

WARTBURG THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
PRE-REGISTRATION – Returning Students – FALL SEMESTER 2026
Final-Year MDiv Student Version

You will take care of this registration using the MyWTS Web Portal. A separate set of instructions will illustrate how you use the MyWTS add/drop course process to accomplish this. **Be sure to select the correct academic term, which is “2026-2027 Academic Year – Fall Semester”.**

Please complete this pre-registration by no later than May 15 (preferably earlier).

This document summarizes the options you have for registering.

CONTAINED IN THIS PACKET (sent out as attachments to an e-mail sent to pertinent students, or found through web links provided):

1. This document.
2. MyWTS instructions on using the Add/Drop Courses function
3. Block Schedules for Fall 2026 Final-Year MDiv courses and for all Electives/distribution courses
4. Fall 2026 Numerical Course Listing
5. Fall 2026 Wartburg day-to-day Class Schedule

NOTES

1. This is considered a pre-registration. Registration is officially finalized in the fall during Prolog Week, August 31-September 4. You can make changes in your registration at that time or during the two-week add/drop period after classes begin.
2. **Independent Study courses** require an Independent Study Contract form. You cannot register for these using MyWTS, as only the Registrar can set these up in the system. Contact the Registrar for the independent study contract form. Contracts must be turned in by the end of the add/drop period or you are not officially registered for the class.
3. At the option of the instructor, some classes are offered as preferring Cr/NCr grading only, or may be limited in enrollment. You will find this information noted on the numerical course schedule and on the one-page course descriptions. In MyWTS, you will only be able to select an alternate grade type if that option is available for a course.
4. Elective courses normally require a minimum of 5 students to be held.
5. **Course load variations:**
9 course credit hours = minimum load for MA, MADM, and MDiv students to be considered full-time for financial aid purposes.
11.5 course credit hours = maximum course registration for CL students when also completing your internship.

15.5 course credit hours = maximum coursework load for RL/DL students without Academic Dean's overload permission

Students may **audit** courses with the permission of the instructor. Audits do not count toward the total course load. Audits will appear on your final transcript only if the instructor verifies that you actually attended class.

6. It is possible to register for courses that begin later in the semester (e.g., intensive courses) up until the time the course actually begins, although we would prefer you register now rather than later, if only so we can know that we have enough students registrations to hold the course.
7. Spouses are encouraged to audit a course (or courses up to 2 credits total) each semester at no charge. Pass this information along!! They will separately need to apply to be a non-degree student, plus complete a paper registration form at the beginning of the semester.

PLEASE NOTE: Meeting graduation requirements, is, in the first instance, the student's own responsibility. The Academic Dean, Registrar, and your faculty advisor will be of assistance whenever possible. Read carefully the Core Curriculum Requirements in the catalog under which you entered and check your transcript and course requirements sheet with your advisor to be certain you are meeting all requirements.

REGISTRAR'S DISCLAIMER: A number of required courses have enrollment limited in order to promote a balance between groups, either in size or gender mix, to meet educational goals of the institution. You may be asked to shift to an alternative choice or to a different small group section to meet this institutional need. This change may take place after pre-registration, in which case the student will be notified in a timely fashion

SEE THE NEXT PAGE FOR LISTINGS OF COURSES TYPICALLY REQUIRED BY EACH COHORT YEAR IN THE MDIV OR MA DEGREE PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS HOW TO MEET THE VARIOUS DISTRIBUTIONAL REQUIREMENTS IN THOSE DEGREE PROGRAMS.

Looking ahead to Spring 2026, the following courses are normally taken:

RL/DL Students:

- BI 3xxW Advanced Bible – New Testament courses to be named, 3 hours
- MN 306W Living Liturgies, 3 hours
- IN 345W Word, Image, and Imagination, 3 hours
- MN 356W Reading and Leading in Context, 3 hours (Note: MN 356 is the new course number for what has been IN 346.)
- IN 362W Spiritual Practices 6, 0.5 hours

CL Students:

- MN 306W Living Liturgies, 3 hours
- IN 345W Word, Image, and Imagination, 3 hours
- MN 356W Reading and Leading in Context, 3 hours (Note: MN 356 is the new course number for what has been IN 346.)
- IN 362W Spiritual Practices 6, 0.5 hours

Further MDiv reminders: (1) Make sure you have completed your MDiv Rural Ministry and MDiv Youth/Family Ministry requirements, and (2) that you will have completed enough elective credits to graduate with a minimum of 116 credits or more overall!

