

**Recommended Sequence of Courses for
Church History Track**

Year 1 - Fall

BI 150 Intro to Bible
HT 101 History of Christianity
HT 201 Religion in America
HT 240 Christian Spirituality
_____ Elective
ID 406 MAR Retreat

Year 1 - Spring

BI 164 Gospels
(or BI274 Pauline in Yr 2)
HT 102 History of Christianity
HT 455 Religion in South
HT 140 Lutheran Confessions*
_____ Elective

Year 2 - Fall

BI 201 Hebrew Bible
HT 251 Intro to Theology
CM 201 Intro to Worship
HT 234 16th c. Reformations
_____ Elective
ID 407 MAR Colloquium

Year 2 - Spring

BI 274 Pauline (if needed)
HT 252 Intro to Theology
HT 425 Lutherans in NA*
_____ Elective
_____ Elective
ID 408 MAR Colloquium

*Non-Lutheran students substitute appropriate denominationally -specific courses for HT140 and HT425 when they are offered in the curriculum. In addition, UMC and Baptist students must also utilize one elective slot to fulfill their three required denominationally -specific courses. See page 3.

Other Requirements

Cross Cultural Experience (usually January of Year 1)



LUTHERAN THEOLOGICAL
SOUTHERN
SEMINARY

**Guidelines for the
Master of Arts in Religion
Degree Program**

The Master of Arts in Religion (MAR) Degree program is a two-year course of study designed to meet a number of needs. The degree prepares persons for lay church occupations such as in Christian Education, Youth Ministry, Diaconal Ministry, or for teaching religious subjects on a secondary or post-secondary level. The degree is also helpful for persons desiring theological perspective or a broad background in the theological disciplines prior to further graduate study or for personal growth.

These guidelines supplement the current academic catalog, which contains further information on policies and procedures at Southern Seminary.

Degree requirements

The MAR curriculum allows the student considerable freedom to construct a program of study according to vocational goals. Of the 61 total credit hours required for graduation, 30 are in required courses which give biblical and theological foundations. The core curriculum consists of:

- Core Courses (30 total hours; 3 credit hours each)
- Cross-Cultural experience (1 credit hour)
- MAR Retreat (entering students; no credit hours)
- MAR Colloquium (senior students; no credit hours)

In addition to the core curriculum, students choose one of the seven tracks (areas of specialization) to complete the required 61 credit hours: Christian Education, Biblical Studies, Diaconal Ministry, Theological Studies, Christian Spirituality, Congregational Ministry, or Church History.

Students must choose a track before registering for their second semester (full-time students) or their twelfth credit hour (part-time students). Students may also, in consultation with the Dean, design an individualized track in order to meet personal interests and goals. Once an area of specialization is chosen, students are encouraged to follow the recommended sequence of courses.

With the approval of the Dean, students may transfer in certain credit hours of graduate level course work from other accredited institutions. The MAR degree at Southern Seminary requires one year residency and a minimum of 31 credit hours taken at the Seminary campus.

Candidacy Process

The candidacy process is separate from, but related to, the academic degree process. Students who intend to become lay rostered leaders in the ELCA should contact their synodical candidacy committees as soon as possible. The candidacy process is a shared responsibility between the candidate and the committee.

Recommended Sequence of Courses for Congregational Ministry Track

Year 1 - Fall

BI 150 Intro to Bible
HT 101 History of Christianity
CM 141 Pastoral Care
_____ Elective
_____ Elective
CM 103 Field Education
ID 406 MAR Retreat
CM 101 Worship Practicum (strongly recommended)

Year 1 - Spring

BI 164 Gospels
(or BI274 Pauline in Yr 2)
HT 102 History of Christianity
CM 122 Preaching & Christian Yr
HT 140 Lutheran Confessions*
_____ Elective
CM 104 Field Education

Year 2 - Fall

BI 201 Hebrew Bible
HT 251 Intro to Theology
CM 201 Intro to Worship
CM 208 Occasional Services
CM 261 Educational Ministry
CM 203 Field Education
ID 407 MAR Colloquium

Year 2 - Spring

BI 274 Pauline (if needed)
HT 252 Intro to Theology
HT 425 Lutherans in NA*
_____ Elective
_____ Elective
ID 408 MAR Colloquium

*Non-Lutheran students substitute appropriate denominationally-specific courses for HT140 and HT425 when they are offered in the curriculum. In addition, UMC and Baptist students must also utilize one elective slot to fulfill their three required denominationally-specific courses. See page 3.

