminar
A consideration of selected questions from the Secunda Pars of Aquinas’s Summa Theologiae, both the prima/secundae and the secunda/secundae, the philosophical concepts and theological themes in Aquinas’s treatment of law, virtue, and grace. Aquinas’s work will be placed in dialogue with contemporary personalist and existential philosophies. [Prerequisite: Thomas Aquinas: Life, Thought, Works and Philosophical Foundations of Thomas Aquinas] (Cross listed with PHL-D515) 3 hours.

DOM-D520 Christ and Sacrament in the Thought of Thomas Aquinas: a Seminar
A consideration of selected questions from the Tertia Pars of Aquinas’s Summa Theologiae, the philosophical concepts and theological themes in Aquinas’ treatment of the person and natures of Christ, the resurrection of Christ, and the nature of a sacrament. Aquinas’s work will be placed in dialogue with contemporary sacramental and systematic theologians, especially Edward Schillebeeckx. [Prerequisite: Thomas Aquinas: Life, Thought, Works and Philosophical Foundations of Thomas Aquinas] (Cross listed with PHL-D520) 3 hours.

DOM-D564 Dominican Mystics
In this course representative selections from the writings of Albert the Great, Thomas Aquinas, Mechtild of Magdeburg, Catherine of Siena, and Meister Eckhart will be read and discussed. Particular attention will be given to their cultural context, use of imagery, spirituality, and theology. (Cross listed with PST-D564 and STH-D564) 3 hours.

DOM-D566 Thomas Aquinas Today
A special study in philosophic theology, this course explores the crisis in philosophy and possible breakthroughs in the crisis using the interiority analysis of Bernard Lonergan. This approach will be contrasted with other forms of Aquinas Studies such as classical Thomism and Transcendental Thomism. Cognitional theory and epistemology will be addressed, with special attention to the implications of the study for theology. Seminar format. [Prerequisite: The Use of Philosophy in Theology, Thomas Aquinas: Life, Thought, Works and Philosophical Foundations of Thomas Aquinas] (Cross listed with STH-D566 and PHL-D566) 3 hours.

DOM-D575 Special Studies in the Dominican Tradition
Elective courses offered on special topics. Announced in the course schedule. 2-3 hours.

DOM-D599 Directed Readings in Dominican Studies
[Degree students only.] Variable credit.
Human and Spiritual Formation Program

FRM-D501 Human and Spiritual Formation I
The focus of Lay Formation I is lay ministerial identity in the Church and in the world, with a particular focus on spiritual formation and development for lay ministry. Development in Christian faith is explored along with attending issues of spiritual and psychosocial development. Attention is given to individual and spiritual growth by exploring the elements of a mature spiritual life and the processes that contribute to the formation of a full spiritual life. Students will engage in personal spiritual assessments and develop spiritual and ministerial goals for further growth and development. 1 unit.

FRM-D502 Human and Spiritual Formation II
The focus of Lay Formation II is the development of explicit personal and spiritual formation goals, along with strategies to accomplish those goals. There is an emphasis placed on spiritual, behavioral, and developmental assessment in order to establish goals and indicate capacities and resources for ministry. The assessment process will be done through St. Louis Behavioral Medicine Institute by psychologists who deal with religion and psychology. BMI does the majority of assessments for seminarians, religious orders, and other schools of theology and ministry in the area. 1 unit.

FRM-D503 Human and Spiritual Formation III
The focus of Lay Formation III is exploring the process of discernment pertaining to gifts, call and ministry, and applying the discernment process to individual context. Emphasis will be placed on the participants’ ability to challenge and support each other in spiritual growth, community building, and collaboration. Students will continue to review and update formation goals. 1 unit.

FRM-D504 Human and Spiritual Formation IV
The focus of Lay Formation IV is dialogue in the areas of interpersonal and communal issues influencing those who lead and minister in the name of the Church. Participants will present and discuss choices and challenges in lay ministry both ecclesial and secular. Reading and reflection will be on major topics concerning the issues of gender, power, lay ecclesial ministry, spirituality of work in the secular world, stress, burnout, sexuality, conflict, and collaboration. Ongoing evaluation of formation goals will be focused on ministry or work beyond Aquinas Institute. 1 unit.

Homiletics

HOM-D500 Foundations of Preaching I
HOM-D503 Foundations of Preaching II
These two courses are intended for beginning preachers. Students will learn and practice a contemplo-studeo-praedico model for preparation and delivery of preaching through the seasons and rites of the liturgical year. They begin annually in Fall term and are taken in consecutive Fall and Spring terms. [Prerequisite: Bible Interpretation] 2 hours each course.

HOM-D510 Topics in Preaching I
HOM-D515 Topics in Preaching II
Students who have completed the entire Foundations of Preaching cycle engage in an advanced master's level study of the theology, craft, and praxis of preaching vis-à-vis a topic chosen for the semester by the professor. [Prerequisite: Foundations in Preaching I and II] 2 hours each course.

HOM-D560 Evangelization of Culture
This seminar seeks to fathom the fundamental aspect in Christian preaching of promoting justice and peace-doing specifically in terms of what the two most recent popes have termed the "evangelization of culture." The seminar employs a conversational model of adult learning, with emphasis on weekly reading and discussion, and a short final integrative paper. [Cross listed with STH-D560] 3 hours.

HOM-D575 to HOM-D576 Special Studies in Homiletics
Elective courses offered on special topics. Announced in the course schedule. 2-3 hours.

HOM-D599 Directed Readings in Homiletics
[Degree students only.] Variable credit.

Historical Studies

HST-D500 Church History I: Patristic and Medieval
An exploration into the history of Christianity from the end of the apostolic age to the eve of the Reformation, with emphasis on religious, social, cultural, and intellectual developments. Primary sources and other historical data, theological statements, preaching, and manifestations of popular piety understood as documents of history provide students with the historical framework for investigating topics that are treated elsewhere through systematic, liturgical, and pastoral analysis. 3 hours.

HST-D501 Church History II: Reformation to the Present
An exploration of Christian Church History from the Reformation to the present, with emphasis on the religious, social, cultural, and intellectual forces that continue to shape Christianity. Primary sources and other historical data, theological statements, preaching, and manifestations of popular piety understood as documents of history provide students with the historical framework for investigating topics that are treated elsewhere through systematic, liturgical, and pastoral analysis. 3 hours.

HST-D550 U.S. Catholic History
An inquiry into the social and religious history of the American Catholic people from the colonial period to the present with emphasis on the United States. Attention is directed to representative persons, groups, institutions, and to the social and political ramifications of Catholics situated in a pluralistic society. The use of primary source material is integral to this course. 3 hours.

HST-D560 History of Worship
A select historical and theological study of Christian liturgy from its origin through the Reformation. Special attention will be given to the impact of culture on liturgical forms and theology. [Prerequisite: Theology of Worship] (Cross listed with LIT-D560) 3 hours.

HST-D570 History of Christian Spirituality
A study of the prominent figures and major themes found in the history of Christianity. Special emphasis is given to prayer and service to the world that proceeds from the spirituality of persons and historical and cultural eras. Attention is directed toward the growth of the Christian Spiritual Tradition from its origins to the present, and its contribution to the religious formation of the human person. 3 hours.

HST-D575 to HST-D576 Special Topics in Historical Studies
Elective courses offered on special topics. Announced in the course schedule. 2-3 hours.

HST-D599 Directed Readings in Historical Studies
[Degree students only.] Variable credit.