REQUIRED COURSES, FALL SEMESTER:

RL/DL Final-Year MDiv – Register for the following courses:

For your Advanced Bible – Hebrew Bible requirement, choose one of the two following options (which will have us divide the students half-and-half between the two options in order to keep them even in size), Either:

BI 324W Creation and Redemption in the Old Testament, 3 hours, either letter grade or credit/no-credit grading. Samuel Giere

Or:

BI 334W The Psalms in Israel's Worship, 3 hours, either letter grade or credit/no-credit grading. Beth Elness-Hanson

For your Advanced Theology requirement, choose one of the two following options (which will have us divide the students half-and-half between the two options in order to keep them even in size), Either:

HT 350W The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit, 3 hours, either letter grade or credit/no-credit grading. Cheryl Peterson

Or:

HT 389W Theological Anthropology: The Image of God and Visions of the Human Person, 3 hours, either letter grade or credit/no-credit grading. Man Hei Yip

HT 267W Lutheran Ethics, 3 hours, either letter grade or credit/no-credit grading. Nesson.

MN 354W Practicing Ministry Leadership (which replaces the previous IN 344W MDiv Integrative Capstone Seminar), 3 hours, **Credit/no-credit grading only**

IN 361W Spiritual Practices 5 (0.5 hrs) **Credit/no-credit grading only**

(Note: if you have already completed six spiritual practices sections, or the equivalent of the three hours, please contact the Registrar for what registration might be needed if you wish to continue in Spiritual Practices.)

Note: You also need to pay attention to any missing requirements, such as your rural ministry and/or youth & family ministry requirement for the MDiv, neither of which was fulfilled in a particular semester. See options below for this semester.

CL Final-Year (Year 4) MDiv – Register for the following courses:

For your Advanced Bible – Hebrew Bible requirement, choose one of the two following options (which will have us divide the students half-and-half between the two options in order to keep them even in size), Either:

BI 324W Creation and Redemption in the Old Testament, 3 hours, either letter grade or credit/no-credit grading. Samuel Giere

Or:

BI 334W The Psalms in Israel's Worship, 3 hours, either letter grade or credit/no-credit grading. Beth Elness-Hanson

For your Advanced Theology requirement, choose one of the two following options (which will have us divide the students half-and-half between the two options in order to keep them even in size), Either:

HT 350W The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit, 3 hours, either letter grade or credit/no-credit grading. Cheryl Peterson

Or:

HT 389W Theological Anthropology: The Image of God and Visions of the Human Person, 3 hours, either letter grade or credit/no-credit grading.

Man Hei Yip

MN 354W Practicing Ministry Leadership (which replaces the previous IN 344W MDiv Integrative Capstone Seminar), 3 hours, **Credit/no-credit grading only**

IN 361W Spiritual Practices 5 (0.5 hrs) **Credit/no-credit grading only**

(Note: if you have already completed six spiritual practices sections, or the equivalent of the three hours, please contact the Registrar for what registration might be needed if you wish to continue in Spiritual Practices.)

Note: You also need to pay attention to any missing requirements, such as your rural ministry and/or youth & family ministry requirement for the MDiv, neither of which was fulfilled in a particular semester. See options below for this semester.

Additional MDiv degree requirements that have no particular semester:

Youth & Family Ministry MDiv requirement For Fall 2025, one option:

- MN 235W Preaching With Children (1 credit hours, Gilmore) **Enrollment limit of 12 students, so first priority to final-year MDiv students who still need this requirement in order to graduate.**

Rural Ministry requirement – Three 1-credit options this fall, each with their own specific dates and pathways of when they are taught:

- MN 195W Rural Plunge Weekend intensive course (1 hr) Yackel-Juleen. **Scheduled for November 6-8 (Friday-Sunday); offsite, and In-Person only.**
- MN 293E Rural Ecosystems and Ministry (1 hr) Yackel-Juleen. **Asynchronous Only**
- MN 294W Rural Ministry: Revisioning and Reforming for Sustainability and Vitality. (semester-long course, 1 hr) Yackel-Juleen. **Synchronous/Face-to-face only**

Other Electives? – See the “electives” block schedule.

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