

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE POLICY

(Revised and voted at Seminary Dean's Council 11.02.2023)

Worship is the heart of our relationship with God, both as individuals and as a believing community. Worship is crucial for our spiritual health. By worshipping together as a Seminary community, we ground and grow our ties to our Almighty and Loving God and to each other as a Seminary family. In Seminary worship, our spirituality and identity are forged as we encourage one another by expressing our spiritual beliefs, emotions, and values and thus etch them deeply into our life and experience. God's Spirit gathers with us in a special way as we open ourselves to God's Presence, and He shapes us into His likeness, unifying us, and sends us to service.

Because of this:

Regular and punctual attendance is required at Seminary worships and assemblies for faculty, staff, and students in residence on main campus, except students registered for less than 8 on-campus credit hours for Seminary courses and faculty who have assignments off-campus or are on an approved research term. Students' requests to be excused from this requirement should be addressed to the Seminary Deans' Office in writing. Regular worship attendance is a graduation requirement for students in residence. (*AU Bulletin*)

To clarify, the following guidelines are offered:

- All Seminary students in residence registered for 8 or more on-campus credit hours for Seminary courses are required (a graduation requirement) to attend:
 - 10 worships in the Fall semester
 - 10 worships in the Spring semester
 - 4 worships in the Summer semester
- No credit will be given if a student is more than 5 minutes late.
- Students who do not have their ID cards during the first two weeks of a semester will be accommodated by a manual sign-up sheet in the Seminary Deans' Office. After the first two weeks, no credit will be given to students who do not have their ID cards with them at worship.
- There may be special University or Seminary events at which credit will be given. The Seminary Dean's Office will email Seminary students about the event and how to receive credit.

HOW TO CHECK YOUR SEMINARY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Please go to www.andrews.edu/admsvs/seminary/chapels/.

MAKEUP POLICY

Students may make up for up to three missed worships in a semester by attending an additional three in another semester; however, students cannot make up worship in their final semester. Alternatively, a student makes up for an absence by listening to the recorded service, writing a two-page, typewritten reaction to the event, and submitting it to their program office. Most worship services are recorded and posted online on the Seminary website: www.andrews.edu/sem/sem-chapel/chapel/index.html.

In all our worship, let us seek reverence, joy, solemnity, awe, humility, and peace together before the throne of our God.