Liturical & Sacramental Theology

LIT-D501 Theology of Worship
An introductory course on liturgical forms of prayer, the theological foundations of Christian worship, and the place of liturgy in Christian life, with special emphasis on postconciliar developments. This course is a prerequisite for all other liturgy courses. 3 hours.
LIT-D511 Christian Initiation
A survey of the history and theology of the rite of Christian initiation with an in-depth study of the revised RCIA. Attention will be given to the emerging issues of initiation such as the baptism of children, the order of the initiation sacraments, and the age of confirmation. [Prerequisite: Theology of Worship] 3 hours.

LIT-D512 Eucharist
A study of the origins and history of Eucharistic liturgy and theology, with special focus on the Eucharistic prayer, changing patterns of participation, and the evolution of ministries. [Prerequisite: Theology of Worship] 3 hours.

LIT-D513 Reconciliation
The history and theological development of sacramental reconciliation. Special attention will be given to contemporary rites and ministries. [Prerequisite: Theology of Worship] 1 hour.

LIT-D514 Christian Year / Christian Prayer
A study of the liturgical year that provides the framework and the rhythm for liturgical prayer. In addition to the study of the Roman calendar, special consideration will be given to the celebration of the Liturgy of the Hours. [Prerequisite: Theology of Worship or permission of instructor] 3 hours.

LIT-D515 Christian Worship and the Arts
This interdisciplinary seminar will examine the place of music, architecture, and art in Christian worship. The goal of the course is to place in dialogue the Church’s teaching on music and the arts, the demands of ritual, and developments in the world of art and music. Issues of appropriate musical forms, changing norms of beauty, contemporary problems of imaging God and Church, and cultural differences will receive special treatment. [Prerequisite: Theology of Worship or permission of instructor] 3 hours.

LIT-D516 Pastoral Care of the Sick
The history and theological development of the Pastoral Care of the Sick. Special attention will be given to contemporary rites and the diversity of ministries involved. [Prerequisite: Theology of Worship] 1 hour.

LIT-D520 Liturgical Leadership I (Baptismal)
A practicum especially for lay leaders of prayer: a hands-on approach to the rites that non-ordained ministers may expect to lead in the various ministerial situations in which they may be involved. [Prerequisite: Theology of Worship] 2 hours.

LIT-D522 Liturgical Leadership II (Diaconal)
A practicum designed for those preparing for ordination as a Deacon in the Roman Catholic Church. [Prerequisite: Theology of Worship] 1 hour.

LIT-D523 Issues in Contemporary Sacramental Theology
A study of sacramental theology with particular emphasis on the contemporary understanding and recovery of sacramental vision encompassing Christ, Church, and the Church’s ecclesial ritual actions that are called sacraments. [Prerequisite: Theology of Worship] 3 hours.

LIT-D530 Practica in Sacred Music
Three semesters are devoted to issues important to church musicians. Topics include Gregorian chant, church documents on music and liturgy, ritual music, music and culture, working with parish staff, budgeting, and working with volunteer choirs. 3 hours.

LIT-D542 Liturgical Leadership III (Presbyteral)
A course examining and putting into practice liturgical ministry for those preparing for ordination in the Roman Catholic Church. [Prerequisite: Theology of Worship] 2 hours.

LIT-D550 Choral Literature and Techniques II
This course continues the survey of choral repertoire with special attention to contemporary ritual music. [Prerequisite: Choral Literature and Techniques I] 2 hours.
LIT-D560 History of Worship
A select historical and theological study of Christian liturgy from its origin through the Reformation. Special attention will be given to the impact of culture on liturgical forms and theology. [Prerequisite: Theology of Worship] (Cross listed with HST-D560) 3 hours.

LIT-D575 to LIT-D576 Special Studies in Liturgical Theology
Special topics in liturgy consisting of modules, such as marriage rites, ordination rites, funeral liturgies, liturgy and justice, liturgy and culture. 1-2 hours.

LIT-D599 Directed Readings in Liturgical Theology
[Degree students only.] Variable credit.

M.A. in Theology Special Courses
MAR-D596 M.A. Comprehensive Orientation
This is an introduction to the M.A. Comprehensive Examination process, its distinctive characteristics, requirements and goals for all students in the M.A. program and M.A./M.Div. program. 0 hours.

MAR-D597 M.A. Continuation Status
Students who have completed all course requirements for the M.A. in Theology but have not completed comprehensive examinations, thesis, major paper, or other non-coursework requirements. 0 hours.

MAR-D598 M.A. Thesis Research
Students who choose the thesis option in the M.A. Program may receive 1 to 6 hours of credit for their thesis. Language study should begin early in the M.A. Program when this option is chosen.

Professional Ministerial Formation
MIN-D503 Clinical Pastoral Education
CPE is a 400+ hour internship in professional pastoral care completed under an accredited CPE supervisor. Through clinical experience at assigned sites, frequent supervision, group process, and focused topics of study, students are able to enhance their learning and skills in pastoral reflection, identity, and competence. An annual fall orientation hosted by the Director of Field Education assists students in selecting and applying to CPE programs that will best meet their needs. [Prerequisite: SPM I & II, permission of instructor for those taking CPE in lieu of SPM II, Prerequisite for lay students: Human & Spiritual Formation I & II] 4 hours.

MIN-D510 Supervised Practice of Ministry I
This course places students in a field education setting aligned with their professional ministerial interest, for five hours a week, in partnership with a qualified supervisor. The SPM student and supervisor jointly structure and evaluate the student’s ministry experience and meet bi-weekly (six times/semester) for theological reflection. In addition, the student participates in a weekly course seminar with other SPM I students. In the seminar, students learn and practice professional ministerial skills and methods of theological reflection through selected readings and case study presentations. [Prerequisite: Foundations of Pastoral and Ethical Care, Prerequisite for lay students: Lay Formation I & II] 3 hours.

MIN-D511 Supervised Practice of Ministry II
SPM II is a continuing field education course for students who have completed SPM I. Participating students are expected to continue serving five hours per week in a ministry placement with bi-weekly (six times/semester) meetings for supervision. Class seminars are devoted to further developing and enriching the student’s professional skills and habit of theological reflection through the presentation of case studies and discussion of related readings. [Prerequisite: SPM I] 3 hours.

MIN-D514 Youth Ministry – Principles of Youth Ministry
MIN-D515 Youth Ministry – Practices of Youth Ministry
MIN-D519 Youth Ministry – Foundations of Ministry Leadership
M.A.P.S. students who choose to focus in youth ministry may take courses through the Center for Ministry Development’s Youth Ministry Certificate program at an approved site (outside the state of Missouri). This ministry education program equips leaders with the knowledge, skills, practical tools, and techniques needed for creative and comprehensive ministry with youth. The courses may be taken as a two-year cycle, or on an individual basis. Aquinas Institute grants graduate credit for each course after the student completes the certificate and graduate credit assignments. 1 hour each.

MIN-D516 Pastoral Year I
MIN-D517 Pastoral Year II
This internship offers students in the Master of Divinity program the opportunity to discern and test their vocation to ministry within the context of faith community. Components of the course are similar to those described in Supervised Practice of Ministry, but adapted and expanded to meet the growing ministerial leadership capacities of the student. Each course includes two all-day workshops, communal theological reflection (D516 – an on-campus component usually in November; D517 - an asynchronous online component throughout the semester), the creation of a lay committee, and regular preaching. [Prerequisite: SPM I & II, CPE, and Foundations of Preaching] 3 hours each semester.

MIN-D541 Diaconal Ministry Practicum
A structured practicum experience designed to assist the transitional deacon in taking on the functions of ordained ministry, especially preaching and presiding. Participants serve in a parish setting with regular supervision, while meeting in a theological reflection seminar at Aquinas. Enrollment restricted to students ordained to the diaconate in the Roman Catholic Church. [Prerequisite: Pastoral Year, Liturgical Leadership II] 1 hour.

