

**MA: RELIGION**

Martin Hanna, Director

The Master of Arts (Religion) is an academic program usually involving two years of specialized study beyond the baccalaureate-degree level. The program requires 48 credits of course work. However, students with advanced theological study or prior extensive undergraduate studies in religion may complete the program with a minimum of 32 credits. (See section below on degree requirements).

The MA Religion degree is offered with these orientations: (1) Research Orientation, which requires a thesis and a modern language relevant to the student’s research (French or German are recommended); and (2) General Academic Orientation, which requires comprehensive examinations. Only 500- and 600-level courses are accepted.

The purpose of this program is to provide specialized training within the broader setting of the various disciplines of the Seminary. Students may choose an area of emphasis from those listed below:

- Archaeology and History of Antiquity
- Biblical-Theological Studies (Affiliation and Extension Programs)
- Biblical and Cognate Languages
- Church History
- Intercultural Studies
- Intertestamental (Jewish) Studies
- Jewish and Muslim Faiths
- Mission Studies
- New Testament Studies
- Old Testament Studies
- Theological Studies

The MA in Religion degree with the research orientation is designed for individuals who wish to specialize in church administration at a level of expertise not available in the MDW program. The MSA program prepares students to serve as presidents, treasurers, and/or institutional administrators. See the School of Business Administration section of this bulletin, p. 284, for program details.

**Admission Requirements**

1. Applicant holds a baccalaureate degree or its equivalent, normally with a major in religion or theology with a minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.00 or above.
2. Applicant demonstrates language proficiency or shows a reading knowledge of a language at the intermediate level. Language proficiency courses do not apply toward the 32 credits of the MA degree requirements.
3. Complete and return the Sixteen Personality Factor Questionnaire as directed.

**Prerequisites**

**Language Prerequisites.** Students meet the language prerequisites for the various areas of emphasis either by completing the courses listed below or by passing a qualifying examination at the intermediate level.

- Archaeology and History of Antiquity
  - Intermediate Greek or Biblical Hebrew II
- Biblical and Cognate Languages
  - Intermediate Greek and Biblical Hebrew II
- Intercultural Studies
  - Intermediate Arabic
- Intertestamental (Jewish) Studies
  - Intermediate Greek and Biblical Hebrew II
- Mission Studies
  - Intermediate Greek or Biblical Hebrew II
- Jewish and Muslim Faiths
  - Biblical Hebrew II
- Church History
  - Intermediate Greek or Intermediate Latin
- Biblical and Theological Studies
  - Intermediate Greek and Biblical Hebrew II
- Jewish and Muslim Faiths
  - Biblical Hebrew II
  - (or a reading knowledge of a modern foreign language)
New Testament Studies*
  Intermediate Greek
  Old Testament Studies*
  Biblical Hebrew II
Theological Studies
  Intermediate Greek or Biblical Hebrew II

*Students who choose a major or minor in New Testament Studies must demonstrate proficiency in intermediate Greek either by passing the language-proficiency examination or by taking the Intermediate Greek course at Andrews University and earning a grade of B or above.

*Students who choose a major or minor in Old Testament Studies must demonstrate proficiency in intermediate Hebrew either by passing the language-proficiency examination or by taking the Biblical Hebrew II course at Andrews University and earning a grade of B or above.

Transfer Credits. A maximum of 6 semester hours of credit with a B (3.00) or above may be transferred from an approved seminary or university if applicable to the student’s program. Transfer courses must have been completed within the six-year time limit.

Degree Requirements. In addition to the scholarship standards in the Graduate Programs Academic Information section of this bulletin, students must fulfill the following requirements for both the research and the general academic orientation options:

- 32–48 semester credits with a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or above.
- GSEM620 (to be taken the first time the course is offered after enrolling in the program).
- A major area of emphasis with 16–24 credits.
- A minor area of emphasis with 6–12 credits chosen from a second area of interest.
- Additional language requirements as listed under the two orientation requirements listed below.

