

# Degree Programs

Additional information on degree programs and requirements may be found under the course descriptions section of the online catalog.

## **MASTER OF DIVINITY**

### **Graduation Requirements**

Students participating in the Master of Divinity degree must complete 30 courses and 6 units of Mentored Ministry, maintain a grade point average of 2.0 or higher and be present for graduation exercises. No more than eight courses may be taken at other schools in the Boston Theological Institute.

### **Degree Requirements**

#### ***Core Requirements:***

Candidates are required to complete 10 courses in the area of Biblical Studies, 7 courses in Christian Thought and 7 courses in Practical Theology.

#### ***General Electives:***

Each student must complete six elective courses.

#### ***Mentored Ministry:***

Students must complete six units of Mentored Ministry (*see Mentored Ministry*).

#### ***Denominational Standards:***

Most denominations require a course in denominational standards. This is not a seminary requirement, but the student should carefully observe the relevant requirements of his or her denomination.

#### ***Bible Competency:***

All M.Div. students must demonstrate Bible competency either by successfully completing the Old and/or New Testament survey courses, or by passing the Bible competency exams. Those who do not pass the competency exams during their new student orientation, or elect not to sit for the exams, will be required to complete OT 500 Old Testament Survey and/or NT 501 New Testament Survey *as electives* (*see Bible Competency Exams*).

#### ***Checksheet:***

Please consult the following checksheet for a breakdown of course requirements. Some variation may occur for those considering one of our approved concentrations (*Concentration descriptions will follow*).

#### ***Core Requirements (24 courses)***

- CH 501 The Church to the Reformation
- Select one from the following:*
  - CH 502 The Church Since the Reformation
  - CH 503 American Evangelicalism
- Educational Ministry *Select one from the following:*
  - EM 502 Educational Ministry of the Church

- EM 603 Educational Ministry with Adults
- CH/EM/TH 635 Catechesis: History, Theology, and Practice
- EM/WM 657 Educational Ministry in Cultural Perspective
- EM 687 Educational Ministry in Urban Settings
- Ethics *Select one from the following:*
  - ET 501 Christian Ethics
  - SE 571 Christian Ethics & Social Issues
  - ET/SE 625 Conservative Social Thought
  - SE 632 Christianity and the Problem of Racism
  - ET 681, Issues in Sexual Ethics and Bioethics
  - SE 735 Biblical Global Justice
- EV 501 Personal Evangelism Through the Local Church
- GL 501 Basic Greek I
- GL 502 Basic Greek II
- MC 501 Spiritual Formation for Ministry
- Ministry *Select one from the following:*
  - MC 610 Growing in Ministry Leadership
  - MC 701 Pastoral Ministry
  - MC 702 Pastoral Theology for Church & Society
  - MC 703 Women in Ministry (*official waiver required*)
- NT 502 Interpreting the New Testament
- NT Narrative Book Exegesis (NT 611-619)
- NT Epistle Exegesis (NT 620-649)
- OL 501 Hebrew I
- OL 502 Hebrew II
- OT 511 Interpreting the Old Testament
- OT 600-Level Hebrew Exegesis (OT 625-670)
- OT 700-Level Hebrew Exegesis (OT 750 or 770)
- Pastoral Counseling, *Select one from the following:*
  - PC 511 Pastoral Counseling
  - PC 521 Pastoral Counseling in Urban Ministry
- PR 601 Preaching: Principles & Practices
- PR 602 Preaching for Modern Listeners
- TH 504 Systematic Theology I
- TH 605 Systematic Theology II
- TH 607 Systematic Theology III
- World Missions *Select one from the following:*
  - WM 601 The World Mission of the Church
  - TH/WM 602 Theology of Mission

***General Electives (6 courses)***

*Note Bible competency requirement above*

***Mentored Ministry [6 units are required for graduation, but they do not count toward the 30 course requirement.]***

- MM 501     MM 601     MM 701

- MM 502
- MM 602
- MM 702

### **Approved M.Div. Concentrations**

The Master of Divinity program is designed to provide the student with a general yet comprehensive basis for pastoral ministry. However, those who wish to concentrate their theological studies can select from one of five approved tracks. Those who pursue a concentration will reduce their general electives by a minimum of four courses. Depending on the track, certain M.Div. core requirements may be altered.

### **Anglican/Episcopal Studies Track**

The Anglican/Episcopal Studies Track has been designed in consultation with members of the Anglican/Episcopal community to allow students to follow a plan of formation for ministry in the Anglican tradition.

Students in the Anglican/Episcopal Studies Track must reserve all of their open elective course options for the six special Anglican/Episcopal courses required for the track. One of the required concentration courses may be taken in place of MC501 Spiritual Formation for Ministry. After using all four open electives for another four courses in the Anglican/Episcopal Studies Track, students will take their remaining one concentration course in one of two ways: 1) In addition to the required 90 credit hours of the M.Div. program, for a total of 93 credit hours. (Note: With this option, it might not be possible for a student to complete both the degree and the track requirements within three academic years, depending on individual circumstance.) 2) Using the additional elective opened up by passing either their Old Testament or New Testament competency examination during their orientation week. They will then be able to take their remaining one course in the Anglican/Episcopal Studies track as an elective.

The following six courses must be taken in order to graduate with an approved concentration in Anglican/Episcopal Studies:

- MC 506 Ascetical Theology (*This course should be taken in place of MC 501*)
- Choice of one from the following:*
  - CH 653 History of Liturgy
  - CH 662 History of Christian Worship
- Choice of one from the following:*
  - CH 647 Anglican Church History
  - CH 648 English Reformation
- ET 503 Anglican Ethics and Moral Theology
- MC 704 Pastoral Liturgy/Priestly Formation
- MC 705 Anglican Ethos and Identity

Please note that unless a concentration course has been designated as replacing a core requirement, it will fill what would normally be an open elective slot.

Prior to taking their core ethics and pastoral ministry courses, students in the Anglican/Episcopal Studies Track should contact the Registration Office to see if there have been any updates to the track.

### **Educational Ministries Track**

This track qualifies a person for general pastoral ministry, but also provides specialized training for a minister of Christian education or for further graduate study in the field of Christian education.

- EM 502 Educational Ministry of the Church (*for core EM requirement*)
- EM 715 Worship and Christian Formation
- EM Elective
- EM Elective
- EM Elective

Please note that unless a concentration course has been designated as replacing a core requirement, it will fill what would normally be an open elective slot.

### **Youth Ministries Track**

The Youth Ministries Track is designed to prepare M.Div. candidates for local church and outreach ministries with youth in a given community. M.Div. students completing this track should be able to function as denominational consultants or directors of youth ministries, or be able to develop youth programs in new settings. Students are encouraged to complete a portion of their Mentored Ministry units working in a youth ministry context, and another portion in other facets of pastoral ministry. Students may be required to travel to Gordon-Conwell's Boston campus for certain course offerings.

### **FOUNDATION IN YOUTH MINISTRY**

- EM/EV/YM 591 Theology and Principles of Dynamic Youth Ministry

### **CONTEXTS OF YOUTH MINISTRY**

- EM/YM 693 Understanding Youth Culture
- Choice of one from the following:*
  - EM 611 Retreat & Camp Ministries
  - EM/WM/YM 689 Theological Issues and Models of Urban Youth Ministry: U.S. and Global
  - YM 690 Ministering to Troubled Youth

### **INTEGRATIVE SEMINAR**

- EM/YM 801 Strategy & Management of Youth Programs

### **YOUTH MINISTRY SKILLS**

- Choice of one in place of PC511, Pastoral Counseling:*
  - CO/PC/YM 725 Counseling the Adolescent
  - PC 712 Pastoral Counseling of Families
- Choice of one from the following:*
  - EM 604 The Teacher and Teaching Task
  - EV 673 Modern Culture & Evangelism
  - EM/EV 711 Inductive Bible Study

EM/YM 706 Adolescent Spirituality: Faith Development in the Postmodern World

– *or* –

Any *Contexts of Youth Ministry* course not previously selected.