MIN-D550 Supervised Practice of Ministry III
SPM III is a continuing field education course for students who have completed both SPM II and a unit of CPE. Participating students are expected to serve in a leadership capacity in a ministry placement for at least eight hours per week with regular supervision. Bi-weekly class seminars are devoted to further developing the student’s professional ministerial skills, especially the facilitation of theological reflection. [Prerequisite: SPM II, and CPE] 3 hours.

MIN-D561 Spiritual Direction Practicum I
MIN-D562 Spiritual Direction Practicum II
MIN-D563 Spiritual Direction Practicum III
MIN-D564 Spiritual Direction Practicum IV
These courses are taken in consecutive semesters beginning with the one week intensive in June. involving the practice of spiritual direction with directees and reflecting on this experience with a supervisor. Students who focus their studies in spiritual direction take this course in their last full year of study. [Prerequisite: Spiritual Direction] 2 hrs each (Practicum I & IV); 1 hr each (Practicum II & III).

Certificate & Master’s Continuation Status
MIN-D595 Certificate Continuation Status. 0 hours.
MIN-D596 M.A.P.S. Continuation Status. 0 hours.
MIN-D597 M.Div. Continuation Status. 0 hours.
MIN-D598 M.A./M.Div. Continuation Status. 0 hours.
When a student in a program does not register for credit in a given semester, the student must register for Continuation Status. If a student fails to register for Continuation Status, upon subsequent registration the student will be subject to the program requirements in effect at the time rather than the requirements that were in effect at
the time of the student’s acceptance into the school. Any new or additional requirements will then have to be met for graduation.

**Moral Theology**

**MOR-D500 Foundations of Catholic Morality**
A study of the foundations of Catholic morality: its biblical bases, its historical development, its major foci, and its methodologies for moral decision-making and problem solving. Particular attention is given to the relationship between faith and morality, the challenge of Christian discipleship, natural law tradition, the anthropological grounding of Catholic morality, and the questions pertaining to human freedom, knowledge, virtue, and conscience. 3 hours.

**MOR-D528 Justice and Catholic Social Teaching**
A study of the papal encyclicals and other documents that have come to be known as “Catholic Social Teaching.” Particular attention is given to the meaning of justice in the Catholic tradition, the common good, human rights, war and peace, and economic justice. [Prerequisite: Foundations of Catholic Morality] 3 hours.

**MOR-D570 Health Care Ethics**
A study of the ethical issues encountered in health care today. Particular attention is given to informed decision-making, the use/non-use of life-sustaining interventions, genetic and reproductive interventions, resource allocation, managed care and health care for-profit. [Prerequisite: Foundations of Catholic Morality] 3 hours.

**MOR-D571 Ethics of Human Sexuality**
A study of the ethical issues attendant to human sexuality from the perspective of the Catholic tradition. Particular attention is given to the principal terms in the contemporary debates on sexual morality in the Church and society. [Prerequisite: Foundations of Catholic Morality] 3 hours.

**MOR-D575 Special Studies in Moral Theology**
Elective courses offered on special topics. Announced in the course schedule. 2-3 hours.

**MOR-D599 Directed Readings in Moral Theology**
[Degree students only.] Variable credit.

**Philosophy**

**PHL-D500 The Use of Philosophy in Theology**
A study of the interaction between philosophies and theologies, both past and present. Particular attention is given to the philosophical principles and ideas necessary for understanding the various theological perspectives present in today’s Church. 3 hours.

**PHL-D501 Philosophical Foundations of Thomas Aquinas**
A survey of the major philosophical emphases and Aristotelian concepts in the theology of Aquinas, from principles of logic and epistemology to metaphysics and natural theology. (Cross listed with DOM-D501.) 3 hours.

**PHL-D506 Thomas Aquinas: Life, Thought, Works**
An introduction to Thomas Aquinas - his life, thought, and works - and the patristic and medieval background that gives context to his writing. Students will have the opportunity to survey Thomas’ works from biblical commentaries to commentaries on Aristotle, from the *Summa Contra Gentiles* and *Summa Theologiae* to poetry. The assessment of Thomas’ achievements in their historical context will lay a foundation for later Thomistic study. (Cross listed with DOM-D506) 3 hours.

**PHL-D510 God and Creation in the Thought of Thomas Aquinas: A Seminar**
A consideration of selected questions from the *Prima Pars* of Aquinas’ *Summa Theologiae*, the philosophical concepts and theological themes in Aquinas’ treatment of sacred doctrine, the existence of God, the Trinity, and creation. Aquinas’ work will be placed in dialogue with modern science, contemporary cosmologies, and process theologies. [Prerequisite: Thomas Aquinas Life, Thought, Works and Philosophical Foundations of Thomas Aquinas] (Cross listed with DOM-D510) 3 hours.
PHL-D515 Human Person and Society in the Thought of Thomas Aquinas: A Seminar
A consideration of selected questions from the Secunda Pars of Aquinas’ Summa Theologiae, both the prima/secundae and the secunda/secundae, the philosophical concepts and theological themes in Aquinas’ treatment of law, virtue, and grace. Aquinas’ work will be placed in dialogue with contemporary personalist and existential philosophies. [Prerequisite: Thomas Aquinas: Life, Thought, Works and Philosophical Foundations of Thomas Aquinas] (Cross listed with DOM-D515) 3 hours.

PHL-D520 Christ and Sacrament in the Thought of Thomas Aquinas: A Seminar
A consideration of selected questions from the Tertia Pars of Aquinas’ Summa Theologiae, the philosophical concepts and theological themes in Aquinas’ treatment of the person and natures of Christ, the resurrection of Christ, and the nature of a sacrament. Aquinas’ work will be placed in dialogue with contemporary sacramental and systematic theologians, especially Edward Schillebeeckx. [Prerequisite: Thomas Aquinas: Life, Thought, Works and Philosophical Foundations of Thomas Aquinas] (Cross listed with DOM-D520) 3 hours.

PHL-D566 Thomas Aquinas Today
A special study in philosophic theology, this course explores the crisis in philosophy and possible breakthroughs in the crisis using the interiority analysis of Bernard Lonergan. This approach will be contrasted with other forms of Aquinas Studies such as classical Thomism and Transcendental Thomism. Cognitional theory and epistemology will be addressed, with special attention to the implications of the study for theology. Seminar format. [Prerequisite: The Use of Philosophy in Theology, Thomas Aquinas: Life, Thought, Works and Philosophical Foundations of Thomas Aquinas] (Cross listed with STHD566 and DOM-D566) 3 hours.

PHL-D575 to PHL-D576 Special Studies in Philosophy
Elective courses offered on special topics. Announced in the course schedule. 2-3 hours.

PHL-D599 Directed Readings in Philosophy
[Degree students only.] Variable credit.

Pastoral Theology

PST-D500 Foundations of Pastoral Care
This course is designed to explore the historical and contemporary directions of pastoral care and to help in the formulation of appropriate ethical and professional responses to various situations in pastoral ministry. 3 hours.

PST-D503 Vowed Life in Religious Community
This course traces the historical development of vowed religious life in the Catholic Church and explores the meaning of the vowed life in the contemporary world. It is particularly intended for those in initial formation for religious life. 3 hours.

PST-D504 Spiritual Direction
This course explores the Christian tradition of offering wise spiritual guidance to those seeking to develop their personal spiritual lives through advancing in holiness and overcoming those obstacles that interfere with such growth. Professional and ethical guidelines will be part of the course study. 3 hours.

