MA: Youth Ministry

A. Barry Gane, Director

The MA in Youth Ministry requires intensive study in the specialized field of youth ministry. The graduate of the MA in Youth Ministry is competent to

- Develop, direct, and evaluate youth ministry programs in the local church and other targeted areas with both professional and theological competency
- Recruit, nurture, and disciple youth in Christian service and vocation
- Recruit, nurture, and disciple adult youth leaders
- Develop the ability to reflect constructively and theologically upon the content and process of youth ministry
- Serve in a variety of vocations, such as youth pastor, dormitory dean, local church youth leader, conference youth leader, and guidance counselor.

Students who seek ordination or plan to serve in general pastoral or church leadership positions should consider, as an alternative, the Master of Divinity program as stipulated by North American Division policy (L 05 05 and L 05 15). The Master of Divinity program also has an emphasis in Youth Ministry.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants to the MA in Youth Ministry program should read the general admission requirements for all graduate students on p. 38 in the Graduate Programs Admission section of this bulletin, and the general seminary admission requirements on p. 277. Applicants to the MAYM program must also meet the qualifications listed below:

- Hold a baccalaureate degree
- Represent high moral integrity with a character, lifestyle, and spiritual commitment reflective of the beliefs and practices of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and show promise of usefulness for ministry through personal maturity and adequate experience in the Church (Persons of other faiths who are willing to live in harmony with these standards are welcome to apply.)
- Submit an autobiographical history and statement of purpose reflecting the applicant's family, religious development, sense of calling to ministry, experience in church work, and future goals in relationship to MAYM program.
- An interview with a representative of the MAYM program may be required, either by personal contact, telephone, or e-mail.
- Complete the 16 Personality Factor Inventory and accompanying questionnaire which are sent to the applicant after the initial application has been received.

Graduates of the MAYM program receive calls for ministry, however, completion of the program does not guarantee employment in Adventist ministry or any other church employment.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The MA in Youth Ministry degree is awarded upon successful completion of a minimum of 48 semester credits with a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or better. A minimum of 24 semester credits are to be taken at the Theological Seminary or at an authorized extension center. The course work for the MA in Youth Ministry normally should be completed within seven years.

CREDIT THROUGH LEARNING IN PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE*

Students may be eligible to receive up to 8 credits for professional experience when approved by the dean, using the following criteria:

- The applicant must have completed at least 16 credits toward the MA degree with a minimum GPA of 2.50 (on a 4.00 system).
- The applicant must provide two written recommendations from faculty members of the Seminary with whom he/she has studied.
- The applicant must submit a Professional Experience Portfolio, including (1) a curriculum vita, (2) a description of ministerial experiences, (3) a reflection-learning paper in which the applicant analyzes his/her professional skills and ministries and demonstrates how learning based on the reflection-reaction process occurred, and (4) supporting letters from administrative and pastoral supervisors which identify and document a variety of professional experiences.
- The applicant must submit the completed Professional Experience Portfolio to the Dean of the Theological Seminary not later than October 1 following the completion of 16 credits. The portfolio is reviewed by a Professional Experience Committee which submits its recommendation to the dean. For details, contact the Director of the MA in Pastoral Ministry program.

*Students earning the Master of Arts in Youth Ministry degree also may receive credit by meeting the above criteria and submitting a description of their youth-ministry experiences. These students should contact the Director of the MA in Youth Ministry program for details.
TRANSFER CREDITS
A maximum of 24 transfer graduate credits, when applicable, may be accepted from approved seminaries or universities upon approval by the dean. Credits approved under the Credit Through Learning in Professional Experience provision (see below) are considered part of the maximum of 24 transfer credits.

MA IN YOUTH MINISTRY CURRICULUM

Seminary Core Courses 18
Spiritual Formation (2)
Biblical Studies (4)
  Two courses in Old Testament and/or New Testament
Theology (4)
  Two courses in Theology. THST644 recommended.
Church History (2)
  One course in Church History: CHIS570 recommended.
Christian Ministry (4)
  CHMN519, and one additional course in Conflict Resolution or Church Leadership.
World Mission (2)
  One course in World Mission.
Youth Ministry Emphasis Courses 16
  CHMN520 Contextualized Preaching: Youth (2)
  CHMN657 Counseling Youth and Young Adults (2)
  CHMN554 (OR EDRE505) Introduction to Religious Education (2)
  CHMN608 Youth in Contemporary Culture (2)
  CHMN534 Youth Ministry Leadership (2)
  CHMN564 Advanced Youth Ministry Leadership (2)
  Choose two of the following: (4)
    CHMN636 choose no more than two from
    Children's Ministry, Adolescent Ministry, Young Adult Ministry, Youth Evangelism, Visionary Leadership, African-American Youth Ministry, Hispanic Youth Ministry
  CHMN619 Religious Experience in Adolescence
  CHMN623 Innovative Evangelism
  CHMN546 Marriage and Family
  CHMN616 Spirituality in Ministry
  EDPC515 Psychological Development–the Growth Years
  EDPC516 Psychology of Character Development

Electives 14

TOTAL CREDITS for the MA Degree 48

Elective Options. Students in the MA in Youth Ministry program can utilize their elective credits to tailor a program to their specific ministry needs through the following four options. Students must take 6 credits in the first option, Field Practicum, or if one qualifies, 6 credits in the second option, Learning in Professional Experience.

FIELD PRACTICUM
Students may take up to 6 credits in CHMN660. Normally registration is allowed only after the student has earned 24 or more credits.

CREDIT THROUGH LEARNING IN PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE
Students may be eligible for up to 6 credits approved by the dean for learning in professional experience based on the criteria listed under the MA in Pastoral Ministry program, p. 284.

ELECTIVE COURSES
Students may select courses approved for academic graduate degrees from any of the Andrews University schools, provided there is a correlation with the chosen field of youth ministry. Students can take up to 6 credits in CHMN690.

THESIS OPTION
Students may elect to write a Master of Arts thesis (GSEM697) for a total of 6 credits. Under this option, the student must successfully defend the thesis. See instructions under the MDiv Thesis Option, p. 281. Students choosing the thesis option must take GSEM620 before beginning work on the thesis.

MSA: Master of Science in Administration

The Seminary offers many of the credits required to complete the following multi-school programs.

MSA: CHURCH ADMINISTRATION
This program is designed for individuals who wish to specialize in church administration at a level of expertise not available in the MDiv program. The MSA program prepares students to serve as presidents, treasurers, and/or institutional administrators. See the School of Business section of this bulletin, p. 227, for program details.

MSA: INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
This program is based on an agreement between Andrews University and the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA). Administered by the International Development Council at Andrews University, it equips graduates with both a spiritual vision and the technical expertise to work with the poor and oppressed. Community development projects and community relief and disaster activities are emphasized.

The multi-disciplinary program uses the resources of the Theological Seminary, the School of Business, the School of Education, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the College of Technology. See the International Development section of this bulletin for further details, p. 70.

MA: Religion
Atilio Dupertuis, Director

The Master of Arts in Religion is an academic program involving one year of specialized study beyond the baccalaureate-degree level. The MA in Religion degree is offered with these orientations: (1) Research Orientation which requires a thesis and a modern language relevant to the student’s research, usually French or German; and (2) General Academic Orientation, which requires comprehensive examinations. The program requires a minimum