

***FALL 2024
CATALOG
SUPPLEMENT***

With Academic Policy Changes, Degree &
Non-Degree Program Changes,
Tuition and Fees, and Academic Calendars,
for Students Who Will Begin Fall 2024
or are otherwise affected

As Released August 1, 2024

Wartburg Theological Seminary
Dubuque, Iowa

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New Academic Policies and Procedural Changes Affecting all students starting July 2024 (or as indicated)

Below are policies and procedures adopted since publication of the 2023-2025 catalog, or are being included here because they were adopted earlier and did not get published in either the last seminary catalog or last year's *Student and Community Life Handbook*.

Adjustments to the Independent Study Procedure

Independent studies (including pastoral practicums, which are a variation of an independent study) offer a way to study a subject or topic not otherwise covered by a course offered by faculty instructors. Students may arrange to complete a particular study by means of a defined reading program upon the consent of an instructor and the Academic Dean. This arrangement does not apply to required courses or seminary courses offered on an annual basis, both of which normally cannot be completed by independent study. The student must complete a "Contract for Independent Study" (available from the Registrar) at the guidance of an instructor and seek all the necessary permissions before registration can take place.

Policy and Process for RL and DL MDiv Students Taking Courses while on Internship

(Approved by the faculty on May 14, 2024)

Internship is an intense time of learning and formation. For this reason, RL & DL students are normally not permitted to take other seminary courses alongside a full-time internship. In rare exceptions, a student may be permitted to take one or more courses during their internship year (however, no more than one course in a single term). The student must make this request, in writing, to their academic advisor, the director of contextual education, and the academic dean. As part of this request, the student must clearly state the motivation/need for this request, as well as written documentation that their internship supervisor supports the request. A decision will be made by the academic dean, in collaboration with the student's academic advisor and the director of contextual education. If the request is approved, the student is responsible for checking in with their academic advisor and the director of contextual education midway through the semester to be sure all academic requirements are being met and the coursework is not impeding the internship experience in any way.

Revised Procedure on Optional MDiv Thesis

(Approved by the faculty on April 10, 2024)

Final year MDiv students may elect to write a thesis upon approval by the faculty no later than the August faculty meeting of their final academic year. Normally students interested in doing an M.Div. thesis should express interest in writing to their faculty advisor as early as possible and prior to the fall semester of their final year by submitting this form with the required attachments to their advisor and the Academic Dean by August 15 of their final academic year. Further, no later than the August faculty meeting, faculty will determine which students will be allowed to do a thesis based on faculty load and student ability. Those approved are expected to enroll in the fall IN 300W research seminar. The required submission form can be picked up from the Registrar.

Policy on Graduating Student Participation in Commencement Ceremony

(Adopted by the faculty, as amended, on May 17, 2023)

Normally, in order for students to participate in commencement exercises (including commencement weekend events and inclusion in the class composite photo), students are expected to have successfully completed all program requirements before commencement. Students in good academic standing who have less than six (6) credits of program requirements to complete in either the summer or the coming fall semester may ask—pending faculty approval—to participate in commencement exercises the preceding spring before completion of all requirements. If the faculty does not approve such a request, the student will be included in the following year's commencement exercises and composite photo.

Further Information

1. Students who are still working on MA/MADM/M.Div. projects or theses at the time of graduation may participate in commencement if they have submitted a completed second draft to their project/thesis advisor by the end of April, with the expectation that the project/thesis will be completed before the start of the following fall semester.
2. Because internship is an academic requirement at Wartburg Theological Seminary, students completing a final-year internship may participate in commencement during internship, with approval of faculty, pending satisfactory

progress at the halfway evaluation (or, if the halfway evaluation is not unanimously supportive, then satisfactory progress at the next evaluation).

3. The student's diploma is held until successful completion of all requirements.
4. For all students, an appropriate symbol in the bulletin will indicate that the student is graduating "pending successful completion of requirements."
5. This policy goes into effect beginning the 2023-24 academic year.

Master of Divinity Degree Program

For New Students Starting Fall 2024 or Later (as well as retroactively to students who started earlier and have not already completed their two-credit IN 243W 21st Century Leadership course requirement)

The change from the MDiv degree as described in the earlier 2023-2025 seminary catalog is primarily replacing the previous two-credit IN 243W 21st Century Leadership single course requirement with a new pair of 1-credit courses. The new requirement consists of a 1-credit 21st Century Leadership course (currently numbered IN 243WA) and a separate 1-credit Boundaries course (currently numbered IN 243WB). All new students, plus previous students who have not already completed the original 21st Century Leadership course, are to complete this new two-part course requirement. All other degree course and credit requirements currently remain the same.

See also new policy (found elsewhere in the New Academic Policies and Procedures section of this catalog supplement) that clarifies and limits the number of courses that can be simultaneously completed by Residential (RL) and Distance (DL) Learners in the MDiv program while completing their full-time internship. Also see the new procedures surrounding the optional MDiv thesis, given below and found elsewhere in the New Academic Policies and Procedures section of this catalog supplement.

Wartburg Theological Seminary is an educational community centered in worship, which sets the study of the Christian message in the legacy of the church's heritage and in the global and social context of today's world. The Master of Divinity (MDiv) program, a four-year degree program, when taken full time, is a focal point of the faculty's mission in preparing persons for effective leadership in the ordained ministry of the church. The Mission Statement of WTS and Twelve Pastoral-Diaconal Practices focus all curriculum outcomes on the church's mission to the world. We aim to form pastors who can "interpret, proclaim and live the gospel of Jesus Christ for a world created for communion with God and in need of personal and social healing." (from Wartburg's Mission Statement). Wartburg's program is organized under three divisions: Biblical Studies (BI), History and Theology (HT), and Ministry (MN). There are also Integrative (IN) courses team-taught by professors of the three divisions.

One MDiv Degree Program – Three Pathways – Two Primary Schedules

We offer the MDiv curriculum in three pathways. Each student is admitted into the degree program and chooses the pathway based on their situation. Each student completes coursework under one of two basic patterns of course scheduling. Both course patterns include the same courses but vary between either a three year or four-year pattern for sequencing the coursework and how the internship requirement is met. Both scheduling patterns are considered as full-time study for completing the degree within four years.

The three pathways of students are the following:

- **Residential Learners (RL)** – The "Residential Learner" is the on-campus student (or commuter) who completes coursework in face-to-face classroom learning on campus in Dubuque.
- **Distance Learners (DL)** – The "Distance Learner" is the off-campus student who is studying from their home context and completing their courses from afar. It is expected that a distance learner, who may or may not be working part-time, can still sustain a course load equal to the residential learner, and that it is a matter of location and personal circumstances (due to work, family, or other reasons) that distinguishes a DL student from the RL student.
- **Collaborative Learners (CL)** – The "Collaborative Learner" is a specific category of student where the student is formally approved by the seminary, by the student's home ELCA synod (or other appropriate denominational

adjudicatory), and by the ELCA synod providing a congregational site. CL students serve concurrently in part-time congregational ministry under supervision of a rostered leader and accompanied by a mentor. For CL students, coursework is distance over the entire four years of study and internship normally takes place during the fourth through sixth semesters, during which time the evaluation process is formalized.

Because of these differences, there are two different patterns of scheduled coursework identified for completion of the degree. Full-time Residential and Distance Learners will complete the Residential Learner/Distance Learner pattern for the degree, whereby internship has its own designated year (normally the third year) and the academic coursework is normally completed in three academic years. Collaborative Learners have a distinctive pattern that schedules courses over the entire four years, allowing time for their involvement in ministry concurrently with their entire period of study. Because of their common coursework schedule, RL, DL, and CL students can with permission move back and forth between residential, distance, and collaborative study in different years or semesters should that become necessary. See the curriculum grids below for the differences between the two academic patterns.

Please note that students in all three pathways (including DL and CL students) all expected to come to Dubuque for one week of residential course work at the start of each Fall and Spring Semester (what the seminary calls Prolog Weeks) during any semester that the student is completing major coursework.

Course Load

To be considered a full-time student (and therefore potentially eligible for all forms of financial aid), a student must take a minimum of nine (9) semester hours each term. (To qualify for financial aid, most scholarships or grants require that the 9 or more credits that constitute full-time status each semester consist of "tuition-billed coursework credits," of which internship or CPE credits do not count as they are not charged tuition.) The normal minimum course load needed for Residential and Distance Learners programs to complete the degree in four years is 12.5 credit hours in each fall and spring semester, plus 2 credit hours in each of the three required January interims. The normal minimum course load needed in the Collaborative Learner program to complete in four years is typically 9.5 hours in each of the fall and spring semesters (or 9 hours each in the two semesters that Spiritual Practices is not taken), plus 2 credit hours each in three January interims. These credit minimums do not include two distributional requirements or elective courses, and may not include all the courses taken for a concentration, which may be beyond these expected minimums. Permission from the Academic Dean is required for RL and DL students to take more than 15.5 semester hours of coursework in a semester, or for CL students to add more than a couple of coursework credits beyond 9.5 semester hours, especially in the semesters when a student's formal internship is being completed. Students completing CPE during coursework semesters are also expected to get permission, and possibly reduce their courseload, to see that all can be managed. RL and DL students completing the normal full-year internship also cannot take courses during the internship period except with permission of the Academic Dean, the Contextual Education Director, and the internship site supervisor.

