

Master of Divinity

The Master of Divinity program prepares students for ministry leadership through development in four objectives. These objectives are supported by specific outcomes.

Objective:

- ❖ Spiritual maturity, moral character, and vision for ministry necessary for building the Body of Christ

Outcomes:

- Ability to articulate personal faith in Jesus Christ
- Ability to articulate a call to ministry
- Practices integrity in personal relationships, including reliability, trustworthiness, and ability to observe appropriate confidentiality
- Exhibits virtues of character, including but not limited to truthfulness, courage, patience, compassion, perseverance, and sexual fidelity
- Practices spiritual disciplines
- Gives appropriate attention to personal, emotional, and physical wellness
- Ability to articulate personal philosophy of ministry

Objective:

- ❖ Competence in leading the Body of Christ through preaching, evangelism, administration, and counseling

Outcomes:

- Ability to prepare a sermon in accordance with accepted principles of biblical exegesis and effective communication
- Ability to deliver a sermon effectively
- Ability to present the Gospel and lead others to a saving faith in Jesus Christ
- Ability to effectively lead a worship service
- Ability to exercise effective pastoral care through such skills as expressing acceptance, giving and receiving criticism graciously, conflict resolution, and listening skills

- Ability to creatively plan, execute, and evaluate teaching in a congregational context
- Ability to develop and structure a congregational program of Christian education
- Ability to articulate a leadership vision for a ministry or organization
- Exhibits qualities of leadership

Objective:

- ❖ Commitment to the authority of the Scriptures for preaching and teaching so the Body of Christ might be equipped for fulfilling its worldwide mission of evangelism, discipleship, and social change

Outcomes:

- Ability to articulate an understanding of the nature and function of biblical authority
- Ability to interpret Scripture in accordance with acceptable principles of biblical interpretation
- Sensitivity to issues of social justice and global concern

Objective:

- ❖ Coherent understanding of the Bible, theology, Christian heritage, and church polity, enabling the graduate to make disciples in a congregation

Outcomes:

- Coherent understanding of the content of biblical literature
- Coherent understanding of the tradition of Christian thought and current trends in Christian systematic theology
- Coherent understanding of the history of the Christian church, its structures, doctrines, and practices
- Coherent understanding of the basic structures of church polity, ideally from the perspective of a student's declared denominational home
- Ability to employ practical reason in a fashion informed by the witness of the biblical text