PST-D510 Adult Christian Formation
This course is an introduction to adult development theory as relevant to life-long growth in Christian faith and the challenge of ongoing conversion. The course will examine theories and other forms of the experiential process of faith development. [It is recommended that LIT-D511, Christian Initiation, be taken before this course.] 2 hours.

PST-D520 Canon Law - Principles
A study of the nature of law, the history of Canon Law, and an overview of the content of the 1983 Code of Canon Law, especially Books I and II. 2 hours.

PST-D521 Canon Law - Marriage
Introduces students to those portions of the Code of Canon Law pertaining to the preparation of couples for marriage and the annulment of marriages. [Prerequisite: Canon Law - Principles or permission of instructor] 2 hours.

**PST-D533 Foundations of Spirituality**  
This course is a systematic study of the two-fold foundation of an integrated, incarnational spirituality: the anthropological component and the grace component. Central to this course is the study of conversion in its religious, moral, psychic, and intellectual forms. Theological and moral virtue will be explored as they engage the human, as well as the Gifts, Fruits, and Charisms of the Holy Spirit, and the Beatitudes. Religious phenomena of our day, such as the occult, new ageism, and fundamentalism will be addressed. Contemporary spiritual writers will be evaluated.  
(Cross listed with STH-D533) 3 hours.

**PST-D534 The Marian Tradition and Contemporary Spirituality**  
Mary, the mother of Jesus, is the first of the disciples. This course will explore the history of her place in the Christian community, and her graced human response to the activity of God in her life. Her response will then be studied as it presents patterns for our own spiritual growth personally and ecclesially, amidst the questions of our time. Marian pronouncement, art, and apparitions will be part of the study. (Cross-listed with STH-D534) 3 hours.

**PST-D537 Foundations of Pastoral Counseling**  
This course introduces and examines the main theories and practical skills used in offering pastoral counseling in various ministerial situations. [Prerequisite: Foundations of Pastoral Care or Spiritual Direction] 3 hours.

**PST-D540 Ecotheology and Spirituality**  
Theological, ethical, and spiritual ramifications of human interactions with the rest of creation will be explored. The implications of the new cosmology for theology and spirituality will also be considered. (Cross listed with STH-D537) 3 hours.

**PST-D553 Theology and Spirituality of Marriage and Family**  
This course gives an overview of the Roman Catholic Church's theological, liturgical, and spiritual understanding of marriage and family, with an emphasis on the marriage rite, contemporary teachings, and pastoral considerations. 3 hours.

**PST-D555 Premarital Preparation and Counseling**  
An introduction to pre-marital and re-marital counseling techniques as well as inventories that help identify gifts and areas for growth in the couple's relationship. Particular attention will be given to inventories that satisfy requirements for marital preparation in the Roman Catholic Church. 1 hour.

**PST-D561 Domestic Violence Counseling**  
This course helps students to identify the signs of violence and abuse in the family dynamic and to survey counseling techniques for ministry with persons in these families. 1 hour.

**PST-D564 Dominican Mystics**  
In this course representative selections from the writings of Albert the Great, Thomas Aquinas, Mechtilde of Magdeburg, Catherine of Siena, and Meister Eckhart will be read and discussed. Particular attention will be given to their cultural context, use of imagery, spirituality, and theology. (Cross listed with DOM-D564 and STH-D564) 3 hours.

**PST-D565 Sacramental and Theological Foundations of Ministry**  
This course examines the theological and sacramental foundations of contemporary Christian ministry, with a special emphasis on ministry in the Roman Catholic Church. Students will survey the evolution of ministry from biblical times to present, examine the sacraments of Baptism and Orders as a foundation for contemporary theologies of both lay and ordained ministry, and explore new ministerial questions surfacing in the Church today. 3 hours.

**PST-D566 Theology of Priesthood**  
This course includes a study of the history and theology of priesthood as situated within the broader context of ministry within the Church; an examination of current Church documents on the priesthood; and a consideration of the contemporary challenges of priesthood, with special reflection upon the place of priesthood in religious institutes. Enrollment restricted to students in proximate preparation for ordination to the presbyterate in the Roman Catholic Church. 3 hours.
PST-D567 Theology and Ministry of Teaching
This course invites seasoned and new teachers to reflect from theological and ministerial perspectives on their own teaching practices, and to discern the theology that is embedded and proclaimed through their teaching practices. Students will explore and develop their teaching practices so that they may more faithfully and effectively mediate God through their ministry. (Cross-listed with STH-D567) 3 hours.

PST-D570 to PST-D579 Special Topics in Spiritual Direction
Various topics will be explored in separate courses offered periodically. Prayer, discernment, images of God, retreat direction, group spiritual direction, spirituality of the body, various approaches to spiritual direction (Ignatian, Dominican, etc.) and other topics will be the focus of different module courses. 1-2 hours.

PST-D580 Ministry with the Aging
This course studies and discusses the psychological and sociological considerations for understanding and responding to the needs of aging adults, the role of aging people in the community, the unique spiritual concerns of aging adults, a spirituality for aging, and the pastoral challenges for the church in its ministry with the aging and their families. 2 hours.

PST-D581 Marriage Counseling
This course introduces the student to pastoral counseling initiatives that address the marital relationship in crisis in a variety of situations. The premise of the course is that a healthy marital relationship invites formation through mutual love and respect. It also provides an overview of marriage counseling techniques and inventories that help to identify gifts and areas for growth in the marital relationship. 1 hour.

PST-D582 Addictions
This course examines the interrelationship of the physical, emotional, spiritual and social aspects of addictions along with the implications for the addicted individual, his/her family, and dependence, diagnosis, prevention, and treatment methods. 1 hour.

PST-D583 Crisis Counseling
An examination of the meaning of a crisis either in one's own life or in the life of a person the student is assisting. Appropriate ways in which a constructive resolution of the crisis might be achieved is explored. Special emphasis is given to the areas of divorce, suicide, rape, and accidents. 1 hour.

PST-D584 Anger, Guilt, Depression
This course introduces the student to the basic human emotions of anger, guilt and depression and pursues knowledge into the positive and negative dynamics of these emotions upon personal health, relationships, work and pastoral sensitivity. 1 hour.

PST-D585 Grief Counseling
A study of the process and stages of grieving and the implications for pastoral counseling. The class emphasizes grief as a normal human emotional response to changes in one's life and personal/family systems. Special emphasis is given to grief as a potential growth experience. 1 hour.

PST-D586 Multi-Cultural Issues in Counseling
This course introduces students to some of the unique qualities in the pastoral counseling relationship as expressed in gender, ethnicity, culture, race, and orientation issues. The course provides a look at the differences, similarities, and power in the pastoral counseling environment. 1 hour.

PST-D587 to PST-D589 Special Studies in Pastoral Theology
Various topics will be explored in separate courses offered periodically. Announced in the course schedule 1-3 hours.

PST-D599 Directed Readings in Pastoral Theology
[Degree students only.] Variable credit.
Systematic Theology

STH-D503 Introduction to Theology and Theological Method
This introduction to the discipline of systematic theology leads students through an examination of fundamental issues such as faith, revelation, scripture, tradition, doctrine and dogma, doctrinal hermeneutics, and theological method. The course also introduces students to selected classical, modern, and contemporary theologians along with the different methodologies they use. The course aims to create a foundation for further course work in systematic theology, and to assist the student in developing a basic theoretical framework essential for investigating theological issues critically to formulate appropriate pastoral responses. 3 hours.