Part-time study is possible and may become necessary for some students for a variety of reasons. Part-time study for WTS is defined as less than 9 semester hours in the fall or spring semester respectively (or less than 2 hours in the January interim). Part-time students (with 6 coursework credit hours or more) have access to Federal financial aid and to defer student loans. The student who becomes part-time should no longer expect that their MDiv degree can still be completed in the four years normally defined for the degree. Further, except for some distributional courses, most courses that meet degree requirements are only taught once each year, and therefore a part-time student may need to wait for a later academic year in order to fulfill a particular degree requirement, which can further delay completion of the degree.

Time Available to Complete the Degree

The MDiv degree normally must be completed within seven (7) calendar years of study from the oldest course to the most recent course, unless specific action is taken by the faculty to extend this duration for a student.

Students who have interrupted their theological education for seven or more years prior to re-entrance ordinarily will not receive credit for previous work unless specific action is taken by the faculty at the recommendation of the Academic Dean to extend this for a student.

MDiv Program Learning Outcomes

The following desired learning outcomes guide the Master of Divinity degree program:

1. Demonstrates clarity about the Gospel character of the Christian message in all dimensions of public leadership.
 - a. Understands the Gospel as true for one's life
 - b. Distinguishes the activity of the Word as Law and Gospel
 - c. Articulates and lives out a clear Christian identity
 - d. Engages the way of Jesus Christ and the Cross
 - e. Cultivates a compelling vision of the Gospel for public leadership
2. Interprets reality and relationships biblically and theologically as a habit.
 - a. Understands biblical and theological traditions and teachings
 - b. Understands biblical and theological wisdom with depth and critical thinking
 - c. Inhabits the office of the Word with biblical and the1ological and wisdom

- d. Interprets reality theologically and biblically as a habit using a core set of theological concepts
- e. Teaches the faith effectively and with accessible language
- 3. Creatively orchestrates shared preparation and leadership of worship at the center of the church's community life.
 - a. Understands the nature and centrality of Christian worship in the community's life
 - b. Understands the centrality of the Word and Sacrament as means of grace in the community's life
 - c. Values the gifts and participation of others in planning and leading worship
 - d. Demonstrates intentional worship preparation and leadership
- 4. Cultivates strategic partnerships that serve God's mission.
 - a. Understands systems theory and the importance of self-differentiation
 - b. Understands ecclesial ecosystems with intelligence and awareness
 - c. Demonstrates curiosity and openness toward strategic partnerships
 - d. Fosters partnerships and works collaboratively with others
- 5. Stewards integrity and trustworthy pastoral imagination.
 - a. Commits to leading a life worthy of the Gospel of Christ, serving faithfully and living responsibly
 - b. Supports the ministry of the larger church, advocating for the work of all expressions of the church
 - c. Practices stewardship that respects God's gifts of time, talents, resources, and relationships
 - d. Establishes and maintains clear boundaries to ensure the integrity of ministry
- 6. Stewards trustworthy leadership and ministry skills.
 - a. Understands the public character of the office of ministry as attending to the well-being of others
 - b. Approaches the ministry of the Word as a call to teach in both structured settings and informal relationships
 - c. Demonstrates active listening and empathy in pastoral care
 - d. Demonstrates biblically and theologically faithful preaching that connects the Word of God with daily life
 - e. Exhibits the capacity to engage people and adaptively lead them toward active participation in God's mission in the world
- 7. Demonstrates cultural competence to lead in ministry with people across diverse contexts.
 - a. Understands the ecological value of human diversity
 - b. Demonstrates awareness of the challenge and promise of cultural diversity
 - c. Engages multi-cultural issues and religious pluralism in a global context
 - d. Invests in deepening interactions with and deeper learning from other cultures and contexts

MDiv Curriculum Requirements

The Master of Divinity degree consists of a minimum of 116 semester hours, met by completing 83 hours of coursework (including three January interims), the equivalent of a twelve-month internship (27 hours), and one unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (6 hours). Most requirements are met by specified courses that are taught once a year in the designated semester (either fall or spring).

A. MDiv Requirements Checklist Presented In Chart Format:

Bible (BI) Division	History/Theology (HT) Division	Ministry (MN) Division	Interdisciplinary (IN)
BI-L Biblical Greek Language	HT-1 Global Church History & Mission 1	MN-1 Worship	IN-1 Jesus Christ and Plural Worlds (2 hours)
BI-1 New Testament 1 - Gospels	HT-2 Systematic Theology	MN-2 Pastoral Care	IN-2 Formation for Discipleship (2 hours)
BI-2 New Testament 2 - Epistles	HT-3 Lutheran Confessions	MN-4 Being Body of Christ: Theology of the Congregation (2 hours)	IN-3a 21 st Century Leadership (1 hour)
BI-3 Hebrew Bible 1	HT-4 Global Church History & Mission 2	MN-5 Preaching	IN-3b Boundaries (1 hour)
BI-4 Hebrew Bible 2	HT-5 Christian Ethics	MN-6 Liturgy & Life / Renewing Worship	IN-4 Integrative Seminar
BI-5 Advanced Bible - New Testament	HT-6 Advanced Theology	MN-7 Rural Ministry Requirement (1 hour)	IN-5 Word, Image, Imagination
BI-6 Advanced Bible - Hebrew Bible			

		MN-8 Youth & Family Ministry Requirement (1 hour)	IN-6 Reading & Leading in Context IN 7.1 – 7.6 Spiritual Practices 1-6 (six courses at 0.5 hours each)
		MN-9 Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) (6 hours)	IN 8.1 J-Term 1 Cross-Cultural Immersion (2 hours)
		MN-10 Internship (27 hours)	IN 8.2 J-Term 2 Student's choice (2 hours)
			IN-8.3 J-Term 3 Student's choice (2 hours)
			IN 9.1 – IN 9.2 Fieldwork 1 & 2 (two units at 1 hour each)
= 21 Semester Hours	= 18 Semester Hours	= 49 Semester Hours	= 28 Semester Hours
Plus a minimum of 2 Hours of ELECTIVE (non-designated) coursework			
Degree Total = Minimum of 116 semester hours			

B. MDiv Requirements Checklist In List Format:

Requirement Number

Requirement Short Title

Primary Course to Meet Requirement

Bible Division (BI) – 21 Hours

BI-L	Biblical Greek Language	BI 103W Beginning NT Greek Language
BI-1	New Testament 1 - Gospels	BI 190 Engaging the New Testament Narratives
BI-2	New Testament 2 - Epistles	BI 192 Engaging the New Testament Letters
BI-3	Hebrew Bible 1	BI 222 Hebrew Bible-Exegesis for Ministry 1
BI-4	Hebrew Bible 2	BI 224 Hebrew Bible-Exegesis for Ministry 2
BI-5	Advanced Bible – New Testament	BI 360 New Testament – Engaging the World or Designated BI 3xx courses
BI-6	Advanced Bible – Hebrew Bible	BI 320 Hebrew Bible – Engaging the World or Designated BI 3xx courses

History/Theology Division (HT) – 18 Hours

HT-1	Church History/Mission 1	HT 105 The Global Church in Motion 1
HT-2	Systematic Theology	HT 140 Systematic Theology
HT-3	Lutheran Confessions	HT 212 Lutheran Confessions
HT-4	Church History/Mission 2	HT 205 The Global Church in Motion 2
HT-5	Christian Ethics	HT 267 Lutheran Ethics: Freedom for the Neighbor
HT-6	Advanced Theology	Designated HT 3xx courses

Ministry Division (MN) – 16 Hours of coursework, plus 33 hours of CPE and Internship

MN-1	Worship	MN 106 Foundations of Lutheran Worship
MN-2	Pastoral Care	MN 270 Pastoral Care in Context

MN-4	Being Body of Christ	MN 255 Being Body of Christ: Theology of the Congregation (2 hours)
MN-5	Preaching	MN 230 Preaching
MN-6	Liturgy & Life/Renewing Worship	MN 306 Liturgy and Life: Worship and Mission in Context and Culture
MN-7	Rural Ministry Requirement	Designated MN xxx courses or MN 397 Rural J-Term (1 hour minimum)
MN-8	Youth & Family Ministry	Designated MN xxx courses (1 hour minimum)
MN-9	Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)	MN 280 Clinical Pastoral Education [normally completed offsite at an accredited ACPE site] (6 hours)
MN-10	Internship	MN 370 Internship [12 months full-time or 18 months part-time (equivalent to full-time), completed at a church designated by the seminary in collaboration with the synod (27 hours)

Interdisciplinary/Integrative (IN) – 28 Hours

IN-1	Jesus Christ and Plural Worlds	IN 141 Jesus Christ and Plural Worlds (2 hours)
IN-2	Formation for Discipleship	IN 142 Formation for Discipleship: Vocation, Witness, and Ministry (2 hours)
IN-3a	21 st Century Leadership	IN 243WA 21 st Century Leadership: Public, Connected, and Adaptive (1 hour)
IN-3b	Boundaries	IN 243WB Boundaries (1 hour)
IN-4	Integrative Seminar	IN 344 Integrative Capstone Seminar or Designated courses
IN-5	Word, Image, Imagination	IN 345 Word, Image, Imagination
IN-6	Reading & Leading in Context	IN 346 Reading and Leading in Context: Methods, Media, and Entrepreneurial Practices
IN-7.1 to IN 7.6	Spiritual Practices 1 – 6	IN 161/162 Spiritual Practices 1 & 2 IN 261/262 Spiritual Practices 3 & 4 IN 361/362 Spiritual Practices 5 & 6 (each SP course 0.5 hours; totaling 3 hours)
IN-8.1	January – Cross-Cultural Requirement	Designated January courses (2 hours)
IN-8.2	January – Required 2 nd J-Term	Student's choice (2 hours)
IN-8.3	January – Required 3 rd J-Term	Student's choice (2 hours)
IN-9.1 & IN-9.2	Fieldwork Experiences 1 & 2	IN 171/172 Serving the Community: Fieldwork 1 & 2

Non-Designated Elective Coursework - A Minimum of Two (2) Semester Hours of elective coursework in any discipline.

