

MASTER OF SACRED THEOLOGY
ACADEMIC PROGRAM GUIDE



Photograph by: Roy Weinstein, 2011

2016 - 2017



UNION'S MASTER OF SACRED THEOLOGY (S.T.M.) PROGRAM

Program Purpose

To provide a fuller mastery of one area or discipline of theological study than is normally attained at the M.Div. or M.A. level. The program serves a variety of aims, including further graduate study at the doctoral level, preparation for some forms of teaching, the scholarly enhancement of ministerial practice, or disciplined reflection on a specialized function of ministry.

Program Description

The Master of Sacred Theology (S.T.M.) degree offers an opportunity for a relatively open structure of advanced theological study for those who already have theological degrees. The M.Div. or the M.A. in theological studies is a prerequisite for admission to the Master of Sacred Theology (S.T.M.) program. At Union this degree has been particularly valuable in bringing a wide range of international students to the campus. The S.T.M. does not necessarily lead to admission to the Union doctoral program. However, credits earned toward a Union S.T.M. degree may be applied toward the Ph.D. requirements, should a student be accepted into that program.

Program Content

The S.T.M. degree normally takes a minimum of one year to complete and requires satisfactory completion of 24 points taken for credit in advanced courses (200 level and higher) and in faculty-directed independent study. The student writes an extended research or thesis-driven paper on a special research topic of the student's choice as an extra assignment in one of the student's courses, under faculty supervision. This extended paper carries no additional credit. Students must also pass a UTS translation exam in a modern language (typically German, French, or Spanish) or provide documentary evidence of having passed Hebrew or Greek in Seminary.

S.T.M. GOALS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

PROGRAM LEARNING GOALS	LEARNING OUTCOMES	ASSESSMENT DATA
<p>I. To acquire advanced mastery of a focused area or discipline in the context of general theological study</p>	<p>I. Demonstrates knowledge and understanding of a focused area or discipline within the context of advanced courses and independent study in a specialized field.</p>	<p>Student ePortfolio contents:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Admissions Essay 2. Program Plan and Progress Report 3. Transcript with advanced-level course evaluations (narrative) and grades (qualitative) 4. Extended thesis-driven research paper with instructor's comments <p>Exit interview/questionnaire Alumni Questionnaire</p>
<p>II. To develop an ability to formulate productive research questions and to use research resources and methods in the chosen area or discipline</p>	<p>II. Demonstrates a capacity to conduct original research on a chosen topic of interest with appropriate resources and scholarly research and writing competence. [I.1.3.1]</p>	<p>Advanced-level course evaluations and grades</p> <p>Extended Research paper</p> <p>Exit interview/questionnaire</p> <p>Alumni Questionnaire</p>
<p>III. To improve language proficiency</p>	<p>III. Demonstrates reading proficiency in a modern language (German, French, or Spanish) and/ or a biblical language</p>	<p>Modern language exam and/ or seminary transcript</p>

AREA OF SPECIAL INTEREST _____

FIRST SEMESTER _____

NUMBER	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS	GRADE

JANUARY INTERSESSION

NUMBER	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS	GRADE

SECOND SEMESTER _____

NUMBER	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS	GRADE

EXTENDED PAPER IN COURSE _____
WITH PROFESSOR _____

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT MET BY _____

STUDENT'S NAME: _____

MASTER OF SACRED THEOLOGY

(GENERAL PROGRAM)

A PROGRAM PLANNER

REQUIREMENTS

24 POINTS REQUIRED FOR S.T.M. (ANY COURSES TAKEN FOR R CREDIT OR AUDIT WILL BE IN ADDITION TO THE 24 POINTS THAT ARE REQUIRED.)

YOU SHOULD ENROLL IN COURSES NUMBERED 300 OR ABOVE, BUT SOME 200 COURSES ARE ALSO APPROPRIATE. NO 100-LEVEL COURSES.

AN EXTENDED PAPER (30-40 PP) ON A TOPIC OF YOUR CHOICE IS TO BE WRITTEN AS AN EXTRA OR ENLARGED ASSIGNMENT IN ONE OF YOUR COURSES, AS AGREED BY THE PROFESSOR.

LANGUAGE EXAM: YOU MUST PASS UTS TRANSLATION EXAM IN FRENCH, GERMAN, OR SPANISH (OR IN ANOTHER LANGUAGE APPROVED BY YOUR ADVISOR) OR GIVE DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE (TRANSCRIPT) OF HAVING PASSED HEBREW OR GREEK COURSES IN SEMINARY.