STH-D506 Doctrine of God
The mystery of God and the way we articulate this mystery is of fundamental importance for Christian life and theological reflection. This course explores the doctrinal meaning of the Trinitarian formula in its historical development and the contemporary issues surrounding its understanding and practice in Christian life today.  [Prerequisite: Introduction to Theology and Theological Method] 3 hours.

STH-D516 Christian Anthropology
This course is a systematic theological reflection on the mystery of humanity in light of the mystery of Christ, with focus on the Christian symbols of creation in the image of God, original sin, grace, and heaven. [Prerequisite: Introduction to Theology and Theological Method] 3 hours.

STH-D521 Christology
An introduction to Christology, the study of Jesus the Christ. This course presents the belief of the Church and theological reflection concerning Jesus as the revelation of God. It examines the structure and development of Christology in the New Testament and subsequent tradition, as well as identifying issues in contemporary Christology. [Prerequisite: Introduction to Theology and Theological Method] 3 hours.

STH-D524 Vatican II and Its Significance Today
Forty years later, the Second Vatican Council is recognized as the most important ecclesial event in Catholicism since the Reformation. Vatican II’s theological and pastoral vision challenges the Church today to engage in ongoing reform, Christian unity, and the renewal of the social order. This course studies the events and teachings of Vatican II and their significance for the Church today. A number of the conciliar documents will be examined in light of themes such as liturgical renewal, collegiality, the relationship of the local churches to the universal church, inculturation, religious freedom, evangelization, the role of the laity, the call to Christian unity, inter-religious dialogue, and the social mission of the Church. [Prerequisite: Introduction to Theology and Theological Method] 3 hours.

STH-D532 Ecclesiology
A study of the nature and mission of the Church and the role it plays in the mystery of salvation revealed for all peoples in Jesus Christ. This course focuses on ecclesiological method and how theologians engage in a critical and systematic study of the Church. It surveys those major biblical, doctrinal, and theological themes used in history to define the Church. In addition, the course studies the unique contributions of Vatican II and themes such as communion, ecclesiology, collegiality, the laity, and the role of Mary in the Church. The course also studies how issues such as globalization, the changing shape of ministry, evangelization, ecumenism, and the experiences of women and the poor, among others, are prompting new theological insights on the nature and mission of the Church today. [Prerequisite: Introduction to Theology and Theological Method] 3 hours.

STH-D533 Foundations of Spirituality
This course is a systematic study of the two-fold foundation of an integrated, incarnational spirituality: the anthropological component and the grace component. Central to this course is the study of conversion in its religious, moral, psychic, and intellectual forms. Theological and moral virtue will be explored as they engage the human, as well as the Gifts, Fruits, and Charisms of the Holy Spirit, and the Beatitudes. Religious phenomena of our day, such as the occult, new ageism, and fundamentalism will be addressed. Contemporary spiritual writers will be evaluated. (Cross listed with PST-D533) 3 hours.
STH-D534 The Marian Tradition and Contemporary Spirituality
Mary, the mother of Jesus, is the first of the disciples. This course will explore the history of her place in the Christian community, and her graced human response to the activity of God in her life. Her response will then be studied as it presents patterns for our own spiritual growth personally and ecclesially, amidst the questions of our time. Marian pronouncement, art, and apparitions will be part of the study. (Cross listed with PST-D534) 3 hours.

STH-D535 Theology of World Religions
A study of the major religions of the world in light of the Christological focus of Jesus as “Savior of all Nations.” The areas of revelation, inculturation, ecumenical relations, mission, and evangelization will be explored. Seminar format. [Prerequisite: Christology or permission of professor] 3 hours.

STH-D537 Ecotheology and Spirituality
Theological, ethical and spiritual ramifications of human interactions with the rest of creation will be explored. The implications of the new cosmology for theology and spirituality will also be considered. (Cross listed with PST-D540) 3 hours.

STH-D560 Evangelization of Culture
This seminar seeks to fathom the fundamental aspect in Christian preaching of promoting justice and peace-doing specifically in terms of what the two most recent popes have termed the “evangelization of culture.” This seminar employs a conversational model of adult learning, with emphasis on weekly reading and discussion, and with a short final integrative paper. (Cross listed with HOM-D560) 3 hours.

STH-D561 Contextual Theology
This course is an exploration of the methods whereby one does theology in culture and context-sensitive modes. It provides a survey of theologies located in Latin America, Africa, and Asia, giving some consideration to Central/Eastern European and North American contexts as well. [Prerequisite: Introduction to Theology and Theological Method] 3 hours.

STH-D564 Dominican Mystics
In this course representative selections from the writings of Albert the Great, Thomas Aquinas, Mechtild of Magdeburg, Catherine of Siena, and Meister Eckhart will be read and discussed. Particular attention will be given to their cultural context, use of imagery, spirituality, and theology. (Cross listed with DOM-D564 and PST-D564) 3 hours.

STH-D565 Theology of Grace
"Grace" is the Christian symbol that expresses the relationship between God and the world and, specifically, the relationship between God and humanity. In this seminar significant texts from the tradition as well as from contemporary theological currents will be analyzed, with close attention to the methods used and the implications of each theology for Christian praxis and spirituality. [Prerequisite: Introduction to Theology and Theological Method] 3 hours.

STH-D566 Thomas Aquinas Today
A special study in philosophic theology, this course explores the crisis in philosophy and possible breakthroughs in the crisis using the interiority analysis of Bernard Lonergan. This approach will be contrasted with other forms of Aquinas Studies such as classical Thomism and Transcendental Thomism. Cognitional theory and epistemology will be addressed, with special attention to the implications of the study for theology. Seminar format. [Prerequisite: The Use of Philosophy in Theology, Thomas Aquinas: Life, Thought, Works and Philosophical Foundations of Thomas Aquinas] (Cross listed with PHL-D566 and DOM-D566) 3 hours.

STH-D567 Theology and Ministry of Teaching
This course invites seasoned and new teachers to reflect from theological and ministerial perspectives on their own teaching practices, and to discern the theology that is embedded and proclaimed through their teaching practices. Students will explore and develop their teaching practices so that they may more faithfully and effectively mediate God through their ministry. (Cross-listed with PST-D567) 3 hours.

STH-D575 to STH-D576 Special Studies in Systematic Theology
STH-D587 to STH-D589 Special Studies in Systematic Theology
Elective courses offered on special topics. Announced in the course schedule. 1-3 hours.

**STH-D599 Directed Readings in Systematic Theology**

[Degree students only.] Variable credit.
Specialized Cohort Programs

Doctor of Ministry Courses

**STH-D603 Theology of Preaching**
Students work together towards submitting a term paper that describes their operative theology of preaching from an advanced understanding of biblical, historical, theological, and pastoral disciplines. This paper includes a treatment of anthropology, theology, and Christology in terms of the theological spectrum of dialogical to sacramental imagination. Students also are expected to demonstrate deepened theological awareness of the preaching act. *3 hours.*

**BIB-601 Biblical Hermeneutics and Preaching**
This seminar provides an introduction and analysis of historical criticism (historical-critical and social scientific methods), literary criticism (narrative and rhetorical methods), and contemporary reader-response criticism (liberationist and feminist methods) as these methods have been utilized in the Church and in the academy. Participants have opportunities to become partners in dialogue with historical, literary, and contemporary reader-response methods and process-oriented hermeneutics. They also create several homilies/sermons to illustrate the integral relationship of methods and hermeneutics for the preacher and the holy preaching. *3 hours.*

**HOM-D605 Core Homiletic Seminar I**
**HOM-D606 Core Homiletic Seminar II**
The two core homiletic seminars are given as the third and sixth courses in the six-course core sequence. Students will read, critique, and synthesize significant books in contemporary homiletic literature. Areas of study include communication and homiletic theory, literary form and biblical preaching, congregational analysis, preaching on social and moral issues, women's issues in preaching, preaching in culturally diverse contexts, and the spirituality of the preacher.