Degree Total = Minimum of 116 semester hours

MDiv Contextual Ministry Requirements

A. MDiv Fieldwork Placement Requirement

To broaden a student's perspectives beyond that of the classroom or one's own church, all MDiv students are required to complete two units of Fieldwork. Over the course of two semesters (usually in one's second year of seminary), students partner with community service organizations to serve the common good, engaging a minimum of thirty hours per semester (or a minimum of sixty hours for the full requirement) in service, practicing accompaniment and exploring bridge-building between church and community. Fieldwork is typically completed in service organizations, although service can also be offered in a congregation, parish, or other organized ministry. Collaborative Learning students are especially encouraged to engage in this requirement through opportunities available near to their ministry sites, with already established community partners. Fieldwork sites must be approved by the seminary's Contextual Education Office, and student activities must be documented by submitting a record each semester of the hours spent working with their fieldwork sites. These student logs must be signed by their site supervisor, attesting to the student's work at the site (with supervisors being encouraged to submit additional comments).

B. MDiv Clinical (CPE) Requirement

Wartburg Seminary is a member of the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE), which is the international professional agency for the certification of supervisors and accreditation of centers for clinical pastoral education since 1968. One unit of CPE is an ELCA and degree requirement. CPE provides hands-on practice in pastoral ministry in a clinical setting (hospital, nursing home, etc., under the direction of an accredited supervisor and with a cohort of student-peers.

Students can meet this requirement either through a 10-week, full-time unit in the summer, as an extended, part-time unit spread out over several months, or as an online unit. More information can be found at: <https://acpe.edu/education/cpe-students>.

C. MDiv Internship

A congregational internship, equivalent to one year of full-time supervised ministry, provides students a significant contextualized experience in ministry as a fundamental component of their theological education and is an ELCA and degree requirement. Internship normally takes place before the final academic year of the MDiv degree.

Prior to internship, the student normally is expected to be endorsed by a synodical candidacy committee, to have completed a unit of CPE, and to have fulfilled pre-internship curriculum requirements.

Concentrations

The MADM and MDiv degree programs offers the option of Concentrations as a means to develop specialization in an area of ministry. A concentration consists of a minimum of 10 credits in a specified area of emphasis. Currently we offer three concentrations with the MDiv degree:

Hispanic Ministry

Purpose: The Concentration in Hispanic Ministry builds competence for engaging in ministry with Latinx peoples and contexts. It introduces students to ministry in contexts with a Latinx focus and fosters intercultural competency.

Objectives:

1. To listen and relate to Latinx persons and communities.
2. To increase skills for intercultural ministry with Latinx people.
3. To engage and reflect on literature related to Hispanic ministry.
4. To network with those serving in ministry in Hispanic contexts.

Concentration Plan (MDiv and MADiac): The concentration provides an opportunity for students to enroll in a minimum of 10 credits focused on meeting concentration objectives. These may include:

1. Courses or independent studies during January term.
2. IN-4 (IN 344W, 3 cr) and IN-6 (IN 346W, 3 cr) with project focus on topics related to one or more of the concentration objectives.
3. Two semesters of fieldwork (1 cr and 1 cr) with particular attention to concentration objectives.
4. Elective courses designated as meeting the Hispanic Ministry concentration. This may include Spanish language courses.
5. Courses offered through the Hispanic Summer Program: <https://hispanicsummerprogram.org/> Wartburg Theological Seminary is a supporting institution of the Hispanic Summer Program.

In addition, students are encouraged to participate in trainings, guest presentations, extracurricular offerings, and other opportunities as they become available.

Small Town and Rural Ministry

Purpose: The Concentration in Rural Ministry provides an opportunity for students interested in providing leadership in small town and rural (STaR), including small member congregations, and to deepen their theological and practical imagination around these ministry settings.

Objectives:

1. Increase awareness of and ability to interpret the relationship between church and STaR contexts, and develop ecumenical, collaborative partnerships that serve the neighbor.
2. Understand the dynamics of STaR/small member congregations from a systems and sociological framework.
3. Acquire the biblical and theological foundations and leadership skills to assist STaR/small member congregations in exploring transformational change.
4. Develop a theological understanding of mission and practical leadership skills to help empower STaR/small member congregations for mission in their communities including their important role in ensuring global food security and addressing global climate change.

Concentration Plan (MDiv and MADM): Wartburg Theological Seminary's curriculum has been designed to form leaders for the complex challenges facing congregations. The concentration provides an opportunity for students to take that learning to a deeper level. Normally, the 10 credit requirements for the concentration include:

1. The Rural Immersion J-term course or a J-term independent study (2 cr).
2. IN-4 (IN 344W, 3 cr) and IN-6 (IN 346W, 3 cr) with project foci on topics focusing on one or more concentration objectives.
3. Two semesters of fieldwork (1 cr + 1 cr) with particular attention on concentration objectives OR rural ministry electives from the MN 200 or MN 300 series (2 cr).
4. Concentration students are encouraged to take additional rural ministry or related electives from the MN 200 or MN 300 series as available.

In addition, students are encouraged to participate in guest presentations as they become available and the annual rural ministry conference.

Mission Development and Redevelopment

Purpose: The Concentration in Mission Development provides an opportunity for students interested in providing leadership to creating new worshipping communities or redeveloping existing worshipping communities, and to deepen their theological and practical imagination around these unique ministry settings.

Objectives:

1. Deepen one's articulation of a theology of mission development and redevelopment rooted in the Triune God.
2. Cultivate a passion for collaborative, creative, and faithful leadership that bears witness to the mission of Jesus Christ in the world.
3. Increase awareness of and ability to interpret the relationship between church and context, and develop partnerships that serve the neighbor.
4. Create community centered in worship that forms disciples to do justice, love kindly, and walk humbly with God.

Concentration Plan (MDiv & MADM): Wartburg Theological Seminary's curriculum has been designed to form leaders for the complex challenges facing congregations. This concentration provides an opportunity for students to take that learning to a deeper level. The 10-credit requirements for the concentration include:

1. A J-term practicum or independent study (2 cr)
2. IN-4 (IN 344W, 3 cr) and IN-6 (IN 346W, 3 cr) with project foci on topics focusing on one or more concentration objectives
3. Two semesters of fieldwork (1 cr + 1 cr) with particular attention on concentration objectives OR electives (2 cr)
4. Concentration students are encouraged to take additional electives as available.

In addition, students are encouraged to participate in trainings, guest speaker lectures, and other events as they become available.

Please note:

Most concentrations also allow some flexibility in how assignments are completed in other courses. It is also possible in some cases to make arrangements, so that a student's internship site might provide experience in the student's area of a concentration.

Students should note that completing a concentration could involve coursework beyond the minimum degree requirements. The student in a concentration may need to take additional courses beyond the minimums in some semesters in order to meet the needs of both the degree and the concentration.

Optional MDiv Thesis

Final year MDiv students may elect to write a thesis upon approval by the faculty no later than the August faculty meeting of their final academic year. Normally students interested in doing an M.Div. thesis should express interest in writing to their faculty advisor as early as possible and prior to the fall semester of their final year by submitting the requisite form with the required attachments to their advisor and the Academic Dean by August 15 of their final academic year. Further, no later than the August faculty meeting, faculty will determine which students will be allowed to do a thesis based on faculty load and student ability. Those approved are expected to enroll in the fall IN 300W research seminar. The required submission form can be picked up from the Registrar. To apply to complete a final-year MDiv thesis, the student's request form needs to have by August 15 the following items for consideration: 1) 100-word thesis statement; 2) an outline of the thesis project; and 3) a preliminary bibliography (5–10 books and articles is suggested).

MDiv Graduation Requirements

The requirements of the Master of Divinity degree are:

- 1) The satisfactory completion of academic requirements, (including all named courses or their authorized equivalents, and distribution requirements) with a minimum of 116 semester hours (83 hours of academic coursework, 6 hours for one unit of CPE, together with 27 hours received at the completion of one year or equivalent of internship).
- 2) A minimum of one third of the recognized MDiv degree credits must be completed for this degree and consist of Wartburg Theological Seminary-taught coursework and Wartburg-supervised contextual ministry (i.e., a student's MDiv degree cannot consist entirely of credits transferred from institutions, consist of advanced standing, or overlap by more than two-thirds with other degrees previously earned through WTS).