Other Requirements

Cross Cultural Experience (usually January of Year 1)

Recommended Sequence of Courses for Christian Spirituality Track

Year 1 - Fall

BI 150 Intro to Bible
 HT 101 History of Christianity
 HT 240 Christian Spirituality
 CM 141 Pastoral Care
 _____ Elective
 CM 103 Field Education
 ID 406 MAR Retreat
 CM 101 Worship Practicum (strongly recommended)

Year 1 - Spring

BI 164 Gospels
 (or BI274 Pauline in Yr 2)
 HT 102 History of Christianity
 HT 140 Lutheran Confessions*
 _____ Elective
 _____ Elective
 CM 104 Field Education

Year 2 - Fall

BI 201 Hebrew Bible
 HT 251 Intro to Theology
 CM 201 Intro to Worship
 HT 467 Theology of Salvation
 _____ Elective
 CM 203 Field Education
 ID 407 MAR Colloquium

Year 2 - Spring

BI 274 Pauline (if needed)
 HT 252 Intro to Theology
 HT 425 Lutherans in NA*
 HT 000 Guided Readings
 _____ Elective
 ID 408 MAR Colloquium

*Non-Lutheran students substitute appropriate denominationally -specific courses for HT140 and HT425 when they are offered in the curriculum. In addition, UMC and Baptist students must also utilize one elective slot to fulfill their three required denominationally -specific courses. See page 3.

Other Requirements

Cross Cultural Experience (usually January of Year 1)

Required Core Courses

All MAR Students

BI 150 Introduction to the Bible
 BI 164 Gospels OR } Choose one
 BI 274 Pauline Studies }
 BI 201 Hebrew Bible: Literature & Theology
 CM 201 Introduction to Christian Worship
 HT 101 History of Christianity
 HT 102 History of Christianity
 HT 251 Introduction to Theology
 HT 252 Introduction to Theology

Denominationally-Specific Courses

As part of the required core curriculum, students also take courses specific to their denominational traditions.

ELCA: HT 140 Lutheran Confessions
 HT 425 Lutheranism in North America
 UMC: CM 270 Polity of the UMC
 HT 215 History of the UMC
 HT 216 Theology of the UMC
 Baptist: CM 271 Leadership and Baptist Polity
 HT 217 Baptist History
 HT 218 Baptist Theology
 Other Traditions: HT 201 Religion in America

Remaining required elements of the core curriculum for all students

ID 406 MAR Retreat
 ID 407 Fall MAR Colloquium
 ID 408 Spring MAR Colloquium
 Cross Cultural Experience (one credit hour)

The MAR Retreat and the MAR Colloquia are designed to help students integrate theory and practice. ID 406 is a fall semester retreat required of all entering students. Senior MAR students (27-credit hours or more) take ID 407/408, consisting of three sessions in the fall and three in the spring. The Retreat and the Colloquia are convened by Seminary faculty.