Please note that unless a concentration course has been designated as replacing a core requirement, it will fill what would normally be an open elective slot.

### **World Missions Track**

For the M.Div. track in world missions, two required courses plus three electives in this area must be completed. In addition, the Overseas Missions Practicum (WM 720, 721), with Inner City Ministry I and II (MC 621, 622) or the Summer Institute of Linguistics of the Wycliffe Bible Translators may be taken as well. WM 721 may be taken to fulfill one course credit and up to two units of Mentored Ministry when those MM units are registered concurrently. Students who choose to replace OMP with Inner City Ministry I and II must be living in an urban context for that year.

- WM 601 World Mission of the Church *or* TH/WM 602, Theology of Mission
- WM 722 Applied Anthropology for Missions
- WM Elective or EM/WM 657 Educational Ministry in Cultural Perspective (*in place of EM 502*)
- WM Elective or CH/WM 610, Advance of the Church in the Non-Western World (*in place of CH 502*)
- WM Elective

Please note that unless a concentration course has been designated as replacing a core requirement, it will fill what would normally be an open elective slot.

### **Urban Ministries Track**

Gordon-Conwell provides its students with an opportunity for an "urban year" of living, ministering and studying in Boston through its Center for Urban Ministerial Education (CUME). With the cooperation and support of ministers, churches and agencies (especially the Emmanuel Gospel Center) in inner-city and working-class sections of Boston, the program creates a close relationship between Mentored Ministry in the city and academic training. Urban Ministry students are encouraged to meet with CUME staff for curricular advisement during registration periods.

Seminary courses on urban ministry are offered directly in the city and will require students to travel if they are not living in Boston. Students are encouraged to spend their second year in the city while completing their Urban Ministry Track courses, especially if they have never lived in an urban context prior to seminary.

- MC 621 Inner City Ministry Sequence I: Context for Ministry (*MC 621 and MC 622 should be taken in place of MC 701; since this is a two-for-one substitution, the "extra" three credits will be used to fill an elective slot*)
- MC 622 Inner City Ministry Sequence II

- PC 521 Pastoral Counseling for Urban Ministry (*in place of PC 511*)
- *Choice of one from the following:*
  - EM 687 Educational Ministry in Urban Settings (*in place of EM 502*)
  - EM/WM/YM 689 Theological Issues and Models of Urban Youth Ministry: U.S. and Global
- SE 571 Christian Ethics and Social Issues (*in place of ET 501*) or any CUME course
- EV/WM 627 The Gospel, the World and Cities (*in place of WM 601*) or any CUME course

Please note that unless a concentration course has been designated as replacing a core requirement, it will fill what would normally be an open elective slot.

### **Master of Divinity Degree Goals**

1. To gain competency with the biblical languages in order to develop exegetical and hermeneutical skills using the Hebrew text of the Old Testament and the Greek text of the New Testament
2. To understand the basic content and themes of the Old and New Testaments in their historical and cultural settings, as well as the historical and theological dimensions of the Christian faith
3. To expound and proclaim effectively the biblical message of redemption
4. To develop skills appropriate for church leadership as a pastor, teacher, counselor, evangelist, chaplain, church planter, missionary or other role as a leader
5. To foster love for God and his Word and therefore to cultivate the practices of spiritual maturity and Christ-like character, and to understand the Christian's ethical responsibility in church and society
6. To acquire a biblical perspective and Christian worldview on the forces in our culture and to learn to engage those as they are at work both outside and inside the life of the church
7. To develop a global vision for the Christian faith so as to foster an appreciation and commitment to the worldwide proclamation of the gospel
8. To cultivate an appreciation for and a commitment to the personal and community sharing of the gospel.

## **MASTER OF ARTS IN OLD TESTAMENT**

### **Graduation Requirements**

Students participating in the Master of Arts in Old Testament degree program must complete 20 courses with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher and be present for graduation exercises. No more than 8 of the 20 courses may be taken at other schools in the Boston Theological Institute.

### **Degree Requirements**

#### ***Area of Concentration:***

Complete eight courses in Old Testament.

#### ***Language Requirement:***

Complete at least two terms of Hebrew or an approved research language. Students who have previous knowledge of Hebrew and who pass the language competency exam must substitute two courses in the Division of Biblical Studies.

**General Core Requirements:**

Complete six courses in the areas of Biblical Studies, Christian Thought and Practical Theology.

**General Electives:**

Complete four elective courses.

**Bible Competency:**

All MA students must demonstrate Bible competency either by successfully completing the Old and/or New Testament survey courses, or by passing the Bible competency exams. Those who do not pass the competency exams during their new student orientation, or elect not to sit for the exams, will be required to complete OT 500 Old Testament Survey and/or NT 501 New Testament Survey *as electives* (see *Bible Competency Exams*).

**Summative Evaluation:**

A summative evaluation is required of MAOT students, and may take the form of an oral examination or a thesis, or, for students who have learned English as a second language, a major integrative paper (see *Summative Evaluation for MA Students and Thesis*).

**Area of Concentration (8 Courses)**

- OT 511 Interpreting the Old Testament
- 3 OT Courses - No more than two courses (including OT 511 above) may be taken at the 500-level.
- OT 600-Level Hebrew Exegesis (OT 600-670)
- OT 700-Level Hebrew Exegesis (OT 750 or 770)
- OT 891, Thesis part I or OT Elective (600-level or above)
- OT 892, Thesis part II or OT Elective (600-level or above)

*Those who take OT electives in place of the thesis must sit for an oral summative evaluation during their last semester.*

**Core Requirements (6 courses)**

- CH 500 Survey of Church History
- Ethics Course (Any ET or SE course)
- New Testament course selected from the following:
  - NT 502, NT 503, NT 504, NT 552/652, NT 564, NT 575/675, NT 577, NT 582 or NT 586
- TH 501 Theology Survey I
- TH 502 Theology Survey II
- World Missions or Evangelism Course (Any WM or EV course)

**Biblical or Research Language (2 Courses)**

- OL 501 or approved research language
- OL 502 or approved research language

**General Electives (4 Courses)**

*Note Bible competency requirement above*

### **Master of Arts in Old Testament Goals**

1. To develop an intermediate understanding of the content and themes of the Old and New Testaments in their historical and cultural settings
2. To understand the basic historical and theological dimensions of the Christian faith
3. To gain an intermediate competency with biblical Hebrew in order to develop exegetical and hermeneutical skills using the original languages
4. In keeping with the highest tradition of Christian scholarship, to develop advanced skills for biblical research and writing, using original languages, and awareness of important bibliographic resources
5. To foster love for God and his Word and therefore to cultivate the practices of spiritual maturity and Christ-like character, and to understand the Christian's ethical responsibility in church and society.
6. To acquire a biblical perspective and Christian worldview on the forces in our culture and to learn to engage those as they are at work both outside and inside the life of the church
7. To understand the historical and theological development of the Christian faith in order to integrate this faith with global ethical and missiological issues.

## **MASTER OF ARTS IN NEW TESTAMENT**

### **Graduation Requirements**

Students participating in the Master of Arts in New Testament degree program must complete 20 courses with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher and be present for graduation exercises. No more than 8 of the 20 courses may be taken at other schools in the Boston Theological Institute.

### **Degree Requirements**

#### ***Area of Concentration:***

Complete eight courses in New Testament.

#### ***Language Requirement:***

Complete at least two terms of Greek or an approved research language. Students who have previous knowledge of Greek and who pass the language competency exam must substitute two courses in the Division of Biblical Studies.

#### ***General Core Requirements:***

Complete six courses in the areas of Biblical Studies, Christian Thought and Practical Theology.

#### ***General Electives:***

Complete four elective courses.