During the Doctor of Ministry in Preaching program, students are expected to preach on a regular basis with a particular congregation. During core homiletic seminars, each student will present for discussion audio-video and written case studies of their preaching. Written case studies include an exegesis of the congregation, hermeneutical and theological interpretation of the scriptural texts, a learning goal, rationale for homiletic form and approach, a complete text of the preaching, a summary of response from a congregational feedback group, and personal reflections of the preacher. Includes a $100 fee for the LiveText portfolio system. *3 hours for each course.*

**HST-D602 History and Preaching**
This seminar is a journey through the history of preaching which enables the student to explore representative homilies, sermons, preaching events, and those who generated them from the early Christian period to the present era. The study is designed to examine the enduring and variable dimensions of preaching from era to era, as well as the dominant models of preaching and the spirit of the age in each given context, with a view to a more enlightened comprehension of contemporary preaching experience. *3 hours.*

**LIT-D604 Liturgy and Preaching**
Preaching within liturgy takes a number of forms. One of the most important is that of the homily, an act of liturgical preaching interpreting life through the scriptures proclaimed and integral to the liturgical act as a sacramental action. Such preaching engages a concrete, local assembly, gathered for a particular act of worship, at a particular moment in the Church year. This course explores the relation of preaching to liturgy and pursues in-depth analysis of liturgical rites from the point of view of liturgical preaching. *3 hours.*

**HOM-D607 Thesis Project Seminar**
The sessions of this seminar address the goal and formulation of the Doctor of Ministry in Preaching thesis project, appropriate research methodology, and the Doctor of Ministry in Preaching style sheet. Students will present initial ideas for their thesis project to the seminar for constructive critique, and they will begin writing their formal thesis project proposal. The choice of electives will be discussed, and faculty thesis-project advisors will be assigned. *0 hours.*
HOM-D608 DMin Elective I
HOM-E609 DMin Elective II
Two elective courses are required. Elective study may be interdisciplinary and is directed toward completion of the proposed Doctor of Ministry in Preaching thesis project. Doctoral courses may be chosen at accredited seminaries or graduate schools. With the approval of a doctoral-level “Elective Course Contract” by the Program Director and the Academic Dean, master-level courses may be augmented for elective study, or directed reading and writing electives may be negotiated. 3 hours for each elective.

DMR-D697 D.Min. Continuation Status
After one year of thesis project research, the D.Min. Candidate must register each succeeding fall and spring term for continuation status. The D.Min. Thesis Project ordinarily will be completed in no fewer than three and a half and no more than six years from the date of admission to the first course in the program. 0 hours.

DMR-D698 Thesis Project Research
After completion of electives and approval of the thesis project proposal, the D.Min. Candidate will register for Thesis Project Research, allowing up to one year of thesis project direction and writing. 6 hours.

Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies - Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Courses

CGS-F511 Catechesis Formation Level I (The 3-6 Child)
CGS-F512 Catechesis Formation Level II (The 6-9 Child)
CGS-F513 Catechesis Formation Level III (The 9-12 Child)
In addition to 30 credit hours of theological study at Aquinas, students earn 18 credit hours for completing the three CGS formation courses recognized by the National Association of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. Courses can be taken before, during, or after the student’s theology courses at Aquinas and should be taken in sequence. At each level, the catechist explores the biblical and liturgical themes introduced to the child in the age group and receives assistance in creating materials, setting up an atrium, and preparing an album of presentations suitable for children in that level. CGS formation courses are offered internationally in a variety of formats and a diversity of settings. In order to receive graduate credit, the course and personal album must meet the standards of Aquinas Institute and the National Association for “CGS Coursework at a Graduate Level.” For a copy of these standards, consult the Aquinas website or the Director of the M.A.P.S.-CGS Program.

CGS-T500 Proseminar
The Proseminar immerses incoming degree students in a communal exploration and pursuit of practices that are essential for theological study and ministerial formation at Aquinas Institute of Theology: written and oral communication, close reading of texts, analysis of social context, theological reflection, and collaboration. Over the course of the semester, students will have the opportunity to study and engage these practices so that they become habits. Students will also set goals for future development in each area as part of preparation for the admission to candidacy process. Includes a $100 fee for the LiveText portfolio system. 2 hours.

CGS-T501 Bible Interpretation
This course explores the meaning of the biblical text by examining a number of contemporary approaches to biblical interpretation. Particular attention will be given to exploring the meaning behind the text, of/in the text, and in front of the text. 3 hours.

CGS-T502 Intro to Theology
This course provides a foundation for and introduction to the discipline of theology, theological study and ministerial formation. Through an examination of the fundamental issues of theological study, and through the five practices that will be employed throughout the program, students will develop a foundational framework for engaging in critical theological reflection. This framework is developed in relation to the preaching mission of the Church, in light of Dominican spirituality. 3 hours.
CGS-T503 Hebrew Scriptures
This course offers a close examination of selected texts of the Hebrew Scriptures (i.e., the Old Testament) based on literary, hermeneutical, theological, historical, cultural, and geographical aspects, and the faith of communities which have shaped and continue to shape this literature. 3 hours.

CGS-T504 Theology of Worship
Sacramental theology reveals a God who acts in history and in time, who allows creation to bring forth the divine, and who has entered fully into the human condition. This class studies such theology with particular emphasis on the contemporary understanding and recovery of a sacramental vision encompassing Christ, Church, and the Church’s ritual actions that are called sacraments. The course also explores the place of corporate worship in the life of the Church, the liturgical reforms of Vatican II, as well as the theology and role of the assembly and of liturgical leadership. 3 hours.

CGS-T506 Foundations of Pastoral and Ethical Care
This course is designed to explore the historical and contemporary directions of pastoral care and to help in the formulation of appropriate ethical and professional responses to various situations in pastoral ministry. 3 hours.

CGS-T507 SPM
Supervised Practice of Ministry includes no fewer than five hours per week of ministry for twelve weeks at a definite site; seven bi-weekly, one hour appointments with a competent, on-site supervisor; and a classroom seminar facilitated by the Director of Field Education and C.G.S. staff. Each student negotiates a written learning contract specifying a ministry, an on-site supervisor, and learning goals. In the classroom seminar, students learn a method of theological reflection that takes into account personal and communal experience, Christian tradition, and culture. In the context of pastoral case studies, students develop the habit of integrating theology with experience. 3 hours.

CGS-T510 Christian Scriptures
This study of selected texts of the Christian New Testament stresses reading and interpretation based on contemporary methods and approaches. It provides a careful examination of the form, content, and function of these texts, first in their original literary, historical, social, cultural, and religious contexts, then in their application for Christian ministry today in the contexts of liturgy, evangelization, catechesis, pastoral care, and prayer. 3 hours.

CGS-T522 Christology and Christian Anthropology
This course presents the belief of the Church and theological reflection concerning Jesus as the revelation of God. It examines the structure and development of Christology in the New Testament and subsequent tradition, as well as issues in contemporary Christology. The course includes systematic reflection on the implications for understanding the mystery of humanity in light of the mystery of Christ. Among the anthropological considerations are creation in the image of God, sin, grace, and heaven. 3 hours.