MAR TRACKS
(Areas of Specialization)

These required courses are in addition to the Core Courses listed elsewhere.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

- | | | |
|----------------|--|--------------|
| CM 141 | Theology of Pastoral Care | |
| CM 261 | Educational Ministry | |
| CM 453 | Educational Ministry with Adults | |
| CM 463 | Educational Ministry with Youth | } Choose one |
| CM 464 | Ministry with Children and Families | |
| CM 103/104/203 | Field Education (3 semesters) | |
| CM 101 | Worship Practicum—strongly recommended | |

BIBLICAL STUDIES

- | | |
|--------|--|
| BI 000 | Biblical Greek (no credit hours) |
| BI 101 | Biblical Hebrew |
| BI 102 | Hebrew Bible: Exegesis and History |
| BI 107 | Greek Readings (one credit hour) |
| BI 164 | Gospels OR BI 274 Pauline Studies
[whichever is not taken as core course] |
| BI 451 | New Testament Theology |

DIACONAL MINISTRY

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| CM 122 | Preaching and the Christian Year |
| CM 141 | Theology of Pastoral Care |
| HT 481 | Christian Ethics |
| ID 402 | Christian Mission in a Pluralistic World |
| CM 103/104/203 | Field Education (3 semesters) |
| CM 101 | Worship Practicum—strongly recommended |

**Recommended Sequence of Courses for
Theological Studies Track**

Year 1 - Fall

- | | |
|--------|-------------------------|
| BI 150 | Intro to Bible |
| HT 101 | History of Christianity |
| _____ | Elective |
| _____ | Elective |
| _____ | Elective |
| ID 406 | MAR Retreat |

Year 1 - Spring

- | | |
|--------|---------------------------------------|
| BI 164 | Gospels
(or BI274 Pauline in Yr 2) |
| HT 102 | History of Christianity |
| HT 140 | Lutheran Confessions* |
| HT 465 | Christology OR |
| HT 467 | Theology of Salvation |
| _____ | Elective |

Year 2 - Fall

- | | |
|--------|----------------------|
| BI 201 | Hebrew Bible |
| BI 451 | NT Theology |
| HT 251 | Intro to Theology |
| HT 257 | Third World Theology |
| CM 201 | Intro to Worship |
| ID 407 | MAR Colloquium |

Year 2 - Spring

- | | |
|--------|---------------------|
| BI 274 | Pauline (if needed) |
| HT 425 | Lutherans in NA* |
| HT 252 | Intro to Theology |
| HT 450 | Ecumenical Theology |
| _____ | Elective |
| ID 408 | MAR Colloquium |

*Non-Lutheran students substitute appropriate denominationally -specific courses for HT140 and HT425 when they are offered in the curriculum. In addition, UMC and Baptist students must also utilize one elective slot to fulfill their three required denominationally -specific courses. See page 3.

Other Requirements

Cross Cultural Experience (usually January of Year 1)

Recommended Sequence of Courses for Diaconal Ministry Track

Year 1 - Fall

BI 150 Intro to Bible
 HT 101 History of Christianity
 CM 141 Pastoral Care
 _____ Elective
 _____ Elective
 CM 103 Field Education
 ID 406 MAR Retreat
 CM 101 Worship Practicum (strongly recommended)

Year 2 - Fall

BI 201 Hebrew Bible
 HT 251 Intro to Theology
 CM 201 Intro to Worship
 HT 481 Christian Ethics
 _____ Elective
 CM 203 Field Education
 ID 407 MAR Colloquium

Year 1 - Spring

BI 164 Gospels
 (or BI274 Pauline in Yr 2)
 HT 102 History of Christianity
 CM 122 Preaching & Christian Yr
 HT 140 Lutheran Confessions*
 _____ Elective
 CM 104 Field Education

Year 2 - Spring

BI 274 Pauline (if needed)
 HT 252 Intro to Theology
 HT 425 Lutherans in NA*
 ID 402 Mission in a Pluralistic World
 _____ Elective
 ID 408 MAR Colloquium

*Non-Lutheran students substitute appropriate denominationally-specific courses for HT140 and HT425 when they are offered in the curriculum. In addition, UMC and Baptist students must also utilize one elective slot to fulfill their three required denominationally-specific courses. See page 3.