A recommendation by the faculty to the Board of Directors and the Board's approval. A student must be in good standing with the business office, library, and financial aid office in order to receive a diploma.

Master of Divinity Curriculum Chart

Four-Year Residential Learning (RL) & Distance Learning (DL) Sequence

Beginning Fall Semester 2024

For students who are in residence or commuting to the campus in Dubuque (RL), or are completing the degree in their home context (DL), but not in a seminary and synod approved collaborative learning context. (See the separate chart for the CL program.)



Indicates when CPE normally is (or suggested to be) taken



Indicates when Internship normally is completed

NOT SHOWN ON THE FOLLOWING CHART: The Rural Ministry [MN-7] and Youth & Family Ministry [MN-8] requirements, one credit hour each, which are met by designated courses that can be taken at any time, including as a January course when appropriate.

	Summer	Fall Semester (15 weeks)	January Interim (4 weeks)	Spring Semester (15 Weeks)
Year 1		Greek Language [BI-L, 3 cr] Global Ch. History & Mission 1 [HT-1, 3 cr] Jesus Christ and Plural Worlds [IN-1, 2 cr] Worship [MN-1, 3 cr] Spiritual Practices 1 [IN-7.1, 0.5 cr] Minimum of 1 cr. of Elective or Distributional coursework {=12.5 credits}	[IN 8.1] or [IN 8.2] or [IN 8.3] {=2 credits}	New Testament 1 [BI-1, 3 cr] Systematic Theology [HT-2, 3 cr] Formation for Discipleship [IN-2, 2 cr] Pastoral Care [MN-2, 3 cr] Spiritual Practices 2 [IN-7.2, 0.5 cr] Minimum of 1 cr. of Elective or Distributional coursework {=12.5 credits}
Year 2	CPE (normally)	New Testament 2 [BI-2, 3 cr] Hebrew Bible 1 [BI-3, 3 cr] Lutheran Confessions [HT-3, 3 cr] 21 st Century Leadership [IN-3a, 1 cr] Boundaries [IN-3b, 1 cr] Fieldwork 1 [IN-9.1, 1 cr] Spiritual Practices 3 [IN-7.3, 0.5 cr] {=12.5 credits}	[IN 8.1] or [IN 8.2] or [IN 8.3] {=2 credits}	Hebrew Bible 2 [BI-4, 3 cr] Global Ch. History & Mission 2 [HT-4, 3 cr] Being Body of Christ [MN-4, 2 cr] Preaching [MN-5, 3 cr] Fieldwork 2 [IN-9.2, 1 cr] Spiritual Practices 4 [IN-7.4, 0.5 cr] {=12.5 credits}

Year 3	Internship (12 months)			
Year 4		Advanced Bible – HB [BI-6, 3 cr] Christian Ethics [HT-5, 3 cr] Integrative Capstone Seminar [IN-4, 3 cr] Advanced Theology [HT-6, 3 cr] Spiritual Practices 5 [IN-7.5, 0.5 cr] {=12.5 credits}	[IN 8.1] or [IN 8.2] or [IN 8.3] {=2 credits}	Advanced Bible – NT [BI-5, 3 cr] Liturgy & Life / Renewing Worship [MN-6, 3 cr] Word, Image, Imagination [IN-5, 3 cr] Reading & Leading in Context [IN-6, 3 cr] Spiritual Practices 6 [IN-7.6, 0.5 cr] {=12.5 credits}



Degree Total = Minimum of 116 semester hours

Master of Divinity Curriculum Chart

Four-Year Collaborative Learning (CL) Sequence

Beginning Fall Semester 2024

For students only in a seminary and synod approved CL placement

-  Indicates when CPE normally is (or suggested to be) taken
-  Indicates when Internship normally is completed

NOT SHOWN ON THE FOLLOWING CHART: The Rural Ministry [MN-7] and Youth & Family Ministry [MN-8] requirements, one credit hour each, which are met by designated courses that can be taken at any time, including as a January course when appropriate.

	Summer	Fall Semester (15 weeks)	January Interim (4 weeks)	Spring Semester (15 Weeks)
Year 1		Greek Language [BI-L, 3 cr] Jesus Christ and Plural Worlds [IN-1, 2 cr] Worship [MN-1, 3 cr] Spiritual Practices 1 [IN-7.1, 0.5 cr] Minimum of 1 cr. of Elective or Distributional coursework {=9.5 credits}	[IN8.1] or [IN 8.2] or [IN 8.3] {=2 credits}	New Testament 1 [BI-1, 3 cr] Systematic Theology [HT-2, 3 cr] Formation for Discipleship [IN-2, 2 cr] Spiritual Practices 2 [IN-7.2, 0.5 cr] Minimum of 1 cr. of Elective or Distributional coursework {=9.5 credits}
Year 2	CPE (normally)	Hebrew Bible 1 [BI-3, 3 cr] Lutheran Confessions [HT-3, 3 cr] 21 st Century Leadership [IN-3a, 1 cr] Boundaries [IN-3b, 1 cr] Fieldwork 1 [IN-9.1, 1 cr] Spiritual Practices 3 [IN-7.3, 0.5 cr] {=9.5 credits}	[IN8.1] or [IN 8.2] or [IN 8.3] {=2 credits}	Hebrew Bible 2 [BI-4, 3 cr] Being Body of Christ [MN-4, 2 cr] Preaching [MN-5, 3 cr] Fieldwork 2 [IN-9.2, 1 cr] Spiritual Practices 4 [IN-7.4, 0.5 cr] {=9.5 credits}

Year 3		New Testament 2 [BI-2, 3 cr] Global Ch. History & Mission 1 [HT-1, 3 cr] Christian Ethics [HT-5, 3 cr] {=9 credits}		Pastoral Care [MN-2, 3 cr] Global Ch. History & Mission 2 [HT-4, 3 cr] Advanced Bible – NT [BI-5, 3 cr] {=9 credits}
Year 4		Advanced Bible – HB [BI-6, 3 cr] Integrative Capstone Seminar [IN-4, 3 cr] Advanced Theology [HT-6, 3 cr] Spiritual Practices 5 [IN-7.5, 0.5 cr] {=9.5 credits}	[IN8.1] or [IN 8.2] or [IN 8.3] {=2 credits}	Liturgy & Life / Renewing Worship [MN-6, 3 cr] Word, Image, Imagination [IN-5, 3 cr] Reading & Leading in Context [IN-6, 3 cr] Spiritual Practices 6 [IN-7.6, 0.5 cr] {=9.5 credits}

Degree Total = Minimum of 116 semester

Master of Arts in Diaconal Ministry Degree Program

For New Students Starting Fall 2024 or Later

The change from the MA in Diaconal Ministry degree as described in the earlier 2023-2025 seminary catalog is adding a new 1-credit Boundaries course requirement (currently numbered IN 243WB). All newly starting students must now complete this course prior to starting their deacon internship. This additional course removes one credit of previously counted elective/specialization credits, and keeps the minimum of total credits required for the degree the same as before. All other degree course requirements remain the same.

Wartburg Theological Seminary is an educational community centered in worship, which sets the study of the Christian message in the legacy of the church's heritage and in the global and social context of today's world. The Master of Arts in Diaconal Ministry (MA in Diaconal Ministry or MADM) degree program is aimed at students interested in service in the church as a deacon. The MA in Diaconal Ministry degree combines the academic requirements for diaconal ministry with courses that meet the fieldwork/internship requirements for candidacy as a deacon in the ELCA. The MA in Diaconal Ministry program aims at integrating skills for ministry with theological reflection. It is ideal for those candidates for church service who want to bridge a congregational or local church setting with the mission of the church in society.

Residential, Distance Learning, and Collaborative Learning Options

Master of Arts in Diaconal Ministry students enroll as either a Residential Learner (RL) or Distance Learner (DL) depending on their needs. These categories of student are defined as follows:

- **Residential Learners (RL)** – The “Residential Learner” is the on-campus student (or commuter) who completes coursework primarily by face-to-face classroom learning on campus in Dubuque.
- **Distance Learners (DL)** – The “Distance Learner” is the off-campus student who is studying from their home context and completing their courses from afar. It is expected that a distance learner, who may or may not be working part-time, can still sustain a course load equal to the residential learner, and that it is a matter of location and personal circumstances (due to work, family, or other reasons) that distinguishes a DL student from the RL student. DL in the context of this degree includes students who might otherwise qualify to be CL students in the MDiv program.

All the students, whether RL or DL, complete the same degree requirements and are in the same courses.

Course Load

To be considered a full-time student (and therefore potentially eligible for all forms of financial aid), a student must take a minimum of nine (9) semester hours each term. The normal minimum course load needed for students to complete the coursework for the degree in two years is 10.5 credit hours in each fall and spring semester, plus 2 credit hours in each of the two required January interims. These credit minimums do not include contextual ministry requirements for the MADM degree program and may not include all the courses taken for a concentration, which may be beyond these expected minimums. Permission from the Academic Dean is required for students to take more than 15.5 semester hours of coursework in a semester. Students completing CPE or their deacon internship during coursework semesters are also expected to get permission, and possibly reduce their courseload, to see that all can be managed.

