



## **MISSION**

The Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary is commissioned by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists to educate men and women from around the world to proclaim the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ in the setting of the three-angels' messages of Revelation 14. Affirming the centrality of Scripture as authoritative propositional revelation from God, the Seminary is charged with preparing faithful and effective pastors, evangelists, religion teachers, scholars, administrators, and others for the furtherance of the Seventh-day Adventist mission to the entire world. To this end, it seeks to provide substantial instruction in biblical, linguistic, theological, historical, missiological, and pastoral knowledge and skills.

A post-baccalaureate entity of Andrews University, the Seminary is authorized by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists to confer doctoral degrees in theology, religion, and ministry, and is the only institution delegated by the denomination's North American Division to provide professional and academic master's degrees for the preparation of ministers. In harmony with its global purview, it is asked to offer extension classes and continuing-education opportunities throughout North America and, by means of extension centers and affiliations, to offer context-sensitive programs world-wide.

The Seminary seeks to be responsive to cultural, ethnic, and national differences in its choice of faculty and staff. It accepts students of any cultural, ethnic, and national background, and is open to persons of various religious persuasions who desire to benefit from its offerings and are comfortable with its standards.

Though primarily a teaching, worshiping, and confessing institution, the Seminary believes it can offer the best in

## **HUMAN RELATIONS**

conferences, in conjunction with the North American Division, establish a scholarship fund at each local conference office. Individuals may seek these scholarship grants for assistance during participation in the MDiv program. The local conference organization decides when and to whom the scholarship grants are made.

#### **ADMISSION AND EVALUATION POLICIES**

**Doctor of Ministry**

- Recommendations
  1. Conference administrator
  2. Colleague in ministry
  3. Lay person
- Statement of Purpose—350 words plus career history

**Doctor of Philosophy/Theology**

- Recommendations
  1. Adviser/teacher in applicant's MA or MDiv program
  2. Teacher in applicant's MA or MDiv program

Statement of Purpose—350 words plus career history

**Classes Taken in Other Schools.** Students registered in the Seminary who plan to take courses in another school on campus must first obtain permission from the Seminary dean or appropriate program director, as well as the dean of the school where the course will be taken. Tuition is charged for MDiv students taking courses outside the Seminary.

**Informal Auditing.** Students with a full-time load and a GPA of 3.00 or above may sit in on a class without registration or a tuition charge on a space-available basis. The appropriate form must be completed. Certain courses are not available for auditing on any basis. For audited courses to be recorded on the transcript, see the university policy on p. 22.

**Independent Study Courses.** Normally, only on-campus students with a GPA of 3.00 or above may register for independent study courses. Because the faculty are not obliged to guide students for Independent Studies, students must first obtain their concurrence. Independent study courses are advanced studies in a particular field and should be taken only after completing basic courses. At registration, students need to submit a copy of the Independent Study Contract Form with the course number from the department and a brief subject added to the course title to appear on the transcript. Requirements for independent study are determined by the guiding faculty member and may include readings, research, writing, and other learning experiences. A maximum of 8 credits may be approved for Independent Study in a degree program, and Independent Study courses normally are graded satisfactory or unsatisfactory. Additional guidelines are found on the contract form.

**Directed Reading.** Courses designated Directed Reading are for doctoral students. Students must arrange individually with a professor to take courses on this basis. These courses are graded S/U.

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

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

Special assemblies are held occasionally at which attendance also is required.

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

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

**Time Limits on Degrees.** For time limits applying to seminary degree programs, see the respective program descriptions below. Students who violate the respective time limits must petition the dean for an extension of time, giving reasons for the request and

submitting plans for completion of the work. Petitions may be granted by the dean and may require additional qualifying or other examinations, additional course work, or both.

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

## PROGRAMS

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

The Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry degree program offers professional training to mature pastors experienced in ministry. Normally such persons (if male) are ordained ministers unable to leave their parish and come to the Seminary campus for extended periods of time. The Seminary provides the major part of this professional training at off-campus centers in North America and various international sites.

The Master of Arts in Youth Ministry degree is a professional program designed to equip men and women with competencies needed for an effective ministry to youth and young adults in local church and para-church settings. The program is focused on teaching, evangelizing, discipling, and counseling adolescents.

The Master of Arts in Religion provides an opportunity for one year of specialized study beyond the baccalaureate degree. It is offered with these orientations: (1) the research orientation designed for students who plan further graduate work, and (2) the general academic orientation giving students a strong background