CGS-T523 Contemporary Issues in Sacramental Theology
This course builds on the foundation laid in the Theology of Worship course. After a review of the sacraments of healing and vocation, it examines issues of personal morality, social justice and spirituality raised by the ideals and values symbolized in all seven sacraments. It concludes with readings that connect the sacraments with a variety of ecclesial and social concerns. 3 hours.

CGS-T524 Integrative Seminar
A seminar designed to aid graduating ministry students in articulating, integrating, and evaluating core themes in their operative theology. 3 hours.

CGS-F501 Spiritual Formation I
CGS-F502 Spiritual Formation II
CGS-F503 Spiritual Formation III
CGS-F504 Spiritual Formation IV
CGS-F505 Spiritual Formation V
CGS-F506 Spiritual Formation VI
Master of Arts in Health Care Mission Courses

HCM-T500 Practical Theology for Ministry Leaders
This course introduces incoming EMAHCM students to a set of practices that are essential for theological study and ministerial formation at Aquinas Institute of Theology: written and oral communication, collaboration, close reading of texts, analysis of social context, and theological reflection. Students will engage these practices as they examine fundamental issues of theology such as faith, revelation, scripture, tradition, doctrine and dogma, and theological method, especially as these are encountered and relate to the healing ministry of the Church. The course aims to create a foundation for further course work in systematic theology, and to assist the student in developing a basic theoretical framework essential for grappling with theological issues in the context of Catholic health care. 3 hours.

HCM-T512 Interpreting Sacred Texts for the Healing Ministry
This course is an exploration of the dynamic interaction between God, human persons, and the universe captured specifically in the Bible and in other sacred texts. Examining a number of contemporary approaches to biblical interpretation sets the context for studying the meaning behind the text, of/in the text, and in front of the text. The study of text interpretation opens to an examination of how different world views provide various responses to the mystery of suffering and healing. 3 hours.

HCM-T526 Jesus, the Church and the Healing Ministry
This course explores the Christian understanding of what God has done, is doing and promises to do in Jesus through the community called Church. As a people called and sent to bear witness to the mystery of salvation revealed for all people in Jesus the Christ, the Church is the privileged place where reflection on the Christ and the enactment of his proclamation of the Reign of God continues in time and space. Drawing on multiple sources (Scripture, magisterial teachings, theological writings and Christian praxis) we will examine the Church’s faith in Jesus, the Christ, and how this faith structures the Christian community’s mission to the world, specifically in the ongoing work of the healing ministry of Jesus. 3 hours.

HCM-T536 Catholic Social Teaching: Foundations and Applications for the Healing Ministry
This course examines basic themes of the Catholic moral tradition and of modern Catholic social teaching as they relate to the ministry of Catholic health care. Some of these core concepts include the human person as moral agent, human freedom, the role of conscience, the use of Scripture and natural law in moral theology, the common good, human rights, principles of justice, and the importance of critically and prayerfully reflecting on human experience in developing practical wisdom. As we examine and explore this tradition we will continually ask the “so what” question with regard to our obligations as leaders in a public ministry of the Church, and to the role of Christian moral arguments in an increasingly pluralistic, secular, and interdependent culture and global community.

HCM-T540 Health Care Ethics
This course examines a number of important ethical issues encountered in health care today. While the primary context for considering the issues is Roman Catholic teaching, this perspective is contrasted with secular, philosophical approaches that are prevalent in discussion of these issues. 3 hours.

HCM-T550 Sacraments for the Healing Ministry
This course explores Catholic health care institutions as sacraments of God’s compassion from a theological perspective, and it will help them to perceive themselves as participants in this broadly sacramental ministry of the Church.

The course will begin with an introduction to some of the ways that Christians might differ in their religious sensibility. An overview of the contemporary Catholic understanding of sacraments will be followed by a brief study of Catholic Sunday worship, formally called the eucharistic liturgy but informally known as the mass. The sacraments will then be looked at from the perspectives of psychology, sociology, morality and spirituality. After treating the sacrament called Anointing of the Sick, the course will conclude with an overview of spiritual care as an essential component of health care in an institutional setting. 3 hours.

HCM-T560 Advocacy, Ethics, and Public Policy (former title: Ethical Issues in Health Care and Public Policy)
This course is intended to familiarize the student with a variety of issues raised by the development and implementation of health policy in the United States. Students who successfully complete this course will be able to describe the main elements of American health care policy, (Medicare, Medicaid, private insurance, health reform, the Affordable Care Act) and explore some of the ethical challenges raised by US health care policy. In addition, the student will be able to evaluate aspects of American health care policy in light of Catholic Social Teaching and know how to use mission to help Catholic healthcare organizations respond strategically to health policy, establish positions on health policy, and influence policy through advocacy.  

3 hours.

HCM-T565 Organizational Ethics
This course will examine the methods, principles, and practical ways to address organizational ethics (OE) in Catholic healthcare organizations. OE, relatively new to applied and health care ethics is the source of intrigue to most serious students of ethics. OE must be seen in the context of clinical bioethics issues within Catholic health care and Catholic Social thought. With the use of a case study method, this seminar will offer an opportunity to explore what is unique to OE; how to distinguish OE from other areas of applied ethics; and how to study and address OE in Catholic healthcare organizations. The participant will understand how the method for OE requires significantly different skills than those found in clinical bioethics. Most importantly, the participants will reflect on whether organizational ethics in health care has any special considerations when applied to Catholic healthcare organizations. 3 hours.

HCM-T566 Leadership Competencies for Ministry Leadership
This course explores the principles and practices of exercising leadership within one’s ministry in healthcare by integrating knowledge of self/identities and one’s roles within the context of the organization’s culture and structure. The course examines the history of the discipline called leadership, the various discourses leading in the healthcare arena today, and encourages students to find their voices as they lead from both formal positional authority as ministry leaders and through their informal authority as people of faith. Leading today requires growth and development in emotional intelligence and the cognitive abilities to articulate and practice within the complexity of multi-professional work. The ability to exercise leadership requires a deepening spiritual presence that allows leaders to co-create a holding environment in which to work within healthcare. The course utilizes various methods and tools integrating Ken Wilber’s four-quadrant approach: the internal and external of ourselves and organizations or collectives. 3 hours.

HCM-T570 Theology of Ministry/Integrative Seminar
A seminar designed to aid graduating ministry students in articulating, integrating, and evaluating core themes in their operative theology. This course involves a critical exploration of the theologies of ministry. A core task in this course is to examine the character and nature of ministry, with a keen eye toward understanding the designation of the term “ministry.” Significant attention is given to the character and nature of health care ministry, especially to the question of lay ministry in correlation with institutional mission and identity. Of distinct interest is the question of how mission and identity gets handed on from sponsoring congregations to largely lay-run health care organizations. 3 hours.

HCM-F501 Spirituality for Ministry Leadership I
HCM-F502 Spirituality for Ministry Leadership II
HCM-F503 Spirituality for Ministry Leadership III
HCM-F503 Spirituality for Ministry Leadership IV
HCM-F503 Spirituality for Ministry Leadership V
HCM-F503 Spirituality for Ministry Leadership VI
HCM-F503 Spirituality for Ministry Leadership VII
HCM-F503 Spirituality for Ministry Leadership VIII
HCM-F503 Spirituality for Ministry Leadership IX
HCM-F503 Spirituality for Ministry Leadership X

These formation courses address foundational practices and skills employed by successful ministry leaders. Through prayer, readings, theological reflection, and facilitated discussions around case studies students engage real situations and share the practices that support their personal integration of virtues, authentic spirituality and leadership competencies. 5 units
Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry Courses

MPM-T500 Proseminar/Introduction to Theology
This course provides a foundation for and introduction to the discipline of theology, theological study and ministerial formation. Through an examination of the fundamental issues of theological study, and through the five practices that will be employed throughout the program, students will develop a foundational framework for engaging in critical theological reflection. This framework is developed in relation to the preaching mission of the Church, in light of Dominican spirituality. The course will provide some practical orientation to the Blackboard system of online educational tools and to the wisdom community model of cohort learning. Includes a $100 fee for the LiveText portfolio system. 3 hours.

