The format of the thesis must conform strictly to the *Andrews University Standards for Written Work*. Students are strongly urged to consult the dissertation secretary before formatting and printing a thesis. At least six weeks before graduation, the committee-approved draft of the thesis should be submitted to the dissertation secretary. After appropriate changes have been made, the corrected copy should be submitted at least four weeks before graduation to the dissertation secretary for approval. Copying on non-acid paper should be completed at least two weeks before graduation. Three copies of the thesis, including a 150-word abstract and an approval sheet, must be submitted to the dissertation secretary. The abstract should contain a short statement of the problem examined, a brief exposition of methods and procedures, and a condensed summary of the findings.

Students obtain a Thesis Completion Form from the dissertation secretary. They must take the form to the Academic Records Office no later than noon on Friday, a week preceding graduation. A fee is charged by the university for binding the three copies of the thesis, two of which are deposited in the library and one in the department in which the student earns the degree.

Students who do not adhere strictly to the deadlines noted above will have their graduation postponed.

Thesis candidates must pass an oral examination no later than two weeks before graduation. The candidate is expected to demonstrate mastery of the thesis topic.

**MASTER OF DIVINITY/MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM**

Andrews University has formed a collaborative between the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary and the Department of Social Work in the College of Arts & Sciences to prepare students for service in occupations where social work and the pastoral mission of the church intersect.

The objectives of this program are to prepare students for various forms of ministry in which clinical and administrative skills in social work and theology are needed; to enable students to integrate both theological and social work knowledge, values and skills into a multifaceted approach to Christian service, thereby enhancing their usefulness as instruments of the Holy Spirit; and to sensitize students to nontraditional ministry opportunities by exposing them to theories and practice skills related to counseling approaches, person-in-environment, social and economic justice, human rights and global perspectives from a Christian worldview.

The program is designed to give students an integrated approach to both theology and social work. Students can choose either a dual degree or an emphasis in either Social Work or Christian Ministry.

**Program Options**

1. **Dual Degree:** In this option, students are able to complete both the MDiv and the MSW in four years. Both degrees are conferred by Andrews University. The program will require students to take courses in summer sessions. The four-year completion plan also assumes that the student has satisfactorily completed one of the biblical language requirements, and has a bachelor’s degree in theology or religion. The four-year plan is designed to take Track 1 students 11 semesters and Track 2 students 12 semesters.

2. **Social Work Emphasis:** In this option, MDiv students choose 12 hours of elective credit in social work courses. Students may choose any master’s-level social work course, either foundation or elective that would best equip them for pastoral ministry. These courses can fulfill the general elective requirement for Track 1 MDiv students.

3. **Pastoral Care Emphasis:** In this option, MDiv students choose eight elective credits from the following courses: CHMN503 (Marriage, Family & Interpersonal Relationships), CHMN508 (Tools for the Pastor’s Spouse), CHMN526 (Conflict Management in the Church), CHMN540 (Church and Urban Community), or CHMN553 (The Church and Social Issues).

4. **Discipleship and Religious Education Emphasis:** In this option, MDiv students choose eight elective credits from the following courses: DSRE619 (Religious Experience in Adolescence), DSRE626 (Ministry to At-Risk Youth), DSRE636 (Seminar in Youth Ministry) or DSRE656 (Counseling Youth and Young Adults).

**Requirements for Admission**

Applicants for the MDiv/MSW dual degree program typically will have received a bachelor’s degree (BA, BS, BSW) from a four-year college or university accredited by one of the nationally recognized accrediting agencies in the United States, or hold an equivalent educational credential from another country. Application must be made separately to both the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary and the Department of Social Work. Acceptance into one of the programs does not guarantee acceptance into the other.

Applicants must meet the admissions requirements for each program, including all required prerequisites for each degree program.

**MDiv:** Although MDiv students can transfer 11 electives into the MSW program, they can only receive a tuition reduction if they are simultaneously enrolled in the MDiv program. Students who have already completed an MDiv degree can receive the tuition reduction upon admission into the MSW program.

**MSW:** 1) Applicants to the social work program must complete the Graduate Record Exam prior to admission into the program;

2) Students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 in social work program courses;

3) No grade of D or F (or U) may count toward the MSW degree.

**Credits for Each Program**

**MDiv:** **Track 1:** Graduation requirements consist of the satisfactory completion of 115 semester credits with an overall grade point average of C (2.5) or better. Sixty-nine credits are MDiv credits, 31.5 credits are social work credits, and 14.5 credits are shared between the two curricula in lieu of MDiv electives.