Part-time study is possible and may become necessary for some students for a variety of reasons. Part-time study for WTS is defined as less than 9 semester hours in the fall or spring semester respectively (or less than 2 hours in the January interim). Part-time students (with 6 coursework credit hours or more) may have access to Federal financial aid and to defer student loans. The student who becomes part-time should no longer expect that their MADM degree can still be completed in the two years normally defined for the degree. Further, most courses that meet degree requirements are only taught once each year, and therefore a part-time student may need to wait for a later academic year in order to fulfill a particular degree requirement, which can further delay completion of the degree.

Time Available to Complete the Degree

The MA in Diaconal Ministry degree normally must be completed within five (5) calendar years of study from the oldest course to the most recent course, unless specific action is taken by the faculty to extend this duration for a student.

Students who have interrupted their theological education for seven or more years prior to re-entrance ordinarily will not receive credit for previous work unless specific action is taken by the faculty at the recommendation of the Academic Dean to extend this for a student.

MA in Diaconal Ministry Program Learning Outcomes

The following desired learning outcomes guide the Master of Arts in Diaconal Ministry degree program:

1. Demonstrates clarity about the Gospel character of the Christian message in all dimensions of public leadership.
 - a. Understands the Gospel as true for one's life
 - b. Distinguishes the activity of the Word as Law and Gospel
 - c. Articulates and lives out a clear Christian identity
 - d. Engages the way of Jesus Christ and the Cross
 - e. Cultivates a compelling vision of the Gospel for public leadership
2. Interprets reality and relationships biblically and theologically as a habit.
 - a. Understands biblical and theological traditions and teachings
 - b. Understands biblical and theological wisdom with depth and critical thinking
 - c. Inhabits the office of the Word with biblical and theological wisdom
 - d. Interprets reality theologically and biblically as a habit using a core set of theological concepts
 - e. Teaches the faith effectively and with accessible language
3. Cultivates strategic partnerships that serve God's mission.
 - a. Understands system theory and the importance of self-differentiation
 - b. Understands ecclesial ecosystems with intelligence and awareness
 - c. Demonstrates curiosity and openness toward strategic partnerships
 - d. Fosters partnerships and works collaboratively with others
4. Stewards integrity and trustworthy imagination.
 - a. Commits to leading a life worthy of the Gospel of Christ, serving faithfully and living responsibly
 - b. Supports the ministry of the larger church, advocating for the work of all expressions of the church
 - c. Practices stewardship that respects God's gifts of time, talents, resources, and relationships
 - d. Establishes and maintains clear boundaries to ensure the integrity of ministry
5. Engages diaconal leadership at the interface of church and society.
 - a. Understands the history and distinctive significance of diaconal ministry for the church's mission
 - b. Advocates a prophetic *diakonia*, committed to risk taking and innovative service
 - c. Proclaims publicly to the world in solidarity with the marginalized, calling for justice and sharing God's love
 - d. Equips the baptized for ministry and daily life that draws upon the gifts of all people
6. Demonstrates cultural competence to lead in ministry with people across diverse contexts.
 - a. Understands the ecological value of human diversity
 - b. Demonstrates awareness of the challenge and promise of cultural diversity
 - c. Engages multi-cultural issues and religious pluralism in a global context
 - d. Invests in deepening interactions with and deeper learning from other cultures and contexts

MA in Diaconal Ministry Curriculum Degree Requirements

The basic Master of Arts in Diaconal Ministry degree is designed to meet the candidacy requirements for the leadership roster of Deacon in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), but can be adapted to meet requirements also for other denominations.

The degree requirements consist of a minimum of 64 semester hours, met by 46 credits of coursework and research, including two J-Term courses, plus 18 credits of internship and clinical pastoral education: Of the overall credits for the degree, 26 semester hours are specific to the MA in Diaconal Ministry degree. The degree requirements are itemized below.

A. MA in Diaconal Ministry Requirements Checklist Presented In Chart Format:

Each requirement is 3 semester hours, unless noted, and is usually met by a specified course. Each requirement has a number, and a shorthand title for the requirement. The actual course (or eligible courses) that fulfills a requirement may vary. The MA in Diaconal Ministry degree does require the completion of elective credits, which are normally focused toward a specialization.

Bible (BI) Division	History/Theology (HT) Division	Specialization	Interdisciplinary (IN)	Diaconal Ministry Specific Requirements
BI-1	HT-1	Specialization Electives	IN-1	DM-1

New Testament 1 - Gospels BI-2 New Testament 2 - Epistles BI-3 Hebrew Bible 1 BI-4 Hebrew Bible 2	Global Church History & Mission 1 HT-2 Systematic Theology HT-3 Lutheran Confessions HT-5 Christian Ethics	(5 hours minimum. Possibly, but not exclusively, consisting of Ministry Division or Interdisciplinary courses beyond those separately required)	Jesus Christ and Plural Worlds (2 hours) IN-2 Formation for Discipleship (2 hours) IN-3b Boundaries (1 hour) IN 7.1 – 7.4 Spiritual Practices 1-4 (four courses at 0.5 hours each) IN 8.1 J-Term 1 Cross-Cultural Immersion (2 hours)	Diaconal Ministry Seminar 1: Foundations of Diaconal Ministry (1 hour) DM-2/ J-Term 2 Diaconal Ministry-Specific Course (2 hours, likely as a J-Term course) DM-4 MADM Integrative Capstone Seminar (3 hours) DM-5 Diaconal Ministry Seminar 2 (2 hours) DM-6 Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) (1 unit, 6 hours) DM-7 Diaconal Ministry Internship [1,000 hours minimum length] (12 hours)
= 12 Hours	= 12 Hours	= 5 Hours	= 9 hours	= 26 hours
Degree Total = 64 semester hours minimum				

B. MA in Diaconal Ministry Requirements Checklist In List Format:

Each course requirement is 3 hours each, unless noted, and is usually met by a specified course. Each requirement has a number and a shorthand title for the requirement. The actual course (or eligible courses) to fulfill a requirement may vary. The MA in Diaconal Ministry degree does require the completion of elective credits, which are normally focused toward a specialization..

<u>Requirement Number</u>	<u>Requirement Short Title</u>	<u>Primary Course to Meet Requirement</u>
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Bible Division (BI) – 12 Hours

BI-1	New Testament 1 - Gospels	BI 190 Engaging the New Testament Narratives
BI-2	New Testament 2 - Epistles	BI 192 Engaging the New Testament Letters
BI-3	Hebrew Bible 1	BI 222 Hebrew Bible-Exegesis for Ministry 1
BI-4	Hebrew Bible 2	BI 224 Hebrew Bible-Exegesis for Ministry 2

History/Theology Division (HT) – 12 Hours

HT-1	Church History/Mission 1	HT 105 The Global Church in Motion 1
HT-2	Systematic Theology	HT 140 Systematic Theology
HT-3	Lutheran Confessions	HT 212 Lutheran Confessions
HT-5	Christian Ethics	HT 267 Lutheran Ethics: Freedom for the Neighbor

Interdisciplinary/Integrative (IN) –9 Hours

IN-1	Jesus Christ and Plural Worlds	IN 141 Jesus Christ and Plural Worlds (2 hours)
IN-2	Formation for Discipleship	IN 142 Formation for Discipleship: Vocation, Witness, and Ministry (2 hours)
IN-3b	Boundaries	IN 243WB Boundaries (1 hour)
IN-7.1 to IN 7.4	Spiritual Practices 1 – 4	IN 161/162 Spiritual Practices 1 & 2 IN 261/262 Spiritual Practices 3 & 4 (each SP course 0.5 hours; totaling 2 hours)
IN-8.1	January – Cross-Cultural Requirement	Designated January courses (2 hours)

Diaconal Ministry Specific Requirements – 26 Hours

DM-1	Diaconal Ministry Seminar 1	IN 123W Diaconal Ministry: Foundations of Diaconal Ministry (1 hour)
DM-2	January - Diaconal Min. Specific Course	Chosen as part of one's Diaconal Ministry specialization. Could be a Diaconal Ministry Formation Event (or similar course if one is available) possibly as a January or Summer course; Could also be research for the Diaconal Ministry Project or further specialization. (2 hours)
DM-4	MADM Integrative Capstone Project	IN 325W MADM Integrative Capstone Project (3 hours)
DM-5	Diaconal Ministry Seminar 2	IN 323W Diaconal Ministry Seminar 2.: Servant Leader (2 hours)
DM-6	Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)	MN 280 Clinical Pastoral Education [normally completed offsite at an accredited ACPE site] (6 hours)
DM-7	Diaconal Ministry Internship	IN 320W Deacon Internship [equivalent to 6 months of full-time fieldwork] (12 hours)

Specialization Elective and other electives – 5 hours minimum

Courses chosen from among core courses in the disciplines or their distributional or elective offerings in the fall and spring semester that cover areas of specialty relating to your degree. Specialization electives could include courses in worship, preaching, and pastoral care, or coursework toward the mission development/redevelopment, rural ministry, youth and family ministry, or Hispanic ministry concentrations.

Degree Total = 64 semester hours minimum, plus possibly more credits depending on coursework chosen for the specialization electives of if adding a concentration.

