



“Choosing to come to Union isn’t just about choosing to attend Seminary, it’s about choosing to answer a call. Coming to Union means coming to grips with who you were created to be, and joining a community working toward a better world through rigorous academics, practical action, and deep engagement with all peoples. So how do you know if Union is right for you? Listen. You’ll hear your call.”

—William Critzman,  
*M.Div., Class of 2014*

## Career Paths | Vocational Pursuits after Graduation

- Parish (pastoral) ministry
- Denominational leadership (local, national and international)
- Academic careers
- Chaplaincy in hospitals, hospice, prisons, and higher education settings
- Psychology/Psychiatry
- Social Work
- Religious education
- Leadership in social service and advocacy organizations
- Business, law, medicine and journalism



“Drawing on the rich and diverse resources of New York City, at Union we discern together where “our deep gladness” meets “the world’s deep hunger.” As well as our core curriculum, initiatives like the Poverty Initiative, the Edible Churchyard, and the Institute for Women Religion and Globalization offer particular expressions of the calling we follow to be here.”

—Su Yon Pak '99, Sr. Director & Assoc.  
*Professor of Integrative and Field Based Education, Union Theological Seminary*

## UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

3041 Broadway at 121st Street  
New York, NY 10027-5792

[utsnyc.edu](http://utsnyc.edu)

## UNION *at a glance*

**Over the last 175 years,** the ambitious mission of Union Theological Seminary has not abated. We prepare individuals to change the world. We form leaders deeply called to the work of justice. And we shape visionaries whose faith commitments fuel their work for human betterment.

The issues facing us in today’s complex, multi-faith world demand thoughtful, faithful discourse. Union prepares its students for committed lives of service to a global community greater than themselves, inspiring them to embrace civic engagement and academic excellence in tandem.

Union graduates often demonstrate their leadership through ministry and academia, though many of our students transfer their skills to other vocational interests. From business to medicine, law and/or government to non-profits and NGOs, Union students exercise their compassionate wisdom in all of their endeavors.





## Graduate Programs at Union Theological Seminary

### Master of Divinity

The Master of Divinity (M.Div.) is a three year professional degree. It is primarily for those seeking to engage in the vocation of ministry, whether in churches, universities, hospitals and prison chaplaincies; in professional counseling; in secondary school or university teaching; or in business, government, journalism, social work and other professions.

### Master of Arts

The Master of Arts (M.A.) is a two-year academic degree undertaken in preparation for a variety of professional positions. Many M.A. students progress to or aspire towards Ph.D. study after graduation. Others choose the M.A. in order to focus their theological studies in a particular area.

### Master of Divinity & Master of Science in Social Work

Union Theological Seminary has collaborative relationships with other educational institutions in the city, and offers two joint programs: the Master of Divinity/Master of Science in Social Work (M.Div./M.S.S.W) and the Master of Arts in Religion.

The M.Div./M.S.S.W. program is pursued by those with plans to seek vocations within traditional church ministries, or those considering careers in the helping professions outside church. Candidates can complete requirements for both degrees in one four-year program. Candidates are required to apply and gain admission to both the Seminary and a school of social work.

### Master of Arts in Religion (Joint Degree Program)

Those wanting to focus their studies more closely on the general field of religion may consider applying for the M.A. in Religion. Students must be admitted both at the Seminary and at the M.A. program at Columbia University.

### Master of Sacred Theology

The Master of Sacred Theology (S.T.M.) degree offers an opportunity for a relatively open structure of advanced theological study. It is for those who already have a Master of Divinity or Master of Arts, or its equivalent as determined at the time of application.

### Doctor of Philosophy

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) primarily prepares persons for vocations of teaching and research in college or universities and seminaries, or holding positions of leadership in churches or social service and social justice agencies. The program also includes work for the intermediate degree of Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.), which also must be earned at the Seminary.

Applicants to the Ph.D. program must select from the following disciplines and name their intended faculty advisor(s), at the time of application:

- Bible Program
- History Program
- Theology Program
- Practical Theology Interdisciplinary Program

## Application Instructions

**Online Application Form:** [utsnyc.edu/admissions](https://utsnyc.edu/admissions)

**Personal Statement(s)** will vary depending on the degree. Please visit our website at [utsnyc.edu/admissions](https://utsnyc.edu/admissions).

**Official copies of all transcripts** from all colleges and universities from which you earned a degree. The transcripts may be uploaded as a PDF document during the online application process. Prior to official enrollment official copies must be sent directly from the degree-granting institution to the Seminary.

**Recommendation Letters** from former professors and instructors, professional persons, members of the clergy, and Union alumni/ae who are familiar with your academic background, discernment process, and vocational aspirations. Union provides applicants with a recommendation form that indicates to the recommender the pertinent areas we consider when reviewing the recommendation, available on our website at [utsnyc.edu/admissions](https://utsnyc.edu/admissions).

**Application Fee:** \$75, non-refundable.

**Test Scores:** Applicants to the Ph.D. program who reside in the U.S. or Canada at the time of application are required to submit official scores on the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) general test. Scores more than five years old are unacceptable.



“The Spirit is always moving at Union, whether through impassioned classroom discussions, creative worship or principled protest. Union is the place to be continually challenged and inspired for a lifetime of service in ministry!”

—Rev. Lissa Anne Gundlach '09  
Assistant Minister,  
All Souls Church

## Admissions Deadlines

### JANUARY 6

Deadline for submission of completed applications for Advanced Degree Programs (S.T.M. and Ph.D. programs). Admission is only granted for the fall semester. The number of candidates who can be admitted is strictly limited. Late applications and incomplete applications will not be considered, nor will these be returned to the sender.

### FEBRUARY 15

Priority deadline for submission of completed applications for all First Degree Programs (M.Div., M.A., and M.Div./M.S.S.W.). Admission is only granted for the fall semester. Completed applications should be submitted by this date in order to receive consideration for merit scholarships.

### MARCH 15

Deadline for submitting materials to the Academic Dean in support of a request to transfer master's level credits to the First Degree Program from another educational institution.

### JUNE 15

Final deadline for submission of completed applications to First Degree Programs.

### AUGUST 15

Deadline for submission of completed applications for the Non-Degree Program. Admission may be granted for the fall or the spring semesters.

## Financial Aid and Scholarship Information

New students who require financial aid are in good company at Union. In recent years, approximately 85% of Union students received some form of aid toward tuition and living expenses.

Union offers both need-based and non-need-based aid federal and institutional aid to new and continuing students. “Need” for financial aid purposes is defined as the difference between the total cost of yearly attendance at Union and the student's contribution or other financial resources such as outside grants.

Most aid is awarded on the basis of financial need. This includes grants, loans, and work-study employment. Union also offers non-need based aid in the form of First Degree merit scholarships and Advanced Degree Fellowships. Scholarships and fellowships are awarded upon initial application, and are generally renewable for the normal duration of the program to which the student is admitted. Awards range from 50% tuition to cost of attendance plus living allowance.

First Degree students who qualify are eligible for all need and non-need based aid except fellowships which are awarded to doctoral students and S.T.M. candidates.

## Financial Aid Deadlines

### JANUARY 1

Federal financial aid applications become available at [fafsa.ed.gov](https://fafsa.ed.gov).

### FEBRUARY 15

Completed federal financial aid applications should be filed with the federal government by this date so that results will be received at Union by March 15.

### MARCH 15

Priority deadline for receipt of processed FAFSA reports and completed Union Financial Aid applications.

### JULY 15

Final deadline for consideration of award of Union Seminary aid. After this date, financial aid packages will consist solely of federal loans.