#### ***Bible Competency:***

All MA students must demonstrate Bible competency either by successfully completing the Old and/or New Testament survey courses, or by passing the Bible competency exams. Those who do not pass the competency exams during their new student orientation, or elect not to sit for the exams, will be required to complete OT 500 Old Testament Survey and/or NT 501 New Testament Survey *as electives* (see *Bible Competency Exams*).

### ***Summative Evaluation:***

A summative evaluation is required of MANT students, and may take the form of an oral examination or a thesis, or, for students who have learned English as a second language, a major integrative paper (see *Summative Evaluation for MA Students and Thesis*).

### ***Area of Concentration (8 Courses)***

- NT502 Interpreting the New Testament
- 3 NT Courses - No more than two courses (including NT 502 above) may be taken at the 500-level.
- NT Narrative Book Exegesis (NT 611-619)
- NT Epistle Exegesis (NT 620-649)
- NT 891 Thesis part I or NT Elective (600-level or above)
- NT 892 Thesis part II or NT Elective (600-level or above)

*Those who take NT electives in place of the thesis must sit for a summative evaluation during their last semester.*

### ***Core Requirements (6 courses)***

- CH 500 Survey of Church History
- Ethics Course (Any ET or SE course)
- Old Testament course selected from the following:
  - OT 501, OT 502, OT 505, OT 577, OT 590 or OT 595
- TH 501 Theology Survey I
- TH 502 Theology Survey II
- World Missions or Evangelism course (Any WM or EV course)

### ***Biblical or Research Language (2 Courses)***

- GL 501 or approved research language
- GL 502 or approved research language

### ***General Electives (4 Courses)***

*Note Bible competency requirement above*

### **Master of Arts in New Testament Goals**

1. To develop an intermediate understanding of the content and themes of the Old and New Testaments in their historical and cultural settings
2. To understand the basic historical and theological dimensions of the Christian faith
3. To gain an intermediate competency with biblical Greek in order to develop exegetical and hermeneutical skills using the original languages
4. In keeping with the highest tradition of Christian scholarship, to develop advanced skills for biblical research and writing, using original languages, and awareness of important bibliographic resources
5. To foster love for God and his Word and therefore to cultivate the practices of spiritual maturity and Christ-like character, and to understand the Christian's ethical responsibility in church and society

6. To acquire a biblical perspective and Christian worldview on the forces in our culture and to learn to engage those as they are at work both outside and inside the life of the church
7. To understand the historical and theological development of the Christian faith in order to integrate this faith with global ethical and missiological issues.

## **MASTER OF ARTS IN CHURCH HISTORY**

### **Graduation Requirements**

Students participating in the Master of Arts in Church History degree program must complete 20 courses with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher and be present for graduation exercises. No more than 8 of the 20 courses may be taken at other schools in the Boston Theological Institute.

### **Degree Requirements**

#### ***Area of Concentration:***

Complete eight courses in Church History.

#### ***Language Requirement:***

Complete at least two terms of a biblical language or, upon approval, a research foreign language suitable for an anticipated doctoral program. Students who have previous knowledge of Greek or Hebrew and who pass the language competency exam must substitute two courses in the Division of Biblical Studies.

#### ***General Core Requirements:***

Complete six courses in the areas of Biblical Studies, Christian Thought and Practical Theology.

#### ***General Electives:***

Complete four elective courses.

#### ***Bible Competency:***

All MA students must demonstrate Bible competency either by successfully completing the Old and/or New Testament survey courses, or by passing the Bible competency exams. Those who do not pass the competency exams during their new student orientation, or elect not to sit for the exams, will be required to complete OT 500 Old Testament Survey and/or NT 501 New Testament Survey *as electives* (see *Bible Competency Exams*).

#### ***Summative Evaluation:***

A summative evaluation is required of MACH students and may take the form of a thesis or an integrative paper with an oral examination. For students who have learned English as a second language, an increased integrative paper may replace the oral exam (see *Summative Evaluation for MA Students and Thesis*).

#### ***Area of Concentration (8 Courses)***

- CH 812 Historiography
- 5 CH Courses [CH 501 & 502 recommended]
- CH 891 Thesis part I or CH Elective
- CH 892 Thesis part II or CH Elective (600-level or above)

*Those who take CH electives in place of the thesis must sit for a summative evaluation during their last semester.*

**Core Requirements (6 courses)**

- Ethics Course (Any ET or SE course)
- New Testament course selected from the following:  
NT 502, NT 503, NT 504, NT 552/652, NT 564, NT 575/675, NT 577, NT 582 or NT 586
- Old Testament course selected from the following:  
OT 501, OT 502, OT 505, OT 577, OT 590 or OT 595
- TH 501 Theology Survey I
- TH 502 Theology Survey II
- World Missions or Evangelism course (Any WM or EV course)

**Biblical or Research Language (2 Courses)**

- OL or GL 501 or approved research language
- OL or GL 502 or approved research language

**General Electives (4 Courses)**

*Note Bible competency requirement above*

**Master of Arts in Church History Goals**

1. To understand the basic content and themes of the Old and New Testaments in their historical and cultural settings as well as the historical and theological dimensions of the Christian faith
2. To understand important persons, events, movements, institutions and ideas in the early, medieval, reformation and modern periods of church history
3. To develop skills for historical research and writing, as well as an awareness of important bibliographic resources in the discipline, including competence in a biblical or research language
4. To foster love for God and his Word and therefore to cultivate the practices of spiritual maturity and Christ-like character, and to understand the Christian's ethical responsibility in church and society
5. To understand and appreciate the rich heritage of the Church's global history in order to be able to interact more biblically and effectively with our contemporary world.

**MASTER OF ARTS IN THEOLOGY**

**Graduation Requirements**

Students participating in the Master of Arts in Theology degree program must complete 20 courses with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher and be present for graduation exercises. No more than 8 of the 20 courses may be taken at other schools in the Boston Theological Institute.

**Degree Requirements**

***Area of Concentration:***

Complete seven courses in Theology and one course in Ethics or Social Ethics. Students may also apply offerings within the areas of Apologetics (AP) and Ethics (ET) toward their theology concentration.

***Language Requirement:***

Complete at least two terms of a biblical language or, upon approval, a research foreign language suitable for the anticipated doctoral program. Students who have previous knowledge of Greek or Hebrew and who pass the language competency exam must substitute two courses in the Division of Biblical Studies.

***General Core Requirements:***

Complete four courses in the areas of Biblical Studies, Christian Thought and Practical Theology.

***General Electives:***

Complete six elective courses.

***Bible Competency:***

All MA students must demonstrate Bible competency either by successfully completing the Old and/or New Testament survey courses or by passing the Bible competency exams. Those who do not pass the competency exams during their new student orientation, or elect not to sit for the exams, will be required to complete OT 500 Old Testament Survey and/or NT 501 New Testament Survey *as electives* (see *Bible Competency Exams*).

