

PROFESSIONAL MASTER'S PROGRAMS

Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary offers two types of master's degrees: a professional Master of Divinity degree, Master of Arts in: (i.e., Christian Education, Church Music, or Counseling) degree, and an academic or research Master of Arts degree. Several areas of concentration or majors are offered under each. A Graduate Certificate in Christian Foundations is also offered.

Through these degree programs, Midwestern prepares students to be 21st century ministers who demonstrate commitment to ministerial calling, cultural sensitivity, and doctrinal integrity from a Southern Baptist perspective. As such, Midwestern believes that while both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor is limited to men as qualified by Scripture. A ministry mindset is instilled in students with an Acts 1:8 foundation. Students are prepared to worship God, evangelize the lost, edify believers, and establish healthy New Testament churches for the purpose of glorifying God.

MASTER OF DIVINITY (M.Div.)

Purpose

The Master of Divinity (M.Div.) degree is the basic seminary degree for college graduates. It is the appropriate first professional degree for individuals who anticipate ordination. The basic M.Div. degree program requires 90 semester hours. It is designed for individuals who anticipate serving as pastors, evangelists, associate pastors, missionaries, or in other ministries that emphasize expository preaching or teaching of the Word of God. In most cases, the M.Div. degree is also the appropriate degree for students who anticipate doctoral training and a ministry of college or seminary level teaching.

To meet the needs of students preparing for ministries with specific concentrations, Midwestern offers seven concentration tracks within the M.Div. degree. M.Div. degree concentrations require 92 semester hours. Concentrations are offered in Christian Education, Church Music, Collegiate Ministries, International Church Planting, North American Church Planting, Urban Evangelism, and Youth Ministry.

M.Div. Degree Objectives

Students graduating from the M.Div. degree program will be able to:

1. Develop increased Bible and theological knowledge.
2. Facilitate interpretation of scripture using appropriate hermeneutical principles.
3. Encourage formulation of theological beliefs based on Biblical and historical perspectives.
4. Progress in the practice of classical spiritual disciplines.
5. Develop a Great Commission perspective that is demonstrated by skills in evangelism, equipping disciples, preaching and teaching, corporate worship, and leadership.

Program Content

The M.Div. degree program provides a breadth of exposure to the theological disciplines as well as a depth of understanding within those disciplines. It provides students opportunities for the appropriation of theological disciplines, for deepening understanding of the life of the church, for ongoing intellectual and ministerial formation, and for exercising the arts of ministry.

In order to receive the M.Div. degree a student must complete at least eighty-nine credit hours from courses divided into three categories: Foundational Core courses, M.Div. Emphasis courses, and Elective courses. Foundational and Emphasis courses, or their equivalents, are required of all M.Div. candidates. The Foundational Core courses provide a knowledge base for further study and application. The Emphasis courses focus on the skills necessary for Christian leadership. The Elective courses are chosen in accordance with a student's interests and vocational goals.

Understanding of the Christian and Baptist *religious heritage* is fostered through courses in Old Testament and New Testament, Christian History, Baptist History, Theology, and Missions. The *cultural context* of ministry is dealt with in Apologetics, Ethics, Evangelism, Pastoral Care, and Missions. Supervised Ministry, Personal Spiritual Disciplines, Evangelism, Pastoral Care, Pastoral Ministry, and Leadership courses deal with candidates' *personal and spiritual formation*. Enhancement of students' *capacity for ministerial and public leadership* is the focus of Supervised Ministry, Hermeneutics, Preaching, Pastoral Ministry, Leadership, Educational Administration, and Music or Worship Leadership.

Location

Midwestern offers M.Div. courses on the main campus in Kansas City and at extension centers located in St. Louis, Missouri, Wichita, Kansas, and Tulsa, Oklahoma. All M.Div. students are required to complete at least one year of full-time study or its equivalent (i.e., thirty credit hours) at Midwestern's main campus (see On-Campus Requirements for Completion of a Degree).

Duration

The M.Div. degree typically requires three years of full-time academic study or its equivalent.

Admission

The M.Div. degree is a post-baccalaureate degree. Admission requirements to enter this program include a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution, evidence of the commitment to and qualities desired for pastoral leadership, and the academic ability to engage in graduate education.

Distinctive Resources

M.Div. students have access to community life that provides informal educational experiences, religious fellowship, and opportunity for reflection upon the meaning of faith in its relation to education for ministry.

MASTER OF DIVINITY DEGREE (M.Div.), basic program

CURRICULUM

Foundational Core	43 hours
2210-2211 Old Testament Survey I & II	6 hrs
2310-2311 New Testament Survey I & II	6 hrs
2400 Introduction to Hermeneutics	2 hrs
3100-3101 History of Christianity I & II	6 hrs
3110 Baptist History	3 hrs
3200-3201 Theology I & II	6 hrs
3400 Christian Ethics	3 hrs
5000 Personal Spiritual Disciplines	2 hrs
5201 Basic Evangelism	3 hrs
5312 Intro to Pastoral Care & Counseling	3 hrs
7001 Theology & Philosophy of Missions	3 hrs
M.Div. Emphasis	29 hours
2200-2201 Elementary Hebrew I & II	6 hrs
2300-2301 Elementary Greek I & II	6 hrs
3300 Introduction to Apologetics	2 hrs
Men take:	
5110 Principles of Preaching	3 hrs
5111 Expository Preaching	3 hrs
5401 Introduction to Pastoral Leadership	2 hrs
5430 Introduction to Pastoral Ministry	2 hrs
Women take:	
8110-8111 Principles of Teaching I & II	6 hrs
8306 Principles of Leadership	2 hrs
8406 Introduction to Adult Ministry	2 hrs
Select: 5402 Worship Leadership OR 9410 Fundamentals of Music for Worship Leadership	2 hrs
5445 Supervised Ministry	1 hr
8301 Church Administration	2 hrs
Electives	18 hours
TOTAL	90 hours