Deacon CPE and Internship

The contextual education components of the MA in Diaconal Ministry program are divided into two areas: (1) a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) at an ACPE-accredited site; and (2) a 1,000-hour Deacon Internship.

CPE provides hands-on practice in pastoral ministry in a clinical setting (hospital, nursing home, etc.) under the direction of an accredited supervisor and with a cohort of student-peers. Students can meet this requirement through a 10-week, full-time unit in the summer, or an extended, part-time unit spread out over several months, or an online unit. More information can be found at: <https://acpe.edu/education/cpe-students>.

The Deacon Internship provides opportunities for the student to demonstrate competence in the student's area(s) of specialization. Various contexts may be arranged sequentially and cumulatively to makeup the required minimum 1,000 hours. Each internship will include a significant engagement in a congregational context. The Deacon internship is independently arranged in consultation with the Wartburg Seminary Director of Contextual Education, the internship site, and the synod Candidacy Committee.

Registration for both CPE and the Internship are coordinated with the Registrar's office upon notification of a placement from the Contextual Education Office.

MADM Research Project/Integrative Capstone Seminar

[For new MADM degree students starting in Fall 2022, or those who started earlier and will not have their IN 305W project completed by May 2024:] The MADM Integrative Capstone Seminar (IN 325W, 3 credits) provides an opportunity for students to integrate what they have learned throughout their degree, including their deacon internship, in a seminar project. This seminar is completed normally in the student's last spring semester of coursework in the degree program and combines what was previously a separate research course (IN 300W) and the previous diaconal ministry research project (IN 305W) into a single capstone seminar. Depending on the student's specialty for diaconal ministry, this seminar may produce a research paper, other project, or portfolio work, and normally includes a community presentation in early May. The

MA/MADM Coordinator of the faculty normally is the instructor for this integrative seminar and oversees (along with possibly the student's academic advisor or other faculty) the student projects.

[For students who started before Fall 2022 and who will not have their IN 305W project completed by May 2024:] The diaconal ministry research project, a two-semester hour activity in the final semester of the degree program, integrates the course work for the degree with the internship. This research will normally be related to the ministry specialization toward which the student is preparing. A written project report is required, and an oral presentation is also recommended. The diaconal ministry research project begins in the fall semester of the student's second year with a research seminar to focus project ideas and learn helpful research skills, with additional help available through the seminary's Writing Center. The MA/MADM Coordinator of the faculty normally provides general oversight for Master of Arts and Master of Arts in Diaconal Ministry projects in addition to the student's academic advisor.

Concentrations

The MA in Diaconal Ministry degree program offers the option of concentrations only upon the approval of the faculty, insofar as diaconal ministry is already a specialization. The concentration options and requirements are the same as those outlined under the Master of Divinity degree program.

Ecclesiastic Requirements

Candidates planning to enter the deacon roster (or its equivalent in another church body) may have additional ecclesiastic requirements to complete beyond an academic degree program.

For non-ELCA students, WTS is committed to work with the student's church body wherever possible to meet the needs of those ecclesiastic requirements, particularly the internship/fieldwork components. Prospective students, and their respective church judicatories, should be in conversation with WTS as early as possible, preferably before the student is admitted to this degree program. WTS may request a written letter of understanding from the denominational judicatory that identifies the ecclesial requirements and approval by that church body into the WTS degree program to meet the student's academic requirements for that church roster.

MA In Diaconal Ministry Graduation Requirements

The requirements of the Master of Arts in Diaconal Ministry degree are:

1. The satisfactory completion of the academic requirements (including all named courses or their authorized equivalents, and distribution requirements) with a minimum of 64 semester hours (depending on choice among requirements), including CPE and the deacon internship.
2. A minimum of one third of the recognized MADM degree credits must be completed for this degree with Wartburg Theological Seminary-taught coursework and Wartburg-supervised contextual ministry (i.e., a student's MADM degree cannot consist entirely of credits transferred from institutions, consist of advanced standing, or overlap by more than two-thirds with other degrees previously earned through WTS).

A recommendation by the faculty to the Board of Directors and the Board's approval. A student must be in good standing with the business office, library, and financial aid office in order to receive a diploma.

Master of Arts in Diaconal Ministry Curriculum Chart

Two-Year Program, All Pathways (RL, DL)

Beginning Fall Semester 2024

	Fall Semester (15 weeks)	January Interim (4 weeks)	Spring Semester (15 Weeks)
Year 1	New Testament Letters [BI-2, 3 cr] Global Church History & Mission 1 [HT-1, 3 cr] Jesus Christ and Plural Worlds [IN-1, 2 cr] Diaconal Ministry Seminar 1 [DM-1, 1 cr] Spiritual Practices 1 [IN-7.1, 0.5 cr] Elective or Specialization Elective** [1 cr] {=10.5 credits minimum}	Cross-Cultural Immersion [IN-8.1] Or Diaconal Ministry-Specific Course {=2 credits}	New Testament Narratives [BI-1, 3 cr] Systematic Theology [HT-2, 3 cr] Formation for Discipleship [IN-2, 2 cr] Spiritual Practices 2 [IN-7.2, 0.5 cr] Elective or Specialization Elective** [2 cr] {=10.5 credits minimum}
Summer 1	See Contextual Education Requirement below		
Year 2	Hebrew Bible 1 [BI-3, 3 cr] Lutheran Confessions [HT-3, 3 cr] Lutheran Ethics [HT-5, 3 cr] Boundaries [IN-3b, 1 cr] Spiritual Practices 3 [IN-7.3, 0.5 cr] {=10.5 credits}	Diaconal Ministry-Specific Course [Or could Be research for the integrative seminar project] Or Cross-Cultural Immersion [IN-8.1] {=2 credits}	Hebrew Bible 2 [BI-4, 3 cr] MADM Integrative Capstone Project [DM-4, 3 cr] Diaconal Ministry Seminar 2 [DM-5, 2 cr] Spiritual Practices 4 [IN-7.4, 0.5 cr] Elective or Specialization Elective** [2 cr] {=10.5 credits minimum}
Summer 2	See Contextual Education Requirement below		
<p>**Specialization Electives could include: worship, preaching, and pastoral care, or coursework toward the mission development/redevelopment, rural ministry, youth and family ministry, or Hispanic ministry concentrations.</p>			

Contextual Education Requirement – In addition to the course requirements illustrated above, the MA in Diaconal Ministry degree has two additional contextual education ministry requirements:

- 1) A unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) – normally completed in Summer 1 (or Summer 2 if needed); and
- 2) A six-month deacon internship in a pastoral setting – begins concurrently with coursework or in summer. (NOTE: The Boundaries course, normally Fall in Year 2, should be completed before starting your deacon internship; adjust to be completed earlier in program as needed.)

Neither contextual education registration is charged tuition.

Degree Total = Minimum of 64 semester hours.

Master of Arts Degree Program – One-Year Degree

For New Students Starting Fall 2024 or Later

The change from the Master of Arts degree as described in the earlier 2023-2025 seminary catalog is adding a new 1-credit Boundaries course requirement (currently numbered IN 243WB). This additional course removes one credit of previously counted elective/specialization credits, and keeps the minimum of total credits required for the degree the same as before. All other degree course requirements remain the same.

The Master of Arts degree program is designed for students interested in theological study at a graduate level for further academic study, church leadership, Christian service in society, or personal growth.

Course Load

The MA degree program can be completed in as short as one full academic year for full-time students. To be considered a full-time student and to be eligible for all forms of financial aid, a student must take a minimum of nine (9) semester hours of coursework per semester. Permission of the Academic Dean is needed for registrations above 15.5 credits in the fall or spring semester. Part-time students with 6 coursework credit hours or more may have access to Federal financial aid and to defer student loans. Please see the program chart below for an elaboration of the normal sequencing of courses in a one-year residential or distance learning MA degree.

Residential and Distance Learning Options

Master of Arts students enroll as either Residential Learner (RL) or Distance Learner (DL) students. These categories of student are defined as follows:

- **Residential Learners (RL)** – The “Residential Learner” is the on-campus student (or commuter) who completes coursework in face-to-face classroom learning on campus in Dubuque.
- **Distance Learners (DL)** – The “Distance Learner” is the off-campus student who is studying from their home context and completing their courses from afar. For completion in one year, it is expected that a distance learner, who may or may not be working part-time, can sustain a course load equal to the residential learner, and that it is a matter of location and personal circumstances (due to work, family, or other reasons) that distinguishes a DL student from the RL student.

Time Available to Complete the Degree

The Master of Arts degree normally must be completed within five (5) calendar years of study from the oldest course to the most recent course, unless specific action is taken by the faculty to extend this duration for a student.

Students who have interrupted their theological education for seven or more years prior to re-entrance ordinarily will not receive credit for previous work unless specific action is taken by the faculty at the recommendation of the Academic Dean to extend this for a student.