Prior Learning Credit. In order to receive maximum prior learning credit, applicants must provide a transcript showing that they have taken the following courses at the undergraduate level with a GPA of 3.00 or better (on a 4.00 system). For each undergraduate credit deficiency, graduate credit must be added to the minimum of 32 credits required for this degree.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Church History</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Testament Studies</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Testament Studies</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theological Studies</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.G. White Writings</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives in religion*</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total prerequisite credits</strong></td>
<td><strong>22</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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*For the emphasis in Jewish and Muslim Faiths, Church History is to be replaced with one of the following courses: Jewish History, Arabic History, Introduction to Modern Hebrew, or Modern Dialectal Arabic. An elective course must be World Religions.

Research Orientation Requirements. A foreign language (French or German is recommended) must be completed by examination or course work (FREN505, GRMN505) in addition to the minimum 32–48 semester credits. An MA thesis with a total of 6 credits must be completed and defended. It cannot be started until all language requirements are finished. A student who has completed the required course work but has not finished the thesis (after completing 6 thesis credits) must register for GSEM688 (no credit) until the thesis has been approved.

General Academic Orientation Requirements. Students must take an oral or written comprehensive examination after advancement to candidacy. The comprehensive examination may be retaken only once. A student who has completed the required course work but has not finished all degree requirements must register for GSEM688 (no credit) until all requirements are met.

Advancement to Candidacy. Upon completion of 50 percent of the course work, a student should apply for advancement to candidacy. Forms are available in the office of the director of the MA program. The forms should be completed by the student and approved by the director of the MA program and the dean of the Seminary.

Time Limits. A student must complete the requirements for the MA in Religion degree and graduate within six years of first enrolling in the program regardless of admission classification.

Academic Advisement. The director of the MA in Religion program, in cooperation with department chairs, assigns academic advisers in the student’s area of specialization. The selection of the remaining course requirements is monitored by the director.

Certification for Teaching. Students who plan to teach religion in a Seventh-day Adventist academy or in a secondary school are urged to consult as early in the program as possible with the director of the MA program and the university certification officer regarding qualifying for SDA teaching credentials. See pp. 307–309 for more information about recommended methods courses in Bible teaching designed to meet the certification requirements.

Areas of Emphasis
In the event that a required course is not offered during any given term, another course in the same area can be substituted for the required course in consultation with the chair of the department.

Archaeology and History of Antiquity. OTST510, 604, 614. Remaining courses to complete the 16 credits must be chosen from GSEM670, NTST615, 635, 680, 684, 689, 690, OTST514, 605, 615, 630, 635, 690.

Biblical and Cognate Languages. OTST625 and one of the following: NTST608, 678, or 696. Remaining courses to complete the 16 credits must be chosen from NTST606, 618, 626, 646, 665, 678, 690, 696, OTST545, 550, 565, 612, 626, 639, 654, 658, 659, 660, 680, 685, 690.

Church History. CHIS674 and additional CHIS courses to complete the 16 credits. Up to three credits may be chosen from among GSEM678 (in Church History), THST624, 625, 628, MSSN676.

Intertestamental (Jewish) Studies. NTST525, 635, 684 or 689. Remaining courses to complete the 16 credits must be chosen from NTST615, 618, 626, 680, 690, 696, OTST614, 625, 626, 627, 654, 659, 690.
Jewish and Muslim Faiths. OTST627. A course is to be chosen from each of the following groups: Apologetics/comparative religion—MSSN530, 650, 660, or CHMN587; History—ANTH478, CHIS630, or HIST450; Language/literature—OTST626, 654, 658, or NTST626; Theology/Ethics—HIST450, OTST620, or THST644.

Mission Studies. MSSN610 or 676. Remaining courses to complete the 16 credits must be chosen from MSSN.

New Testament Studies. An advanced course in language chosen from among NTST608, 678, or 696; a course in New Testament theology; a course in New Testament exegesis (in addition to NTST678 if that course is taken to satisfy the language requirement); a course in New Testament backgrounds to be selected from among NTST615, 635, 654, 680, 684, 689. Remaining courses to complete the 16 credits must be chosen from OTST courses or GSEM530, 670.