***Summative Evaluation:***

A summative evaluation is required of MATH students and may take the form of a thesis or an integrative paper with an oral examination. For students who have learned English as a second language, an increased integrative paper may replace the oral exam (see *Summative Evaluation for MA Students and Thesis*)

***Area of Concentration (8 Courses)***

- Ethics Course (Any ET or SE course)
- 5 TH Courses (may also choose AP or ET courses; TH 504, 605 & 607 recommended)
- TH 891 Thesis part I or TH, AP or ET Elective
- TH 892 Thesis part II or TH, AP or ET Elective

*Those who take TH, AP or ET electives in place of the thesis must sit for a summative evaluation during their last semester.*

***Core Requirements (4 courses)***

- CH 500 Survey of Church History
- New Testament course selected from the following:  
NT 502, NT 503, NT 504, NT 552/652, NT 564, NT 575/675, NT 577, NT 582 or NT 586

- Old Testament course selected from the following:  
OT 501, OT 502, OT 505, OT 577, OT 590 or OT 595
- World Missions or Evangelism course (Any WM or EV course)

***Biblical or Research Language (2 Courses)***

- OL or GL 501 or approved research language
- OL or GL 502 or approved research language

***General Electives (6 Courses)***

*Note Bible competency requirement above*

**Master of Arts in Theology Goals**

1. To understand the basic content and themes of the Old and New Testaments in their historical and cultural settings as well as the historical and theological dimensions of the Christian faith
2. To develop competence in a biblical or research language in order to develop exegetical skills
3. To develop skills of theological analysis and argument appropriate to the breadth of theological claims of Christianity
4. To understand important periods of theological reflection and confession in church history, including the contemporary setting
5. To develop aptitudes for living and speaking the gospel in the context of the Christian community so that individually and corporately the depth of Christian conviction can be applied in the ordinary practices of life
6. To foster love for God and his Word and therefore to cultivate the practices of spiritual maturity and Christ-like character, and to understand the Christian's ethical responsibility in church and society
7. To understand the ethical and missiological dimensions of the Christian faith in its global context.

**MASTER OF ARTS IN ETHICS AND SOCIETY**

**Graduation Requirements**

Students participating in the Master of Arts in Ethics and Society degree program must complete 20 courses with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher and be present for graduation exercises. No more than 8 of the 20 courses may be taken at other schools in the Boston Theological Institute.

**Degree Requirements**

***Area of Concentration:***

Complete eight courses in Ethics or Social Ethics as specified below. Students may need to consider taking some courses at the Boston (CUME) campus, through the Boston Theological Institute (BTI), or through directed studies in order to complete their ethics concentration. Up to four of the concentration courses may be taken through the Boston Theological Institute upon approval of an official Waiver Petition.

***Language Requirement:***

Complete at least two terms of a biblical language or, upon approval, a research foreign language suitable for the anticipated doctoral program. Students who have previous knowledge of Greek

or Hebrew and who pass the language competency exam must substitute two courses in the Division of Biblical Studies.

***General Core Requirements:***

Complete seven courses in the areas of Biblical Studies, Christian Thought and Practical Theology.

***General Electives:***

Complete three elective courses.

***Bible Competency:***

All MA students must demonstrate Bible competency either by successfully completing the Old and/or New Testament Survey courses, or by passing the Bible competency exams. Those who do not pass the competency exams during their new student orientation, or elect not to sit for the exams, will be required to complete OT 500, Old Testament Survey and/or NT 501, New Testament Survey *as electives* (see *Bible Competency Exams*).

***Summative Evaluation:***

A summative evaluation is required of MAET students, and may take the form of a thesis or an integrative paper with an oral examination. For students who have learned English as a second language, an increased integrative paper may replace the oral exam (see *Summative Evaluation for MA Students and Thesis*).

***Area of Concentration (8 Courses)***

- *One from the following:*
  - ET 501, Christian Ethics
  - ET 681, Issues in Sexual Ethics & Bioethics
- *One from the following:*
  - SE 571, Christian Ethics & Social Issues
  - MC/SE 602, Church & Community
  - SE 632, Christianity and the Problem of Racism
  - SE 735, Biblical Global Justice
- ET 655, Ethical Theory
- 3 ET (Ethics) or SE (Social Ethics) Courses
- ET/SE 891, Thesis part I or ET or SE Elective
- ET/SE 892, Thesis part II or ET or SE Elective

[Those who take ET or SE electives in place of the thesis must sit for a summative evaluation during their last semester.]

***Core Requirements (4 courses)***

- CH 500, Survey of Church History
- New Testament course selected from the following:
  - NT 502, NT 503, NT 504, NT 552/652, NT 564, NT 575/675, NT 577, NT 582, or NT 586
- Old Testament course selected from the following:
  - OT 501, OT 502, OT 505, OT 577, OT 590, or OT 595

- TH 504, Systematic Theology I
- TH 605, Systematic Theology II
- TH 607, Systematic Theology III
- World Missions or Evangelism course (Any WM or EV course)

***Biblical or Research Language (2 Courses)***

- OL or GL 501 or approved research language
- OL or GL 502 or approved research language

***General Electives (3 Courses)***

*Note Bible competency requirement above*

**Master of Arts in Ethics and Society Goals**

1. To develop skills for ethical analysis and argumentation based on knowledge of the scriptures, Christian theology, and contemporary cultural contexts.
2. To develop aptitudes and attitudes for living and speaking the gospel in the context of Christian community so that Christian convictions can be applied in the practices of daily life.
3. To foster love for God and his Word and to cultivate the practices of spiritual maturity and Christ-like character, and to understand the Christian's ethical responsibilities in family, church and society.
4. To understand the basic content and themes in the Old and New Testaments in their historical and cultural settings and the historical and theological dimensions of the Christian faith.
5. To foster understanding of the evangelistic and missiological dimensions of the Christian faith in its local and global contexts.
6. To develop competence in a biblical or research language in order to develop exegetical and research skills.

**MASTER OF ARTS IN BIBLICAL LANGUAGES**

**Graduation Requirements**

Students participating in the Master of Arts in Biblical Languages degree program must complete 20 courses with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher and be present for graduation exercises. No more than 8 of the 20 courses may be taken at other schools in the Boston Theological Institute.

**Degree Requirements**

***Area of Concentration:***

Complete 10 courses in the area of Biblical Studies as specified below.

***General Core Requirements:***

Complete five courses in the areas of Christian Thought and Practical Theology.

***General Electives:***

Complete five elective courses, which may include, if necessary, basic Greek and Hebrew (GL 501/502, OL 501/502).

***Bible Competency:***

All MA students must demonstrate Bible competency either by successfully completing the Old and/or New Testament survey courses or by passing the Bible competency exams. Those who do not pass the competency exams during their new student orientation, or elect not to sit for the exams, will be required to complete OT 500 Old Testament Survey and/or NT 501 New Testament Survey *as electives* (see *Bible Competency Exams*).

***Summative Evaluation:***

No thesis is required in the program, but an oral summative evaluation must be sustained. Students who have learned English as a second language may substitute a major integrative paper (see *Summative Evaluation for MA Students*).

***Program Recommendations:***

Students are required to take at least a year of a biblical language prior to matriculation and are encouraged to take at least a year of a modern research language (e.g. German, French, Dutch, Spanish) either prior to matriculation or as an elective in the program.

***Course Offerings:***

Most of the courses are drawn from the offerings of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, but the student also has the option of drawing upon the resources of the Boston Theological Institute, particularly in those areas where the seminary does not provide courses. Courses in ancient languages related to Bible study may be taken at the seminary as independent reading/research courses (710, 711, 760 and 860 courses) or at one of the Boston Theological Institute schools

***Area of Concentration (10 Courses)***

- GL 601 Intermediate Greek
- OL 610 Intermediate Hebrew Grammar
- OL 912 Aramaic
- NT 502 Interpreting the New Testament
- NT Narrative Book Exegesis (NT 611-619)
- NT Epistle Exegesis (NT 620-649)
- OT 511 Interpreting the Old Testament
- OT 600-Level Hebrew Exegesis (OT 600-670)
- OT 700-Level Hebrew Exegesis (OT 750 or 770)
- A related ancient language elective (e.g. Akkadian, Coptic, Eblaite, Egyptian, Hittite, Latin, Syriac, Sumerian, Ugaritic or additional *advanced* Hebrew or Greek course)

***Core Requirements (5 courses)***

- CH 500, Survey of Church History
- Ethics Course (Any ET or SE course)
- TH 501 Theology Survey I
- TH 502 Theology Survey II
- World Missions or Evangelism Course (Any WM or EV course)

***General Electives (5 Courses)***

*Note Bible competency requirement above*

### **Master of Arts in Biblical Languages Goals**

1. To understand the basic content and themes of the Old and New Testaments in their historical and cultural settings as well as the historical and theological dimensions of the Christian faith
2. To gain an intermediate competency with biblical Hebrew and Greek in order to develop exegetical and hermeneutical skills using the original languages, and also to acquire competency in ancient languages other than Hebrew and Greek
3. In keeping with the highest tradition of Christian scholarship, to develop advanced skills for biblical research and writing, using original languages, and to develop an awareness of important bibliographic resources
4. To foster love for God and his Word and therefore to cultivate the practices of spiritual maturity and Christ-like character, and to understand the Christian's ethical responsibility in church and society
5. To acquire a biblical perspective and Christian worldview on the forces in our culture and to learn to engage those as they are at work both outside and inside the life of the church
6. To understand the historical and theological development of the Christian faith in order to integrate this faith with global ethical and missiological issues.

