

Master of Divinity (M.Div.)

Pursue your calling at Perkins

Do you feel called to proclaim God's love? Our M.Div. Program is designed primarily for students who plan to be ordained clergy and serve in Word, Sacrament, Service and Order. It may also equip a person for other specialized ministries. You may go on to lead congregations as an Ordained Elder or Deacon in the United Methodist Church or can be ordained in other Christian denominations.

The M.Div. Program consists of 73 hours of academic credit, including a paid internship. You will also:

- Interpret scripture effectively and practically
- Develop a greater understanding of the life and thought of the Christian community in its historical expressions and of the interrelations between Christianity and global culture
- Engage in constructive theological and ethical reflection
- Strengthen your preaching potential through worship practicums and homiletic courses
- Choose a concentration to direct your study, or tailor your elective coursework to match your personal interests
- Enhance your gifts for ministry with seminary peer partners and professional persons in the field during a nine-month, paid internship

Some of the courses you will be taking in the M.Div. Program are:

Basic Theological Studies, History of Christianity, Basic Ministerial Studies and Contextual Studies



At Perkins School of Theology, you will gain a balance of academic preparedness and hands-on learning to equip you for ministry and leadership in the church of the 21st century.

Learn more about the M.Div. degree program at smu.edu/mdiv

Focus: Primarily for students who plan to be ordained clergy and serve in Word, Sacrament, Service and Order. It may also equip a person for other specialized ministries

Credit Hours: 73
(64 w/ 9 hr. internship)

Ministry Paths: Lead pastor, ordained elder/deacon in the UMC or ordained in other denominations (necessary to check with ordaining bodies in particular denominations)



"I'm forever grateful for my Perkins education. It provided me with the foundation and tools for a lifetime of ministry."

Adam Hamilton
1988 Perkins
M.Div. Graduate

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AREAS OF STUDY		CREDIT HOURS	COURSEWORK
Basic Theological Studies Credit Hours: 27	Biblical Studies	3	OT 6301 Interpretation of the Old Testament I
		3	OT 6302 Interpretation of the Old Testament II
		3	NT 6301 Interpretation of the New Testament I
		3	NT 6302 Interpretation of the New Testament II
	History of Christianity	3	HX 6305 The Christian Heritage I
		3	HX 6306 The Christian Heritage II
	Theology	3	ST 6301 Interpretation of the Christian Message I
		3	ST 6302 Interpretation of the Christian Message II
		3	MT 6303 Moral Theology
Basic Ministerial Studies Credit Hours: 6		3	PR 6300 Introduction to Preaching
		3	WO 6313 Word and Worship
Contextual Studies Credit Hours: 6		3	XS 6301 The Church in Its Social Context
		3	HR 6302 Interfaith Studies, Comparative Theology, and Ministry
Spiritual Formation Credit Hours: 1		.5	XX 6104 Spiritual Formation I
		.5	XX 6104 Spiritual Formation II
Electives Credit Hours: 24	UM Ordination Requirements*	3	HX 7365 United Methodist History
		1.5	ST 7034 United Methodist Doctrine
		1.5	CA 7013 United Methodist Polity
		3	EV 7307 The Theory and Practice of Evangelism
	Opportunity for Concentration		Christian Education, Urban Ministry, Theology and Social Justice, Christian Spirituality, Evangelism and Mission, Customized Concentration
Internship Credit Hours: 9		9	Supervised Internship



Learn more

at one of our exploratory discernment events (both in-person and virtual).



Request information

by visiting our Admission website.



Perkins friends and alums,

we invite you to refer prospective students here.