Old Testament Studies. OTST625; two courses in Exegesis; a course in Archaeology and History of Antiquity. Remaining courses to complete the 16 credits must be chosen from OTST courses or GSEM670 or 530.

Theological Studies. Regardless of which sub-section of theological studies is selected for emphasis—Systematic Theology, Historical Theology, or Philosophy and Ethics—the following courses are required: THST550, 619, and 624 or 628. Remaining courses to complete the 16 credits must be chosen from THST courses or GSEM534 or 530.

Electives. A student may select courses approved for academic graduate degrees provided there is a correlation with the student’s chosen area of study.

Programs Offered at Affiliation and Extension Sites
Depending on the availability of adequate research library facilities and qualified teaching staff, an affiliated school may be authorized by the seminary faculty to offer some or all of the areas of emphasis listed above with the research orientation or the general academic orientation. Contact the director of the MA program for details on the Affiliation and Extension Programs.

Biblical-Theological Studies. This area of emphasis is available only with the general academic orientation at Affiliation and Extension Centers. In addition to the degree requirements outlined above, and depending on prior learning credit, the following are required: two or three NTST courses, two or three OTST courses, two or three THST courses, and a course from either CHIS or MSSN or both. Remaining courses to complete the 16–24 credits must be chosen from any of the above disciplines.

An MA Thesis in lieu of Comprehensive Exams is possible with authorization of the Director of the MA in Religion Program.

Adventist Ministry Minor. A minor in Adventist Ministry is available at Affiliation and Extension centers only. Eight credits may be selected from appropriate CHMN courses.

DMIN: DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

Skip Bell, Director

Purpose
The purpose of the Doctor of Ministry program is to provide structured, rigorous, advanced training in ministry by equipping participants with needed competencies and leadership skills. The program engages qualified people in an active learning environment so that they may reach advanced levels of ministry effectiveness.

Program Description
The Doctor of Ministry program offers a professional degree for people who seek advanced competencies in evangelism, ministry and mission. The program enables people to grow within the framework of a Biblical model of leadership and to develop an Adventist perspective of evangelism, ministry, and mission. The program is normally offered to professionals who are in active ministry.

Course modules include teaching intensives at various North American and international sites. Concentrations are offered in Chaplaincy, Discipleship and Biblical Spirituality, Evangelism and Church Growth, Family Ministry, Global Mission Leadership, Health Care Chaplaincy, Leadership, Missional Church: A Biblical Response to Western Culture, Pastoral Ministry (Spanish), Preaching, Urban Ministry, and Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

Doctor of Ministry modules include intensive sessions taught by faculty teams that include seminary professors with appropriate academic expertise and professionals from the field with experience in evangelism, ministry and mission. Teaching methodology combines appropriate methods and technology with collegial dialogue to encourage a creative learning environment. Faculty aim to facilitate balanced spiritual, professional, and theological formation that affects the individual, the family, and the ministry group. Participants develop a deeper personal experience, which leads to a strengthening of their family life as well as a greater commitment to ministry. They learn to evaluate ministerial practices through theological reflection, which helps them establish a Biblical model of servant leadership. Graduates from the program will be able to use appropriate tools to analyze the needs of their churches and communities and develop and implement appropriate and effective ministries.

Admission Requirements
To be considered for admission to the Doctor of Ministry program, applicants must meet the following requirements:

• Hold the Master of Divinity degree or its equivalent.
• Have a GPA of at least 3.25.
• Demonstrate high professional and personal potential for the gospel ministry.
• Have an equivalent of at least three years of experience in ministry subsequent to the first graduate theological degree.
• Supply satisfactory recommendations.
• Submit a 1500–2500 word double-spaced paper that discusses their personal spiritual journey and sets forth their purpose for seeking the Doctor of Ministry degree. The paper should manifest deep theological reflection and a familiarity with current literature in pastoral ministry.