## **MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATIONAL MINISTRIES**

### **Graduation Requirements**

Students participating in this degree program must complete 20 courses with a grade point average of 2.0 or more and be present for graduation exercises. No more than eight of the 20 courses may be taken at other schools in the Boston Theological Institute.

### **Degree Requirements**

#### ***EM Core Courses:***

Complete eight courses in Educational Ministries as specified below.

#### ***General Core Requirements:***

Complete eight courses in the areas of Biblical Studies and Christian Thought.

#### ***Mentored Ministry:***

Complete four units of Mentored Ministry in the area of Educational Ministries (*see Mentored Ministry*).

#### ***Bible Competency:***

All MA students must demonstrate Bible competency either by successfully completing the Old and/or New Testament survey courses or by passing the Bible competency exams. Those who do not pass the competency exams during their new student orientation, or elect not to sit for the exams, will be required to complete OT 500 Old Testament Survey and/or NT 501 New Testament Survey *as electives* (*see Bible Competency Exams*).

#### ***Integrative Seminar:***

Students are required to complete EM 810 Integrative Seminar in Educational Ministries after they have completed at least 10 seminary-level courses.

***Educational Ministries Core (8 Courses)***

- EM 502 Educational Ministry of the Church
- EM 604 The Teacher and the Teaching Task
- EM/MC 619 Congregational Leadership Development
- EM 650 Understanding Learners
- EM 710 Design for Learning
- EM/MC 810 Integrative Seminar in Educational Ministries
- 2 EM Electives

***General Core Requirements (8 courses)***

- CH 500 Survey of Church History
- Ethics Course (Any ET or SE course)
- New Testament course selected from the following:  
NT 502, NT 503, NT 504, NT 552/652, NT 564, NT 575/675, NT 577, NT 582 or NT 586
- Old Testament course selected from the following:  
OT 501, OT 502, OT 505, OT 577, OT 590 or OT 595
- Any NT or OT "In Depth" Course
- TH 501 Theology Survey I
- TH 502 Theology Survey II
- World Missions or Evangelism Course (Any WM or EV course)

***Mentored Ministry [4 units are required for graduation, but they do not count toward the 20-course requirement.]***

- EM/MM 501 Mentored Ministry Unit 1
- EM/MM 502 Mentored Ministry Unit 2
- EM/MM 601 Mentored Ministry Unit 3
- EM/MM 602 Mentored Ministry Unit 4

***General Electives (4 Courses)***

*Note Bible competency requirement above*

**Master of Arts in Educational Ministries Goals**

1. To understand the basic content and themes of the Old and New Testaments in their historical and cultural settings as well as the historical and theological dimensions of the Christian faith
2. To demonstrate the ability to faithfully and effectively teach the Bible in culturally relevant and appropriate ways
3. To foster love for God and his Word and therefore to cultivate the practices of spiritual maturity and Christ-like character, and to understand the Christian's ethical responsibility in church and society
4. To acquire a biblical perspective and Christian worldview on cultural influences and to learn to engage those as they are at work both outside and inside the life of the church
5. To gain exposure to and significant personal experience in life in and among peoples of cultural backgrounds other than one's own—both Christian and non-Christian

6. To faithfully and effectively present biblical truth, in both evangelistic and educational terms, to those who are not Christian believers.

## **MASTER OF ARTS IN COUNSELING**

### **Graduation Requirements**

The students participating in this degree program must complete the required courses and be present for graduation exercises. Students in the Mental Health and Marriage and Family tracks must maintain a grade point average of 3.0 or higher, while students in the World Missions track must maintain a grade point average of 2.0 or higher. No more than 8 courses may be taken toward the MACO at other schools in the Boston Theological Institute.

### **Degree Requirements**

#### ***Number of Courses:***

The number of courses required in the program will vary, depending on which track is selected. More than 20 courses are required for the Marriage and Family Therapist and the Mental Health Counselor tracks in order to meet Gordon-Conwell's expectation of a biblical and theological core as well as expectations of agencies which certify counselors. Twenty courses are required for the World Missions track (which does not lead to counseling licensure).

#### ***General Core Requirements:***

Complete at least six courses in the areas of Biblical Studies and Christian Thought.

#### ***Marriage and Family Track:***

Students who are seeking counseling licenses in the state of Massachusetts must complete the 12 courses noted below for fulfilling marriage and family licensure requirements.

#### ***Mental Health Track:***

Students who are seeking counseling licenses in the state of Massachusetts must complete the 12 courses noted below for fulfilling mental health licensure requirements.

#### ***World Missions Track:***

Students who desire to provide counseling and training in counseling on the mission field and do not seek professional licensing should consider the World Missions Track of the MACO degree. For specific course requirements, please see the checklist below.

#### ***Bible Competency:***

All MACO students must demonstrate Bible competency either by successfully completing the Old and/or New Testament survey courses, or by passing the Bible competency exams during their new student orientation. Those who do not pass the competency exams, or elect not to sit for the exams, will be required to complete OT 500 Old Testament Survey and/or NT 501 New Testament Survey *as electives or as additional courses in tracks that do not contain electives* (see *Bible Competency Exams*).

#### ***Marriage and Family Track and Mental Health Track:***

### **General Core Requirements (6-9\* courses)**

- CH 500 Survey of Church History
- Ethics Course (Any ET or SE course)
- New Testament course selected from the following:  
NT 502, NT 503, NT 504, NT 552/652, NT 564, NT 575/675, NT 577, NT 582 or NT 586
- Old Testament course selected from the following:  
OT 501, OT 502, OT 505, OT 577, OT 590 or OT 595
- TH 501 Theology Survey I
- TH 502 Theology Survey II
- World Missions or Evangelism course (Any WM or EV course)  
*\*Students who complete CO/WM712 as part of their concentration may waive the World Missions core requirement*
- OT500 Old Testament Survey  
*\*For those who do not pass the OT competency exam*
- NT 501 New Testament Survey  
*\*For those who do not pass the NT competency exam*

### **Practicum/Internship (4 courses)**

- CO 863A & 863B Clinical Practicum 1 & 2
- Choose from the following:  
CO 864A & 864B Clinical Internship 1 & 2 for Marriage and Family Track  
CO 865A & 865B Clinical Internship 1 & 2 for Mental Health Track

### **Professional Seminars (4 courses)**

- CO 871A & 871B Prof. Practicum Sem. 1 & 2
- Choose from the following:  
CO 872A & 872B Prof. Internship Sem. 1 & 2 for Marriage and Family Track  
CO 873A & 873B Prof. Internship Sem. 1 & 2 for Mental Health Track

### **Colloquium (1 course)**

- CO 801A & 801B Integrative Seminar (each is a "half course" of 1.5 credit hours)

*Note Bible competency requirement above*

### **Concentration Requirements (12 Courses)**

#### ***Mental Health Track***

- CO 500 Introduction to Counseling
- CO 610 Advanced Developmental Psychology
- CO 611 Theories of Personality
- CO 699 Research Methods & Design
- CO 710 Psychopathology
- CO/PC 711 Group Process
- CO/WM 712 Cross-Cultural Counseling
- CO 790 Professional Standards
- Choice of one from the following:  
CO 730 Psych. Testing: Cognitive Intellectual Evaluation