Other Requirements

Cross Cultural Experience (usually January of Year 1)
 CPE is not required, but is highly recommended

Note: The ELCA requires additional preparation for consecration into Diaconal Ministry, including attendance at the Diaconal Ministry Formation Event for two weeks in the summer at Gettysburg Seminary. Registration information is available at the Gettysburg Seminary web site (www.ltsj.edu). Registration deadline annually is May 1. Contact Dr. McArver or Dr. Lergen for further information.

THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

BI 451 New Testament Theology
 HT 257 Theology from a Third World Perspective
 HT 450 Ecumenical Theology
 HT 465 Christology OR
 HT 467 Theology of Salvation } Choose one

CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY

CM 141 Theology of Pastoral Care
 HT 240 Christian Spirituality
 HT 467 Theology of Salvation
 HT 000 Guided Reading in Spirituality
 CM 103/104/203 Field Education (3 semesters)
 CM 101 Worship Practicum—strongly recommended

CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRY

CM 122 Preaching and the Christian Year
 CM 141 Theology of Pastoral Care
 CM 208 Occasional Services and Pastoral Care
 CM 261 Educational Ministry
 CM 103/104/203 Field Education (3 semesters)
 CM 101 Worship Practicum—strongly recommended

CHURCH HISTORY

HT 201 Religion in America
 [substitute another course if taken as core course]
 HT 234 16th Century Reformations
 HT 240 Christian Spirituality
 HT 455 Religion in the South

**Recommended Sequence of Courses for
Christian Education Track**

Year 1 - Fall

BI 150 Intro to Bible

HT 101 History of Christianity
_____ Elective

CM 141 Pastoral Care

_____ Elective

CM 103 Field Education

ID 406 MAR Retreat

CM 101 Worship Practicum (strongly recommended)

Year 1 - Spring

BI 164 Gospels
(or BI274 Pauline in Yr 2)

HT 102 History of Christianity
HT 140 Lutheran Confessions*

CM 453/463/464 Education with
Adults/Youth/Children

_____ Elective

CM 104 Field Education

Year 2 - Fall

BI 201 Hebrew Bible

HT 251 Intro to Theology

CM 201 Intro to Worship

CM 261 Educational Ministry
_____ Elective

CM 203 Field Education

ID 407 MAR Colloquium

Year 2 - Spring

BI 274 Pauline (if needed)

HT 252 Intro to Theology

HT 425 Lutherans in NA*

CM 453/463/464 Education with
Adults/Youth/Children

_____ Elective

ID 408 MAR Colloquium

*Non-Lutheran students substitute appropriate denominationally-specific courses for HT140 and HT425 when they are offered in the curriculum. In addition, UMC and Baptist students must also utilize one elective slot to fulfill their three required denominationally-specific courses. See page 3.

Other Requirements

Cross Cultural Experience (usually January of Year 1)

**Recommended Sequence of Courses for
Biblical Studies Track**

Pre-Year 1 - Summer Greek

Year 1 - Fall

BI 101 Hebrew

BI 107 Greek Readings

BI 150 Intro to Bible

HT 101 History of Christianity
_____ Elective

_____ Elective

ID 406 MAR Retreat

Year 1 - Spring

BI 102 Hebrew: Exegesis

BI 164 Gospels

HT 140 Lutheran Confessions*

HT 102 History of Christianity
_____ Elective

Year 2 - Fall

BI 201 Hebrew Bible

BI 451 NT Theology

HT 251 Intro to Theology

CM 201 Intro to Worship
_____ Elective

ID 407 MAR Colloquium

Year 2 - Spring

BI 274 Pauline Studies

_____ Elective

HT 252 Intro to Theology

HT 425 Lutherans in NA*
_____ Elective

ID 408 MAR Colloquium

*Non-Lutheran students substitute appropriate denominationally-specific courses for HT140 and HT425 when they are offered in the curriculum. In addition, UMC and Baptist students must also utilize one elective slot to fulfill their three required denominationally-specific courses. See page 3.

Other Requirements

Cross Cultural Experience (usually January of Year 1)

Greek (usually before Yr 1)