MPM-T501 Bible Interpretation
The question “What does the biblical text mean?” will be the focus as students explore significant contemporary approaches to biblical interpretation. Students will be introduced to key Church documents discussing biblical interpretation. The Bible will be viewed variously from the perspectives of the worlds behind, of/in, and in front of the text, using a variety of hermeneutical methods. Students will engage in hermeneutical analysis of select passages in both Testaments. 3 hours.

MPM-T505 Hebrew Scriptures
This course offers a close examination of selected texts of the Hebrew Scriptures (i.e., the Old Testament) based on literary, hermeneutical, theological, historical, cultural, and geographical aspects, and the faith of communities which have shaped and continue to shape this literature. 3 hours.

MPM-T510 Christian Scriptures
This study of selected texts of the Christian New Testament stresses reading and interpretation based on contemporary methods and approaches. It provides a careful examination of the form, content, and function of these texts, first in their original literary, historical, social, cultural, and religious contexts, then in their application for Christian ministry today in the contexts of liturgy, evangelization, catechesis, pastoral care, and prayer. 3 hours.

MPM-T515 Ministry in the Scriptures
Selected texts from both the Hebrew Scriptures and the Christian New Testament will be examined using contemporary methods and approaches of biblical scholarship. The literary, hermeneutical, theological, historical, cultural, geographical and religious contexts of the texts will focus on application for Christian ministry today in the contexts of liturgy, evangelization, catechesis, pastoral care and prayer. 3 hours.

MPM-T522 Christology and Christian Anthropology
This course presents the belief of the Church and theological reflection concerning Jesus as the revelation of God. It examines the structure and development of Christology in the New Testament and subsequent tradition, as well as issues in contemporary Christology. The course includes systematic reflection on the implications for understanding the mystery of humanity in light of the mystery of Christ. Among the anthropological considerations are creation in the image of God, sin, grace, and heaven. 3 hours.

MPM-T527 Theology of Church and Ministry
This course examines the nature and mission of the Christian Church and the role it plays in the mystery of salvation revealed for all people in Jesus Christ. It focuses on major doctrinal and theological themes used in history to define the identity of the Church and the development of ministry. This course includes a study of a theology of ministry, with origins in the mission of Christ and his Church, which continues in multiple forms by the power of the Holy Spirit released in baptism and orders. 3 hours.

MPM-T530 Theology of God
A historical and systematic study of the triune being of God, this course will focus on the classical development of the theology of the Trinity and the contemporary attempt to recover the meaning of the Trinitarian doctrine in light of contemporary questions and concerns. 3 hours.

MPM-T535 Critical Moments in Church History
This is a survey of Christian church history, especially in the West, from the end of the apostolic age to the present. Particular emphasis is placed on the interaction of the social, cultural, and intellectual context of history with the religious, political, and ecclesial development. The study of primary sources and theological statements, sermons, and manifestations of popular piety understood as “documents” of history provide students with a historical framework for investigating topics that continue to shape contemporary Christian life. 3 hours.

**MPM-T545 Morality: Personal and Social**
This course introduces students to the basic methods and theological presuppositions of Roman Catholic morality, including the way we understand the human person, human freedom and human acts, the moral virtues, the relationship between morality and spirituality, and the importance of grace and the gifts of the Holy Spirit in the moral life. There will be opportunity to apply the principles being learned to specific moral issues, especially those of concern to the local church. This course includes an introduction to Catholic social teaching. 3 hours.

**MPM-T547 Supervised Practice of Ministry I**
Supervised Practice of Ministry includes no fewer than five hours per week of ministry for twelve weeks at a definite site; seven bi-weekly, one hour appointments with a competent, on-site supervisor; and a classroom seminar facilitated by the Director of Field Education and M.A.P.M. staff. Each student negotiates a written learning contract specifying a ministry, an on-site supervisor, and learning goals. In the classroom seminar, students learn a method of theological reflection that takes into account personal and communal experience, Christian tradition, and culture. In the context of pastoral case studies, students develop the habit of integrating theology with experience. 3 hours.

**MPM-T550 United States Church History**
An inquiry into the social and religious history of the American Catholic people from the colonial period to the present with emphasis on the United States. Attention is directed to representative persons, groups, institutions, and to the social and political ramifications of Catholics situated in a pluralistic society. 3 hours.

**MPM-T551 Theology of Worship and Sacraments**
Sacramental theology reveals a God who acts in history and in time, who allows creation to bring forth the divine, and who has entered fully into the human condition. This class studies such theology with particular emphasis on the contemporary understanding and recovery of a sacramental vision encompassing Christ, Church, and the Church’s ritual actions that are called sacraments. The course also explores the place of corporate worship in the life of the Church, the liturgical reforms of Vatican II, as well as the theology and role of the assembly and of liturgical leadership. 3 hours.

**MPM-T553 Proclamation for Evangelization**
In light of the Church’s call to evangelize culture, this course fosters an excellence in the ministry of the Word. An introductory course directed toward the broad, non-liturgical dimension of preaching in the Church, it is a basic exploration of the theology and methodology of preaching in varied situations and includes practice within the class setting. Reflection on the Dominican notion of “becoming the sacred preaching” is highlighted. 3 hours.

**MPM-T560 Foundations of Pastoral Care**
This course is designed to explore the historical and contemporary directions of pastoral care and to help in the formulation of appropriate ethical and professional responses to various situations in pastoral ministry. 3 hours.

**MPM-T563 Church Polity and Law for Ministry**
This introductory course acquaints students to the legal life and structures of the Roman Catholic Church as experienced in parish settings. Students examine the role of law in the life of the Church; methods of interpreting law; membership in the Church; the rights of Christians; diocesan and parochial structure; procedures; and property. The parish is the context for these topics. 3 hours.

**MPM-T565 Catholic Social Teaching in American Context**
This course is a study of the papal encyclicals and other documents that have come to be known as “Catholic Social Teaching.” Particular attention is given to the meaning of justice in the Catholic tradition, the common good, human rights, war and peace, and economic justice. The course will also consider specific issues encountered in the application of Catholic social teaching by the Church in the United States today, with a particular concern for local church challenges. 3 hours.
MPM-T570 Integrative Seminar
The Integrative Seminar is designed to enable students to critically review, assess, and integrate the major theological themes and ministerial experiences addressed during the course of the degree program. Through a personal and communal appropriation of both the Christian theological tradition and the experience of pastoral ministry, the student will work to articulate an operative theology of pastoral ministry. 2 hours.

MPM-F501 Formative Spirituality for Pastoral Ministry I
MPM-F502 Formative Spirituality for Pastoral Ministry II
MPM-F503 Formative Spirituality for Pastoral Ministry III
MPM-F504 Formative Spirituality for Pastoral Ministry IV

This course extends over the entire length of the M.A.P.M. program. This seminar is concerned with fostering a deeper awareness of each person’s spirituality and the role of conversion in Christian life. It also emphasizes the development of ministerial identity and the foundations of spirituality for ministerial service in the Church. It builds on the students’ skills in individual and group theological reflection. The members of the cohort, as well as the Formation Director, play an important role in shaping the dynamics of this formation experience. 4 hours.