- CO 732 Psych. Testing: Personality Development
- *Choice of one from the following Special Treatment Issues:*
    - CH/CO/ET 602 Human Sexuality\*
    - CO 709 Counseling in Addictive Behaviors
    - CO 714 Family Counseling/Therapy
    - CO 716 Marital Therapy
    - CO/PC 717 Counseling in Abuse and Domestic Violence
    - CO 720 Children in Therapy
    - CO/PC/YM 725 Counseling the Adolescent
    - CO 740 Career Counseling and Lifestyle Development
    - CO/EM/PC 741 Counseling the Aged: Intro to Gerontology
  - *Choice of two from the following **or** from the Special Treatment Issues list above:*
    - CO 614 Family Systems Theory
    - CO 615 Sociology of the Family
    - or- CO/MC 642 Ministering to Women in Pain
    - CO 616 Cognitive Psychology

*\*Note: If CH/CO/ET 602 is used to fulfill a mental health counseling requirement above, then it cannot also fulfill the general core ethics requirement.*

### ***Marriage and Family Track***

- CO 500 Introduction to Counseling
- CO 610 Advanced Developmental Psychology
- CO 611 Theories of Personality
- CO 614 Family Systems Theory
- CO 699 Research Methods & Design
- CO 710 Psychopathology
- CO 714 Family Counseling/Therapy
- CO 716 Marital Therapy
- CO 790 Professional Standards
- *Choice of three from the following:*
  - CO 615 Sociology of the Family
  - or- CO/MC 642 Ministering to Women in Pain
  - CO/WM 712 Cross-Cultural Counseling
  - CO/PC 717 Counseling in Abuse and Domestic Violence
  - CO 720 Children in Therapy
  - CO/PC/YM 725 Counseling the Adolescent
  - CO/EM/PC 741 Counseling the Aged: Intro to Gerontology

### ***World Missions Track:***

#### ***General Core Requirements (6 courses)***

- CH 500 Survey of Church History
- Ethics course (Any ET or SE course)
- New Testament course selected from the following:
  - NT 502, NT 503, NT 504, NT 552/652, NT 564, NT 575/675, NT 577, NT 582 or NT 586
- Old Testament course selected from the following:

OT 501, OT 502, OT 505, OT 577, OT 590 or OT 595

- TH 501 Theology Survey I
- TH 502 Theology Survey II

***Counseling Concentration Requirements (6 courses)***

- CO 500 Introduction to Counseling
- CO 614 Family Systems Theory
- CO 615 Sociology of the Family
- CO/WM 712 Cross-Cultural Counseling
- CO 714 Family Counseling/Therapy
- CO 716 Marital Therapy

***World Missions Concentration Requirements (4 courses)***

- WM 601 World Mission of the Church
- TH/WM 602 Theology of Mission
- WM 722 Applied Anthropology for Missions
- *Choice of one from the following:*
  - WM 603 History of Missions
  - CH/WM 610 Advance of the Church in the Non-Western World

***Practicum/Internship (2 courses)***

- WM 720 Overseas Missions Practicum Orientation
- *Choose from the following:*
  - CO 863A & 863B Clinical Practicum 1 & 2
  - WM 721 Overseas Missions Practicum

***Electives (2 courses)***

*Note Bible competency requirements above*

**Master of Arts in Counseling Goals**

1. To understand the basic content and themes of the Old and New Testaments in their historical and cultural settings, as well as the historical and theological dimensions of the Christian faith
2. To demonstrate academic excellence in the ability to communicate effectively materials from the study of psychology and the biblical, historical and theological disciplines
3. To integrate psychological theory with biblical truth so that the knowledge and skills learned in studies and practice will be realized in professional application
4. To evidence a commitment to the authority of Scripture in personal and community relationships, as well as a personal commitment to spiritual formation
5. To foster love for God and his Word and therefore to cultivate the practices of spiritual maturity and Christ-like character, and to understand the Christian's ethical responsibility in church and society
6. To gain experience in an understanding of cultural backgrounds toward effective expression of biblical truth, with the goal of ministering to Christians and to those who are not Christian believers
7. To demonstrate an awareness of national, racial, ethnic and cultural factors that impinge upon the teaching and modeling of biblical truth, and to develop the capacity for a critical evaluation of important cultural changes within the discipline of counseling.

# **MASTER OF ARTS IN WORLD MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM**

## **Graduation Requirements**

Students in this program must complete 20 courses with a grade point average of 2.0 or more and be present for graduation exercises. No more than 8 of the 20 courses may be taken at other schools in the Boston Theological Institute.

## **Degree Requirements**

### ***Area of Concentration:***

Complete eight courses in an area of concentration within the MAME degree: General Track, Church Planting Track, Cross-Cultural Teaching Track.

### ***Language Requirement:***

Complete at least two semesters of a second language (or demonstrate equivalent proficiency therein). This requirement may be satisfied by the completion of equivalent study at the Summer Institute of Linguistics (*see Associated Study Opportunities*). Fulfillment of the language requirement will be determined by the program director, taking into account the student's background and vocational goals.

### ***General Core Requirements:***

Complete six courses in the areas of Biblical Studies and Christian Thought.

### ***Bible Competency:***

All MAME students must demonstrate Bible competency either by successfully completing the Old and/or New Testament survey courses, or by passing the Bible competency exams during their new student orientation. Those who do not pass the competency exams, or elect not to sit for the exams, will be required to complete OT 500 Old Testament Survey and/or NT 501 New Testament Survey *as electives or additional courses if electives are unavailable* (see *Bible Competency Exams*).

### ***Summative Evaluation:***

A summative evaluation is required of all MAME students and will take the form of an integrative paper and oral exam. For students who have learned English as a second language, an increased integrative paper may replace the oral exam (see *Summative Evaluation for MA Students*).

## **Students in all MAME tracks must complete the following courses:**

### ***General Core Requirements (6 courses)***

- CH 500 Survey of Church History
- Ethics course (Any ET or SE course)
- New Testament course selected from the following:  
NT 502, NT 503, NT 504, NT 552/652, NT 564, NT 575/675, NT 577, NT 582 or NT 586
- Old Testament course selected from the following:  
OT 501, OT 502, OT 505, OT 577, OT 590 or OT 595

- TH 501 Theology Survey I
- TH 502 Theology Survey II

***Practicum (2 courses)***

*Choose from one of the following two sequences:*

- WM 720 Overseas Missions Practicum Orientation
- WM 721 Overseas Missions Practicum

*or*

- MC 621 Inner City Ministry Sequence I: Context for Ministry
- MC 622 Inner City Ministry Sequence II

*Students who choose to replace OMP with Inner City Ministry I and II must be living in an urban context for that year.*

***Language Requirement (2 courses)***

- GL or OL 501 or alternative language
- GL or OL 502 or alternative language

***Personal & Professional Development (2 courses)***

- MC 501 Spiritual Formation
- General Elective

*Note Bible competency requirements above*

**All MAME students must select one of the following areas of concentration:**

**General Track (8 Courses)**

- WM 601 The World Mission of the Church
- TH/WM 602 Theology of Mission
- EV/WM 665 Church Planting & Growth
- Choice of one from the following:*
  - EV 501, Personal Evangelism through the Local Church
  - EV 683 Small Group Evangelism
- Choice of one from the following:*
  - EV 673, Modern Culture & Evangelism
  - WM 722 Applied Anthropology for Missions
- Choice of one from the following:*
  - AP/WM 645 Introduction to Hinduism
  - AP/WM 646 Introduction to Buddhism
  - AP/WM 647 Introduction to Islam
  - TH/WM 626 Evangelical Perspectives on Roman Catholicism & Eastern Orthodoxy
  - TH/WM 659 Evangelical Theology & World Religions
- 2 WM or EV Electives