**Track 2:** Graduation requirements consist of satisfactory completion of 142 semester hours with an overall grade point average of C (2.5) or better. Ninety-six credits are MDiv credits, 31.5 credits are Social Work credits, and 14.5 credits are shared between the two curricula.

**MSW:** MDiv students are required to complete 45 core credit hours for the two-year regular MSW program. Due to the strict requirements of the Council on Social Work Education’s accrediting mandates, these core courses must all be taught or co-taught within the department by faculty holding an MSW degree. However, these courses could be co-taught with faculty from the seminary.
 Occasionally, a student who has already earned a BSW from an accredited program may apply to this program. In this case, the student would be placed in the Advanced Standing program, and take either 33 credits (Advanced Standing) or 39 credits (Advanced Standing Plus). Students with an undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher are eligible to complete the Advanced Standing Program while those with a lower GPA must complete the Advanced Standing Plus requirements.

Since both the MDiv and MSW programs reduce total credits in order to reduce costs and achieve a more streamlined and efficient program, both degrees must be received simultaneously in order to fulfill the requirements of either degree. Although MDiv students can transfer 11 electives into the MSW program, they can only receive a tuition reduction if they are simultaneously enrolled in the MDiv Program.

**Track 1 Dual Degree Course Plan (Shared Curriculum)**

**Year 1:**
- DSRE541 Foundations of Biblical Spirituality (3)
- GSEM539 Issues in Origins (2)
- GSEM510 Revelation, Inspiration and Hermeneutics (3)
- THST540 Doctrine of Salvation (2)
- CHMN539 Church Growth and the Equipping Pastor (3)
- CHMN631 Field Evangelistic Preaching (3)
- GSEM626 Contemporary Adventist Theological Issues (2)
- OTST (Archaeology) (2)
- CHMN656 Holistic Small Groups (2) or
- CHMN656 Mobilizing Laity (2)
- GSEM534 Issues in Ellen G. White Studies (2)
- CHMN (Advanced Preaching) (2) or
- CHMN523 Worship: Word and Music (2)
- MSSN546 Ministry in Cultural and Religious Context (3)
- THST (Historical Theology) (2)
- Hebrew or Greek courses if needed

**Year 2:**
- SOWK501 Foundations of Practice I (*Marriage, Family and Interpersonal Relationship Skills) (4)
- SOWK515 Christian Perspectives on Ethics and Diversity (*Christian Professional Ethics) (2)
- SOWK510 Generalist Field Seminar I, II (5, 5)
- SOWK535 Generalist Field Experience (4) *(Shared with CHMN560 Theological Field Education)
- SOWK531, 532 Human Behavior and the Social Environment I, II (2, 2)
- SOWK502 Foundations of Practice II (4)
- SOWK561/562 Social Work Research I, II (2) (2)
- SOWK550 Social Policy (2)
- CHMN543 Christian Leadership in a Changing World (3)
- DSRE534 Ministry to Youth and Young Adults (2) or
- DSRE610 Teaching for Discipleship (2)
- CHMN562 Field Evangelism (3)
- CHIS ___ (Choose at least 3 credits from CHIS list) (3)

**Year 3:**
- NTST633 Social Issues in the New Test. (Exegesis) (3)
- GSEM530 Doctrine of the Sanctuary (2)
- NTST667 Topics in New Testament Theology (3)
- GSEM627 Issues in Daniel & Revelation (3)
- OTST620 Seminar in Old Testament Theology (3)
- CHIS674 Development of SDA Theology (3)
- MSSN561 Christian Witness and World Religions (3)
- THST (Systematic Theology) (2)
- OTST633 Social Issues in the Old Test. (Exegesis) (3)
- NTST New Test. Backgrounds course options (2)

**Year 4:**
- SOWK605 Advanced Clinical Assessment (3)
- SOWK601 Advanced Practice I (*Pastoral Counseling) (3)
- SOWK610 Advanced Field Seminar I, II (5, 5)
- SOWK635 Advanced Field Experience I, II (2, 3)
- SOWK689 Advanced Professional Seminar I, II (5, 5)
- SOWK630 Policy for Social Change (*Christian Response to Human Needs/The Church & Social Issues) (3)
- SOWK660 Advanced Practice Evaluation (3)
- SOWK602 Advanced Practice II (2)

Seminary credits: 69
Social Work credits: 31.5
*Credits shared 14.5
**TOTAL CREDITS:** 115

*Shared Social Work credits between Social Work and MDiv equal 14.5. Shared MDiv credits between MDiv and Social Work equal 11. This is because SOWK501 Foundations of Practice 1 (4 credits) is shared with DSRE503 Marriage, Family & Interpersonal Relationships (3 credits); SOWK510/535 Generalist Field Experience/Seminar) 2.5 credits is shared with CHMN560 Theological Field Education (2 credits); SOWK601 Advanced Practice I (3 credits) is shared with CHMN556 Pastoral Counseling (2 credits); SOWK630 Policy for Social Change (3 credits) is shared with MSSN505 Christian Responses to Human Needs (2 credits) or CHMN544 The Church and Social Issues (2 credits); SOWK515 Christian Perspectives on Ethics (2 credits) is shared with THST643 Christian Professional Ethics (2 credits).