MA Program Learning Outcomes

The following desired learning outcomes guide the Master of Arts degree program:

1. Demonstrates clarity about the Gospel character of the Christian message in all dimensions of public leadership.
 - a. Understands the Gospel as true for one’s life
 - b. Distinguishes the activity of the Word as Law and Gospel
 - c. Articulates and lives out a clear Christian identity
 - d. Engages the way of Jesus Christ and the Cross
 - e. Cultivates a compelling vision of the Gospel for public leadership
2. Interprets reality and relationships biblically and theologically as a habit.
 - a. Understands biblical and theological traditions and teachings
 - b. Interprets reality theologically and biblically as a habit using a core set of theological concepts
 - c. Employs critical thinking to understand the Christian faith
3. Achieves academic competence to reflect critically and theologically at the intersection of faith and society.

- a. Integrates biblical and theological knowledge with personal faith
- b. Demonstrates an ability to design and complete an integrative theological project
- c. Applies biblical and theological academic learning to faithful life in the world
- d. Engages biblical and theological wisdom in focus project topic

MA Curriculum Degree Requirements

The Master of Arts degree consists of a minimum of 30 semester hours of coursework and research earned by the following named requirements: The requirements are itemized below. Elective coursework beyond the listed courses is needed to meet the minimum number of credit hours. [See the two curriculum charts later in this section showing the typical course sequence for both a one-year and three-semester versions of the degree program.]

1. Two Spiritual Practices courses – Totaling 1 hour, one course each semester:

IN 161W Spiritual Practices 1 (0.5 hr, Fall Semester)
 IN 162W Spiritual Practices 2 (0.5 hr, Spring Semester)

2. Biblical Studies (BI) – A minimum of 6 hours, usually as two courses, three credits each semester:

Two three-credit courses, one each semester, of the student's choosing. Typical options include: BI 190W Engaging the New Testament Narratives (3 hrs, Spring Semester course), BI 192W Engaging the New Testament Letters (3 hrs, Fall Semester Course), or BI 222W Hebrew Bible Content I (3 hrs; a Fall Semester course, which can then be followed by BI 224W Hebrew Bible Content II, 3 hours, as a spring semester course, as BI 222W is a pre-requisite). More advanced courses are available for students with the requisite academic background.

3. History and Theology (HT) – A minimum of 6 hours, usually as two courses, three credits each semester:

Two three-credit courses, one each semester, of the student's choosing. Typical options include: HT 105W The Global Church in Motion I (3 hrs, Fall Semester, focusing on early church history and mission), HT 140W Systematic Theology (3 hrs, Spring Semester), HT 212W Lutheran Confessions (3 hrs, Fall Semester), HT 205W The Global Church in Motion 2 (3 hrs, Spring Semester, focusing on Reformation to modern church history and mission), and HT 267W Lutheran Ethics (3 hrs, Fall Semester). More advanced courses are available for students with the requisite academic background.

4. Ministry (MN) or Interdisciplinary/Integrative (IN) – A minimum of 6 hours, as two or more courses, three credits each semester:

Two three-credit courses, one each semester, or a combination of one- and two-credit courses in each semester, of the student's choosing. Typical options of a practical ministry emphasis include: MN 106W Foundations of Lutheran Worship (3 hrs, Fall Semester), MN 131W In Faith, For Faith: Basics of Christian Proclamation (1 hr, Spring Semester), MN 230W Preaching (3 hrs, Spring Semester), MN 255W Being Body of Christ (2 hrs, Spring Semester), and MN 270W Pastoral Care in Context (3 hrs, Spring Semester), as well as a rotating series of courses (mostly one credit each) offered on topics in rural ministry and specialty areas within pastoral care, including youth and family ministry. Typical options that are interdisciplinary or integrative in nature include: IN 142W Formation for Discipleship (2 hrs, Spring Semester), and IN 243WA 21st Century Leadership (1 hr, Fall Semester).

5. Degree-specific courses – Three courses, all in the fall, totaling 4 hours:

IN 141W Jesus Christ and Plural Worlds (2 hrs, Fall Semester)
 IN 127W MA Colloquium (1 hr, Fall Semester)
 IN 243WB Boundaries (1 hr, Fall Semester)

6. A significant capstone research project – One course, including a project on a topic of research

IN 327W MA Integrative Capstone Project (3 hrs, Spring Semester)

7. A January Interim Course (2 hours)

This required January course can be selected from among the travel courses that are cross-culturally focused, as a course of general intellectual interest, or taken as a two-credit independent study focused on research for your capstone research project.

8. At least two additional credits of Elective coursework

In order to reach the minimum needed of 30 semester credits for this Master of Arts degree, the student will need to take at least two (2) additional credits of coursework. This course (or combination of courses) is entirely of the student's choosing from among the options available at the time.

MA Integrative Capstone Project

The project integrates the course work for the degree with the objectives of the student. The capstone project is an opportunity to explore a topic of one's personal interest. It may be in one of the classical disciplines, or it may be related to some area of ministry or of personal interest. A written report is required, along with the possibility of an optional oral presentation. Guidance for the capstone project is provided in the MA Colloquium in the fall, as well as in the MA Research Seminar in the spring semester.

MA Graduation Requirements

The requirements of the Master of Arts degree are:

1. The satisfactory completion of the academic requirements (including all named courses or their authorized equivalents, and distribution requirements) with a minimum of 30 semester hours.
2. One-year equivalent minimum of Wartburg Theological Seminary taught-coursework (that is, a degree cannot consist entirely of credits transferred from other institutions outside of WTS).
3. A recommendation by the faculty to the Board of Directors and the Board's approval. A student must be in good standing with the business office, library, and financial aid office to receive a diploma.

Master of Arts Curriculum Chart

One-Year Version (one academic year, plus the summer if needed)

Residential (RL) and Distance Learning (DL) Sequences

Beginning Fall Semester 2024

FALL SEMESTER

One Bible (BI) course	3 CR
One History/Theology (HT) course	3 CR
One Ministry (MN) or Interdisciplinary (IN) course(s)	3 CR
IN 141W Jesus Christ and Plural Worlds	2 CR
IN 243WB Boundaries	1 CR
IN 161W Spiritual Practices 1	0.5 CR
IN 127W MA Colloquium	1 CR
Semester Total	Minimum 13.5 CR

JANUARY INTERIM

Complete a January course	2 CR
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SPRING SEMESTER

One Bible (BI) course	3 CR
One History/Theology (HT) course	3 CR
One Ministry (MN) or Interdisciplinary (IN) course(s)	3 CR
IN 162W Spiritual Practices 2	0.5 CR
IN 327W MA Integrative Capstone Project	3 CR
Elective coursework	2 CR minimum
Semester Total	Minimum 14.5 CR

SUMMER

If still needed, finishing the project within IN 327W (if not already completed in Spring Semester)	
Degree Total	Minimum 30 Credits

New Replacement Non-Degree Certificate Programs

As replacements for the current suite of non-TEEM certificate programs described in the 2023-2025 seminary catalog, the seminary is introducing the following new basic Certificate programs during the 2024-2025 Academic Year.

Further procedural details will be forthcoming on how students currently active in one of the previous certificate programs can either complete their existing program or switch over to one of these new programs.

Certificate in Theology and Ministry

This certificate is earned by the completion of eight courses, taught in a combination of online and on campus intensive courses. It is designed for those wanting to be formed for different leadership roles in congregational ministry as well as those seeking to have a deeper understanding of the Bible and theology.

1. Bible Courses (2 total courses required)
 - a. Hebrew Bible 1 or 2
 - b. New Testament 1 or 2
2. History and Theology (2 total courses required)
 - a. Introduction to the History of Christianity
 - b. Lutheran Confessions
 - c. Lutheran Ethics
 - d. Systematic Theology 1
3. Ministry and Leadership Courses (2 courses required)
 - a. Preaching 1
 - b. Foundations of Lutheran Worship
 - c. Pastoral Care
 - d. Lutheran Leadership
 - e. The Church as a Learning Community
 - f. Boundaries Training
 - g. Beyond Maintenance to Mission
 - h. Emerging Ministries: Being Church Today
4. Elective (2 courses required)
 - a. Additional certificate courses in Hebrew Bible and New Testament
 - b. Additional certificate courses in History and Theology
 - c. Additional certificate courses in Ministry and Leadership
 - d. Select one-credit MA/MDiv courses (note: a separate application and fee structure applies for MA/MDiv courses).

Certificate in Small Town and Rural Ministry

This certificate is earned by the completion of eight courses, taught in a combination of online and on campus intensive courses. It is designed for those new to theological study who is interested in learning more about Christian theology and ministry specifically for small town and rural contexts.

1. Bible Course *two required*
 - a. Hebrew Bible 1 or 2
 - b. New Testament 1 or 2
2. History and Theology *two required*
 - a. Introduction to the History of Christianity
 - b. Lutheran Confessions
 - c. Lutheran Ethics
 - d. Systematic Theology 1
3. Specialization Courses *four required*
 - a. Ministry in Rural Context
 - b. Boundaries Training
 - c. Choose two of the following certificate courses:
 - i. Leadership in Multi-point Parishes
 - ii. Youth and Family Ministry in a STaR Context
 - iii. Rural Ecosystems and Ministry

Certificate in Youth and Family

This certificate is earned by the completion of eight courses, taught in a combination of online and on campus intensive courses. It is designed for those new to theological study who want to strengthen their ministry with children, youth, and families, and intergenerational ministry.