**Church Planting Track (8 Courses)**

- WM 601 The World Mission of the Church
- TH/WM 602 Theology of Mission
- Choice of one from the following:*

- EV 501 Personal Evangelism through the Local Church
- EV 683 Small Group Evangelism
- *Choice of one from the following:*
  - WM 648 Cross-Cultural Church Planting
  - EV/WM 665 Church Planting & Growth
- *Choice of one from the following:*
  - WM 625 Missions After Communism
  - WM 722 Applied Anthropology for Missions
- *Two from the following:*
  - AP/WM 645 Introduction to Hinduism
  - AP/WM 646 Introduction to Buddhism
  - AP/WM 647 Introduction to Islam
  - TH/WM 626 Evangelical Perspectives on Roman Catholicism & Eastern Orthodoxy
- WM or EV Elective

### **Cross-Cultural Teaching Track (8 Courses)**

- *Two from the following:*
  - WM 601 The World Mission of the Church
  - TH/WM 602 Theology of Mission
  - WM 603 History of Missions
- *Choice of one from the following:*
  - EV 501 Personal Evangelism through the Local Church
  - EV 683 Small Group Evangelism
- *Choice of one from the following:*
  - EM/EV 610 Use of Media in Teaching & Evangelism
  - EM/WM 657 Educational Ministry in Cultural Perspective
  - WM 682 Introduction to TESOL: Methods & Materials
- *Choice of one from the following:*
  - CH/WM 610 Advance of the Church in the Non-Western World
  - WM 722 Applied Anthropology for Missions
  - AP 602 Cultural Apologetics
- *Two from the following:*
  - AP/WM 645 Introduction to Hinduism
  - AP/WM 646 Introduction to Buddhism
  - AP/WM 647 Introduction to Islam
  - TH/WM 659 Evangelical Theology & World Religions
- WM or EV Elective

### **Islamic Studies Track (8 Courses)**

- *Choice of one from the following:*
  - WM 601 The World Mission of the Church
  - TH/WM 602 Theology of Mission
- *Choice of one from the following:*
  - WM 603 History of Missions
  - CH/WM 610 Advance of the Church in the Non-Western World

- *Choice of one from the following:*
  - AP 602 Cultural Apologetics
  - WM 722 Applied Anthropology for Missions
- WM 628 Christian Approaches to Islam
- AP/WM 647 Introduction to Islam
- WM 648 Cross-Cultural Church Planting
- AP/WM 747 Critical Issues in the Christian Mission to Muslims
- *Choice of one from the following:*
  - WM 725 Theology of Islam & Implications for Ministry to Muslims
  - WM 726 Ministry to Folk Muslims
  - WM or EV Elective

### **Master of Arts in Missions and Evangelism Goals**

1. To understand the basic content and themes of the Old and New Testaments in their historical and cultural settings, as well as the historical and theological dimensions of the Christian faith
2. To become familiar with the basic contours of the history of Christian missions
3. To experience a field-specific, cross-cultural mission internship so as to develop the skills and a deep commitment to the worldwide communication of the gospel in strategic partnership with the global church
4. To foster love for God and his Word and therefore to cultivate the practices of spiritual maturity and Christ-like character, and to understand the Christian's ethical responsibility in church and society
5. To appreciate and be sensitive to the cultural, religious and social contexts of the peoples of the world and develop appropriate strategies for communicating the gospel into those contexts, with a special emphasis on those who currently have no access to the gospel or where the church is not yet viable
6. To engage in biblical and theological reflections which are particularly essential for effective cross-cultural ministries.

## **MASTER OF ARTS IN RELIGION**

### **Graduation Requirements**

Students in this program must complete 60 credit hours with a grade point average of 2.0 or more and be present for graduation exercises. No more than 8 courses may be taken at other schools in the Boston Theological Institute.

### **Program Director**

The director of the MAR program serves as the primary contact for MAR students and is available to provide counsel and assist students in developing their programs and integrative paper/project proposals.

*Exception:* Students in the Workplace Theology, Ethics, and Leadership concentration will work with the Mockler-Phillips Professor of Workplace Theology and Business Ethics as their director.

## **Degree Requirements**

### ***Area of Concentration:***

Complete six courses in one area to constitute a concentration. These courses will be determined in consultation with the director of the MAR program. No more than two concentration courses may be taken at the 500-level except by permission of the MAR director. The concentration chosen may alter the general core requirements listed below. For example, if a student concentrates in theology, then the core requirements are reduced by two courses (TH 501 & TH 502). This, in effect, would increase the student's available electives from three to five.

*Exception:* Students in the Workplace Theology, Ethics, and Leadership concentration must take the equivalent of 10 courses (30 credit hours) in their area of concentration by completing six 5-credit hour intensives (see below).

### ***Language Requirement:***

Complete at least two semesters of a second language (or demonstrate equivalent proficiency therein). Fulfillment of this requirement will be determined by the MAR director, taking into account the area of concentration, the student's background and vocational goals.

*Exception:* Students in the Workplace Theology, Ethics, and Leadership concentration do not have any language requirements.

### ***General Core Requirements:***

Complete up to eight courses in the areas of Biblical Studies, Christian Thought and Practical Theology. Depending on one's declared concentration, the number of required courses may vary.

### ***General Electives:***

Complete at least three elective courses.

*Exception:* Students in the Workplace Theology, Ethics, and Leadership concentration have only two elective courses.

### ***Bible Competency:***

All MAR students must demonstrate Bible competency either by successfully completing the Old and/or New Testament survey courses, or by passing the Bible competency exams during their new student orientation. Those who do not pass the competency exams, or elect not to sit for the exams, will be required to complete OT 500 Old Testament Survey and/or NT 501 New Testament Survey *as electives*.

*(See Bible Competency Exams)*

### ***Learning Covenant:***

Before the completion of six courses, MAR students must draft a learning covenant for discussion with and approval by the MAR director. (Students in the Workplace Theology, Ethics, and Leadership concentration will submit a personal learning covenant as part of their intensive

residencies.) The form for such contracts and related documents must contain the following: Statement of purpose specifying a vocational goal or other organizing principle for the program; Specification of the 20 courses required, organized as to area of concentration, general courses, language (if required), and electives, with rationale describing how these courses contribute to the student's stated vocational goals; tentative integrative paper or project title. (Any changes made to the learning covenant after initial approval must be accomplished via the formal waiver process. See *Waivers*)

***MAR Integrative Paper or Project:***

Complete an integrative paper or project equivalent to one course credit. Before completion of the tenth course, the student is to submit a paper or project proposal for approval by the MAR program director. Successful completion of 10 courses plus approval of the proposal admits the student to candidacy for the degree. The student is responsible for providing two finished copies (one paper and one on either floppy disk or CD-ROM) of the integrative paper or project and to sign Gordon-Conwell's *Copyright Release Form for Deposited Student Works*, as well as copyright release forms for vendors, and pay the appropriate binding fees.