**Track 2 Dual Degree Course Plan (Shared Curriculum)**

**Year 1:**
- CHIS501 Church History I (2)
- CHMN536 Personal Evangelistic Ministry (2)
- CHIS502 Church History II (2)
- NTST515 New Testament Backgrounds (2)
- CHIS503 Church History III (2)
- OTST510 Archaeology and the Bible (2) or
- OTST514 Bible Lands and their Exploration (2) or
- NTST615 New Testament Archaeology (2)
- NTST511 Beginning Greek (2)
- NTST510 Gospels (3)
- GSEM510 Revelation, Inspiration and Hermeneutics (3)
- GSEM539 Issues in Origins (2)
- DSRE541 Foundations of Biblical Spirituality (3)
- CHMN552 Foundations of Pastoral Ministry (2)
- GSEM525 The Bible and Biblical History (1)
- CHMN539 Church Growth and the Equipping Pastor (3)
- NTST552 Intermediate Greek (3)
- NTST543 Acts & Epistles (2)
- GSEM530 Doctrine of the Sanctuary (2)
- MSSN566 Ministry in Cultural and Religious Context (3)

**Year 2:**
- NTST509 Pauline Writings (3)
- OTST551 Biblical Hebrew I (3)
- CHIS504 Adventist Heritage (3)
- CHMN505 Biblical Preaching (2)
- CHMN631 Field Evangelistic Preaching (3)
- CHMN562 Field Evangelism (3)
- CHMN523 Worship: Word & Music (2) or
- CHMN ___ Advanced Preaching Course (600-level) (2)
- OTST565 Pentateuch (3)
- GSEM626 Contemporary Adventist Theological Issues (2)
- OTST552 Biblical Hebrew II (2)
- OTST555 Prophets (3)
- OTST558 Writings (2)
For international delivery in areas outside North America, the Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry curriculum reflects indigenous needs. A minimum of 6 credits is offered in courses specifically adapted to meet local conditions and culture. Adjustments may be made in admissions policy pertaining to the length of ministerial experience.

Admission Requirements

Admission to the MA in Pastoral Ministry is based on the following requirements in addition to the general admission requirements for all graduate students (pp. 44–49) and the general Seminary admission requirements. Applicants must also complete and return the Sixteen Personality Factor Questionnaire as directed.

NAD Ministerial Applicants

• Hold a BA degree or equivalent from an accredited institution.
• Provide evidence of successful pastoral leadership during the past five years.

NAD Lay Leader Applicants

• Hold a BA degree or equivalent from an accredited institution.
• Be at least 35 years of age.
• Demonstrate excellent academic skills,
• Provide evidence of extensive, active, and successful ministry leadership in service areas such as Sabbath school teacher, youth leader, elder, deacon, etc. during the past five years,
• Recommended by their local church pastor and local conference leadership.

Program Requirements

The MA in Pastoral Ministry degree is awarded upon completion of a minimum of 48 credits of formal course work.

1. Course work in North America is offered off campus twice annually in one- and two-week intensives, normally at Adventist educational institutions. Students should expect pre- and post-class assignments as part of the total academic requirements of each course. The intensives generate the equivalent of 6–12 credits annually.

2. Course work should be completed within six years of beginning the program.

3. Attendance of at least one session on campus at Andrews University is required.

4. Students failing to maintain a minimum GPA of 2.50 are placed on probation. Any student remaining on probation for the equivalent of two years (maximum of 18 credits) must withdraw from the program.

5. Following an absence of two years or more, a student’s previous admission status will have lapsed and the student must reapply to the program.

Transfer Credits. Upon approval by the dean, a maximum of 24 graduate credits may be transferred from approved seminaries or universities, including Andrews University. Approved credits under the Credit Through Learning in Professional Experience provision (see below) are considered part of the maximum.

A maximum of 8 credits may be transferred from another conferred degree upon approval by the dean.

Reapplying to the MA: Pastoral Ministry Program. Following an absence of two years or more, a student’s previous admission status will have lapsed and the student will need to reapply to the program.