

MASTER OF DIVINITY (MDi)

Luis Fernando Ortiz, Director

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

C e a F a e k

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

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

Knowing

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

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

Being

Being

future goals in relationship to the MDiv program. (If married, the spouse of the applicant is also asked to complete a statement in regard to her or his feelings and relationship to the partner's aspirations for future ministry.)

- an interview with a representative of the MDiv program may be required, either by personal contact, telephone, or video.
- complete and return the Sixteen Personality Factor Questionnaire as directed.

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

For Summer Enrollment: (Tracks 1 & 2)

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

For Fall enrollment: (Track 1 only)

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

Additional application information

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

Academic Policies

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

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

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

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

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

Workshop Credit Limit and Grading Pattern. Master of Divinity students may apply up to 4 workshop credits appropriate to

degree requirements. If workshops are taken during the semester breaks, the credits are counted as part of the class load for either the previous or the following semester.

Workshops are graded S/U. Any deviation from this pattern must be approved by the dean prior to the conclusion of the workshop. Students must register at the Academic Records Office for all workshops for which academic credit is desired.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

C ic Re i e e

Interdisciplinary Courses 17-18

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

GSEM525 The Bible and Biblical History 1

Track 1

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

Track 2

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

Christian Ministry 27-31

Track 1

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

Take four of the following 2-credit courses: 8

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

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

Track 2

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

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

Track 2

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

New Testament

8-15

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

Track 1

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

Choose one of the following theology courses:

NTST616	Theology of Luke-Acts	3
NTST617	Theology of Matthew	
NTST630	Theology of the Synoptic Gospels	
NTST634	Theology of the Pauline Epistles	
NTST641	Theology of the Johannine Writings	
NTST647	Eschatology	
NTST657	Theology of Hebrews	
NTST667	Studies in New Testament Theology	
NTST668	New Testament Ethics	
NTST676	Jesus in Recent Scholarship	
NTST679	Seminar in New Testament Theology and Ethics	

Choose one of the following backgrounds courses:

NTST606	Formation and History of the New Testament	2
NTST615	New Testament Archaeology	
NTST626	Seminar in Classical Jewish Literature	
NTST635	Intertestamental Period	
NTST646	Jerusalem in the Time of Jesus	
NTST654	Second Century Christianity	
NTST680	Greco-Roman World	
NTST684	Judaism and the New Testament	
NTST689	Seminar in New Testament Backgrounds	

Track 2

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

Old Testament

8-15

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

Track 1

Choose one of the following archaeology courses: 2

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

Choose one of the following exegesis courses: 3

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

Choose one of the following theology courses: 3

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

Track 2

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

Choose one of the following: 2

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

Theology and Christian Philosophy

8-10

Track 1

THST540	Doctrine of Salvation	2
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Choose one of the following systematic theology courses: 2

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

Choose one of the following ethics courses: 2

THST600 Christian Personal Ethics

THST634 Christian Social Ethics

THST643 Christian Professional Ethics

THST644 Theological Ethics

THST660 Church and Society

Track 2

THST510 Understanding the Christian World 2

THST521 Christian Theology I



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