*(See Integrative Paper or Project for the MAR and Style Guidelines)*

***Area of Concentration (6 courses)***

- 6 courses in the area of concentration, as approved by the program director

***General Core Requirements (8 courses maximum)***

- CH 500 Survey of Church History
- Ethics course (Any ET or SE course)
- New Testament: select *one* from the following:  
NT 502, NT 503, NT 504, NT 552/652, NT 564, NT 575/675, NT 577, NT 582 or NT 586
- Old Testament: select *one* from the following:  
OT 501, OT 502, OT 505, OT 577, OT 590 or OT 595
- TH 501 Theology Survey I
- TH 502 Theology Survey II
- World Missions or Evangelism course (Any WM or EV course)
- One course selected from the Division of Practical Theology  
(EM, EV, MC, PC, PR, YM)

***Integrative Paper or Project (1 course)***

***Language Requirement (2 courses)***

- GL or OL 501 or alternative language
- GL or OL 502 or alternative language

***Electives (at least 3 courses)***

*Note Bible competency requirement above*

## **Workplace Theology, Ethics, and Leadership Concentration:**

### ***Area of Concentration (six 5-credit hour courses)***

- MK1011, Workplace Theology (5cr)
- MK1012, Workplace Ethics (5cr)
- MK1023, Finance and Marketing in Christian Perspective (5cr)
- MK1024, Technology and Entrepreneurship in Christian Perspective (5cr)
- MK1035, Globalization and Development in Christian Perspective (5 cr)
- MK1036, Workplace Leadership in Church and Society (5 cr)

### ***General Core Requirements (7 courses)***

- CH 500 Survey of Church History
- ET 501 Christian Ethics
- New Testament: select *one* from the following:  
NT 502, NT 503, NT 504, NT 552/652, NT 564, NT 575/675, NT 577, NT 582 or  
NT 586
- Old Testament: select *one* from the following:  
OT 501, OT 502, OT 505, OT 577, OT 590 or OT 595
- TH 501 Theology Survey I
- TH 502 Theology Survey II
- World Missions or Evangelism course (Any WM or EV course)

### ***Integrative Paper or Project (1 course)***

### ***Electives (2 courses)***

*Note Bible competency requirement above*

## **Master of Arts in Religion Degree Goals**

1. To understand the basic content and themes of the Old and New Testaments in their historical and cultural settings as well as the historical and theological dimensions of the Christian faith
2. To be exposed to a rigorous study and practice of theology in its various disciplines through diverse faculty voices
3. To demonstrate integration through a cumulative educational experience that embraces both academic preparation and life experiences
4. To foster passionate commitment to ministry through individualized and flexible course of study and faculty involvement
5. To foster love for God and his Word and therefore to cultivate the practices of spiritual maturity and Christ-like character, and to understand the Christian's ethical responsibility in church and society
6. To acquire a biblical perspective and Christian worldview on the forces in our culture and to learn to engage those as they are at work both outside and inside the life of the church
7. To develop a global vision for the Christian church.

## **MASTER OF THEOLOGY**

### **Graduation Requirements**

Students participating in the Master of Theology program must complete eight courses with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher and be present for graduation ceremonies.

No more than two courses may be taken at schools in the Boston Theological Institute, and these only by approval of the Th.M. Directors.

### **Th.M. Program Directors**

Each student designs his or her coursework in consultation with a Th.M. program director. There are three program directors, one over the Th.M. tracks in Biblical Studies, one supervising the Th.M. tracks in Christian Thought and one directing the Th.M. in Preaching.

### **Degree Requirements**

#### ***Area of Concentration:***

At least five courses will be taken in an area of concentration. These courses will be determined in consultation with a Th.M. Director, and their number may be reduced if the student is invited to write a thesis (see *Th.M. Writing Project* or *Thesis*)

#### ***Th.M. Research Seminar:***

Students must complete a Master of Theology Research Methods Seminar appropriate to the concentration, which counts as one course.

#### ***Language Requirement:***

A student electing to enroll in one of the Biblical Studies Division tracks must have successfully completed one year of biblical Greek and one year of biblical Hebrew prior to beginning the program. A student who has the minimal language requirements but is deficient in either Greek or Hebrew exegesis, as determined by the relevant Th.M. director, may be required to take basic exegesis courses as part of their required course load. A student electing to enroll in one of the Christian Thought Division tracks or the Division of Practical Theology track may be required to pass an examination in Latin or a modern research language where appropriate to the student's research interest. This will be determined by the relevant Th.M. director.

#### ***Electives:***

No more than two courses may be taken in an area outside but related to the student's area of concentration. The relevant Th.M. director must approve the courses.

#### ***Th.M. Writing Course or Thesis:***

Every Th.M. student should select, in consultation with their Th.M. director, one course (from their concentration) in which they plan to complete the Th.M. Writing Course (making use of the "Writing Course Petition" available in the Registration Office). In this course, they will write one major research paper, giving evidence of competencies similar to those demonstrated in the thesis.

Students who have demonstrated the capacity to write a thesis in prior coursework and have been invited to write a thesis by their Th.M. director, are exempt from the Th.M. Writing Course. Instead, they will complete a thesis registered as two of the student's required courses (see *Thesis*). Because of the nature of preaching, students in this track are excused from the thesis/writing course requirement. They will complete their eight courses under the supervision of the director of the Th.M. Preaching Track.

***Th.M.-Level Coursework:***

At least one-half the courses must be taken on the Th.M. level (900 level), either through courses designed exclusively for advanced level studies, or by taking M.A. or M.Div. courses which are also being offered by the course instructor on an advanced level for Th.M. students. Independent study courses are also possible, since the Th.M. is a research degree. No courses offered in the seminary's D.Min. program are available for Th.M. credit.

***Th.M. Approved Program Plan:***

Students are required to meet with their Th.M. director during the first two weeks of their first semester to establish a program plan. (Students who do not submit an Approved Program Plan to the Registration Office will be deregistered from all current courses and prevented from registering for future courses.) This plan will list the courses the student intends to complete in order to fulfill his or her program requirements. A copy, signed by student and director, will then be submitted to the Registration Office for degree tracking purposes.

**Biblical Studies Division Tracks:**

***Master of Theology***

***Old Testament Concentration (8 Courses)***

- 3 OT courses - No more than one Ancient Near Eastern language course (OL 610 or above)
- OT 991 Thesis part I or OT Elective
- OT 992 Thesis part II or Th.M. OT Writing Course
- NT/OT 901 Seminar in Biblical Theology
- Elective in Biblical Studies
- Elective in Biblical Studies

***Master of Theology***

***New Testament Concentration (8 Courses)***

- 3 NT courses - No more than one language course (OL 912, GL 601 or above)
- NT 991 Thesis part I or NT Elective
- NT 992 Thesis part II or Th.M. NT Writing Course
- NT/OT 901 Seminar in Biblical Theology
- Elective in Biblical Studies
- Elective in Biblical Studies

***Master of Theology***

***Biblical Theology Concentration (8 Courses)***

- 3 NT or OT courses - No more than one language course (GL 601/OL 610 or above)
- NT/OT 991 Thesis part I or NT or OT Elective
- NT/OT 992 Thesis part II or Th.M. NT or OT Writing Course
- NT/OT 901 Seminar in Biblical Theology
- Elective in Biblical Studies
- Elective in Biblical Studies

**Christian Thought Division Tracks:**

***Master of Theology***

***Church History, Historical Theology, Theology, Theology and Culture and Missiology Concentrations (8 Courses)***

- 3 courses appropriate to the concentration (CH or TH or WM)
- Thesis part I or additional concentration course
- Thesis part II or Th.M. Writing Course
- CH/TH/WM 901 Th.M. Research Seminar in Christian Thought
- Approved Elective
- Approved Elective

**Practical Theology Division Track:**

***Preaching (8 Courses)***

- 4 Courses in Preaching
- PR 926A/B The Preacher and the Message
- PR 901 Th.M. Research Seminar in Preaching
- Approved Elective
- Approved Elective

**Master of Theology Degree Goals**

1. To gain greater competency and skill in an area of specialization by employing the most valuable research methods and resources for the specialized area of study with rigor and excellence, in keeping with the highest tradition of Christian scholarship and to gain the capacity to formulate productive questions for further investigation
2. To build upon the strengths of the M.Div. program by sharpening skills in biblical exegesis and knowledge and understanding of God's inerrant Word, as it applies to the area of specialization
3. To carry out the specialized studies within the highest tradition of Christian scholarship with rigor and excellence
4. To engage with contemporary issues in the area of specialization from the framework of a biblical worldview.