1. Bible Course *two required*
 - a. Hebrew Bible 1 or 2
 - b. New Testament 1 or 2
2. History and Theology *two required*
 - a. Introduction to the History of Christianity
 - b. Lutheran Confessions
 - c. Lutheran Ethics
 - d. Systematic Theology 1
3. Specialization Courses *four required*
 - a. Pastoral Care OR Foundations of Lutheran Worship
 - b. Boundaries Training
 - c. Choose two of the following certificate courses:
 - i. Foundations of Lutheran Worship OR Pastoral Care
 - ii. Youth and Family Ministry in a STaR Context
 - iii. Emerging Ministries: Being Church Today
 - iv. One or more of the following one-credit MA/MDiv courses (note: a separate application and fee structure applies for MA/MDiv courses).
 1. Teaching Luther's Catechism
 2. Teaching the Bible to Youth
 3. Developing LGBTQ-Inclusive Youth Ministry
4. A possible world religions course

Tuition and Fees 2024-2025

Please see <https://www.wartburgseminary.edu/funding-your-education/> for the official publication of current tuition and fee rates.

1) Tuition and Fees for Primarily Masters-level Graduate Students:

Full Time Degree Students (9 or more credits per semester)

MDiv, MA – Residential Learning (RL) & Distance Learning (DL), & MADM – Residential Learning (DL), Distance Learning (DL)

(No tuition charged to RL/DL MDiv students during their MDiv internship year (normally Year 3) for internship, nor institutional financial aid awarded. And for MADM students, no tuition is charged for their deacon internship.)

Fall/Spring Semester	\$9,260 / \$9,260
January Interim	\$2,280
Full-year full-time tuition	\$20,800

MDiv– Collaborative Learning (CL) Only (where tuition is charged for all four years)

Fall/Spring Semester	\$6,660 / \$6,660
January Interim	\$2,280
Full-year full-time tuition	\$15,600

Annual fees For Full-Time Degree Students:

Comprehensive fee <i>(covers program costs such as Clinical Pastoral Education interview, graduation, and transcripts)</i>	\$300
Distance Learning Fee (DL students only) <i>(covers educational technology support – replaces online course fees)</i>	\$400
Technology fee <i>(charged annually, including during internship year; provides access to internet and email functions at the seminary)</i>	\$350
Wartburg Associated Students (WAS) <i>(per full-time student to support the student organization and student activities)</i>	
RL/DL/MADM Students	\$208
CL Students	\$156

Part-time Degree Students (MDIV, MA, MADM; fewer than 9 credits per semester)

Tuition per credit hour (regardless of degree or RL/DL/CL)	\$760
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Annual fees For Part-Time Degree Students:

Comprehensive fee <i>(covers program costs such as the Clinical Pastoral Education interview, graduation, and transcripts)</i>	\$150
Distance Learning Fee (DL students only) <i>(covers educational technology support – replaces online course fees)</i>	\$200
Technology fee <i>(charged annually, including during internship year; provides access to internet and email functions at the seminary)</i>	\$175

Discovery Students (non-degree seeking students)

Tuition per credit hour (capped at full-time tuition equivalent)	\$1,040
Technology Fee (provides access to internet and email functions at the seminary)	\$175

Audit – tuition per credit hour (for audits completed by students who are not already full-time above) \$710

Spouses of students and members of the Wartburg Seminary staff may audit Wartburg courses (up to 2 credits hours) per semester free of charge with the permission of the instructor. A student's spouse not in a WTS degree program, who has the requisite background, may take up to 3 credits per semester for credit without charge by applying for Discovery student status.

2) Tuition and Fees for Certificate Programs:

TEEM (Theological Education for Emerging Ministries) – Classic TEEM	
Tuition per TEEM course	\$1,820
TEEM Internship fee	\$1,000
TEEM – Journey Together / Caminemos Juntos	
Tuition per course	\$3,350
TEEM Internship fee	\$1,000
Clinical Pastoral Program of WTS (CPW)	
Tuition	\$2,000

The CPW Program is guided by ACPE standards, but adopted for this format as education that Wartburg is using in lieu of accredited CPE, for persons in special situations and primarily intended for TEEM students. A CPW unit is equivalent to approximately half of a normal ACPE CPE unit.

Certificate Programs	
Tuition per course	\$250
Learning for Life – Exploring Faith	
Tuition for 8 week course, Exploring Faith: Entry Level Course	\$250
Tuition for 5 week course, Exploring Faith: Advanced Level Course	\$225

3) Other Program and Miscellaneous Fees:

Program Fees	
Affiliation fee (<i>one time</i>)	\$1,600
(Applies to Lutheran Students attending non-ELCA Seminaries)	
Annual Collaborative Learning Fee (charged to CL site)	\$1,560
Internship Fee – MDiv RL and DL sites (charged to site)	\$1,000
Other Fees	
Graduate Writing Course	\$430
MA Project/MDiv Thesis fee (for printing & binding of required library copies)	\$80
Graduation - Cap, Gown, and Hood rental fee (for degree students only)	market rate
Transcript fee, each copy	\$25

Transcripts needed during the course of completing a degree or program of study, such as for candidacy or scholarship purposes, are normally not billed a transcript fee.

Each graduate will normally be allowed to request one transcript at the time of graduation at no cost. Before a transcript can be issued at time of graduation or withdrawal, accounts must be settled or arrangements made for payment of balance. This fee is for additional transcripts requested after leaving the seminary.

Please see <https://www.wartburgseminary.edu/funding-your-education/> for the official publication of current tuition and fee rates.

2024-2025 Academic Year Calendar

Summer 2024

July 1-August 30Late Summer Session - For activities that begin after July 1 (e.g., TEEM intensives)

Fall Semester 2024

September 2 (Labor Day).....Orientation for New Students / Opening Worship for Entire Community

September 3-6, Tuesday-Friday.....Prolog Week (On Campus) - Classes begin for most major requirements

September 3Deadline to add courses for most major requirements

September 9, Monday.....All other semester-long classes begin

September 23, Monday.....Final drop/add deadline for all courses

October 14-18, Monday-FridayResearch and Reading Week

November 25-27, Monday-Wednesday.....Research and Reading Days

November 28-29, Thursday-FridayThanksgiving recess

December 2-6, Monday-FridayInterim registration finalized / Spring semester pre-registration

December 13, FridayLast day of fall semester classes

January Interim 2025

January 6-31Interim classes

January 20Martin Luther King Jr Day – No classes, seminary closed

Spring Semester 2025

February 3, Monday.....Orientation for New Students / Interim Debriefing Day

February 4-7, Tuesday-Friday.....Prolog Week (On Campus) - Classes begin for most major requirements

February 3Deadline to add courses for most major requirements

February 10, Monday.....All other semester-long classes begin

February 24, Monday.....Final drop/add deadline for all courses

March 10-14, Monday-FridayResearch and Reading Days

April 14-16, Monday-Wednesday.....Research and Reading Days

April 17-21, Thursday-Monday.....Easter Break

April 25, Friday.....“Easter Monday” courses meet (as replacement for April 1)

May 5-9, Monday-FridayTentative - Fall pre-registration

May 16, FridayLast day of spring semester classes

May 18, SundayCommencement

Summer 2025

May 19-June 30Early Summer Session – For activities that start before June 30

.....(e.g., independent studies; summer CPE units; TEEM intensives)

2025-2026 Academic Year Calendar

Summer 2025

July 1-August 31Late Summer Session - For activities that begin after July 1 (e.g., TEEM intensives)

Fall Semester 2025

September 1 (Labor Day).....Orientation for New Students / Opening Worship for Entire Community

September 2-5, Tuesday-Friday.....Prolog Week (On Campus) - Classes begin for most major requirements

September 2Deadline to add courses for most major requirements

September 8, Monday.....All other semester-long classes begin

September 22, Monday.....Final drop/add deadline for all courses

October 13-17, Monday-FridayResearch and Reading Week

October 31, Friday (End of 9th Week).....Last day to withdraw from a course without a failure grade

November 24-26, Monday-Wednesday.....Research and Reading Days

November 27-28, Thursday-FridayThanksgiving recess

December 1-5, Monday-FridayInterim registration finalized / Spring semester pre-registration

December 12, FridayLast day of fall semester classes

January Interim 2026

January 5-30.....Interim classes

January 19.....Martin Luther King Jr Day – No classes, seminary closed

Spring Semester 2026

February 2, Monday.....Orientation for New Students / J-Term Celebration Day

February 3-6, Tuesday-Friday.....Prolog Week (On Campus) - Classes begin for most major requirements

February 3Deadline to add courses for most major requirements

February 9, Monday.....All other semester-long classes begin

February 23, Monday.....Final drop/add deadline for all courses

March 9-13, Monday-Friday.....Research and Reading Days

March 30-April 1, Monday-WednesdayResearch and Reading Days

April 2-6, Thursday-Monday.....Easter Break

April 3, Friday (End of 9th Week)Last day to withdraw from a course without a failure grade

April 10, Friday.....“Easter Monday” courses meet (as replacement for April 6)

May 4-8, Monday-FridayTentative - Fall pre-registration

May 15, Friday.....Last day of spring semester classes

May 17, Sunday.....Commencement

Summer 2026

May 18-June 30Early Summer Session – For activities that start before June 30

.....(e.g., independent studies; summer CPE units; TEEM intensives)