

CONCENTRATION IN SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY (MA/ST)

MA/ST Concentration Purpose

The Master of Arts concentration in Systematic Theology provides specialized study in Christian doctrine: its biblical grounding, historical development, logical coherence, and contemporary context. The MA/ST trains students to engage theological ideas in the world today through a strong biblical, evangelical foundation, mastery of our diverse theological heritage, and familiarity with contemporary (including global) developments in theology. The concentration seeks to equip students to become responsible interpreters of Scripture and faithful stewards of Christian thought. The MA/ST is academic rather than professional in focus, preparing participants in knowledge and practice for teaching or researching in Christian secondary schools, or as a preparatory step (among others) toward doctoral study in a related area.

MA/ST Concentration Objectives and Student Learning Objectives

1. Students will learn to think from a biblical, evangelical foundation and responsibly interpret Scripture (e.g., by taking the "Use of Scripture in Theology" course).
2. Students will obtain competence in the historic traditions of Christian theology (e.g., by taking courses in historical theology).
3. Students will gain familiarity with contemporary, global developments in Christian theology (e.g., by taking Contemporary Theology).
4. Students will develop skills in speaking, writing, and teaching towards professional/vocational goals (e.g., through papers, seminar presentations, and perhaps a thesis).

MA/ST Prerequisites

An undergraduate major in Bible and/or theology, or a minimum of 12 hours of undergraduate work in biblical and/or theological studies. Students entering with deficiencies are advised to satisfy up to 9 hours of those deficiencies by taking any or all of ST 5201, 5202, and ID 5000.

Code	Title	Hours
Biblical and Theology Core		
ID 5000	Biblical Theology and Interpretation	3
ST 5201 & ST 5202	Theology I: The God of the Gospel and Theology II: The Gospel of God	6
Students who have taken the equivalent of ST 5201 and ST 5202 with a grade of B or above are encouraged to take at least two advanced doctrinal courses such as the following:		
ST 8210	Divine Action and the Doctrine of Providence	
ST 8211	God in Biblical Theology and Systematic Theology	
ST 8213	Models of Sanctification	
ST 8214	Justification	
ST 8215	Pneumatology	
ST 8220	Christology: Classical Formulations and Contemporary Issues	
Concentration Core ^{1,2}		
ME 8300	Global Theologies	3
ST 7505	Use of Scripture and Theology	3
Select one course in Biblical Theology such as:		
NT 8640	New Testament Theology	
OT 7090	Old Testament Theology	
Select two courses, in Historical Theology and/or Contemporary Theology such as:		
CH 8320	Luther	
CH 8330	Calvin	
CH 8361	Jonathan Edwards	
ST 8100	Essentials of Reformed Theology	
ST 8101	Karl Barth as Theological Interpreter of Scripture	
ST 8102	Analytic Theology	
ST 8103	Bonaventure	
ST 8104	Anselm and the Victorines	
ST 8105	Arminius and Arminianism	
ST 8310	Theology of Augustine	
ST 8360	Karl Barth	
ST 8390	Recent & Contemporary Theologians	
ST electives (6-12 hours)		6-12
Elective Courses		
Select 10-11 hours of elective courses ³		10-11
Field Education		
Select one of the following:		
ID 5080	Formation Group (2 semesters)	0
PT 5090	Field Education (1 semester)	0
MA/ST Capstone		1-3
ST 7477	MA Major Comprehensive Exam	1
Select one of the following:		
ST 7485	MA Thesis	0-2
ST 7980	MA Major Research Paper (Two)	0-2
Total Hours		36

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Up to 2 hours of the Capstone Project may be applied to the Core

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MA/ST students should work with faculty advisor to ensure coursework provides adequate background for the capstone comprehensive exam and writing projects.

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After satisfying the above mentioned requirements, students who have not taken a total of 36 hours may take further elective course work in a secondary area related to the Concentration (e.g., Apologetics; Ethics; Philosophy of Religion; Bioethics).