

MASTER OF CHRISTIAN STUDIES

SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MISSIONS

Program Objectives

The Master of Christian Studies exists to raise the level of ministry competence among bi-vocational pastors, missionaries, church planters, foreign nationals planting ethnic churches in the U.S., church staff members, and laypersons seeking a more thorough blending of faith and life in the workplace through on-site offerings in Jackson, Hendersonville (Nashville area), and Memphis, as well as through online offerings.

Program Highlights

MCS courses are foundational, in terms of the student's ability to think biblically and theologically, and synergistic, fostering effective ministry. MCS students become biblically and theologically grounded, while developing ministry skills that integrate faith and learning.

Expected Student Learning Outcomes

- Students will acquire competence in (and deepen their analytical skills as they reflect on) the biblical text, theology, and Christian history, as well as how these apply to the ministries of churches.
- Students will acquire skill in Bible study methods, Christian ethics, and leadership principles.
- Students will integrate what they learn in classes with the ministry they complete in their church or ministry setting.
- Students will be more motivated to participate in and lead their churches in advancing the kingdom of God.
- Students will demonstrate commitment to apply Scripture to their personal lives and ministries.

Required Courses Include:

Old Testament I: Promise, Covenant, and Praise ..	3 hrs.
Old Testament II: Wisdom, Justice, and God's Rule ...	3 hrs.
New Testament I: Gospels and Acts.....	3 hrs.
New Testament II: Letters of the New Testament .	3 hrs.
Bible Study for Preaching and Teaching	3 hrs.
Theology I: God, Revelation and Humanity.....	3 hrs.
Theology II: Christ, the Spirit, and Last Things....	3 hrs.
Church History I: Early and Medieval Christianity	3 hrs.
Church History II: Reformation and Modern Christianity.....	3 hrs.
Introduction to Christian Ethics	3 hrs.
Christian Leadership.....	3 hrs.
Total:	33 hrs.

Academic Calendar and Schedule

Calendars and Schedule of Course offerings for the M.C.S. program follow those for non-cohort programs. For additional information see <http://www.uu.edu/academics/graduate/mcs/>

Admission Requirements

1. A Baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution as documented on official transcripts, which must include all postsecondary academic work
2. A minimum college cumulative grade point average of 2.4 (on a 4.0 scale). Applicants with a college cumulative grade point average below 2.4 (on a 4.0 scale) are accepted on academic probation on an individual basis.
3. Complete Union M.C.S. Application Form and \$25 application fee.
4. Three personal letters of recommendation.
5. An Autobiographical Essay of 3-5 pages, describing the applicant's spiritual pilgrimage.
6. If English is not a student's first language, minimum scores of 560 or 220 computer must be achieved on the TOEFL.

Transfer of Credit

Up to nine semester hours of graduate credit from a regionally accredited college or university may be transferred into the degree program at the time the student is admitted provided the grades earned were B or higher.

Financial Information

Application Fee:	\$25
Graduation Fee:	\$25
Tuition per Semester Hour:	\$305

Payment is expected in full upon enrollment unless the student participates in a FACTS monthly electronic draft from checking or savings account.

Financial Assistance

The M.C.S. does not qualify for Federal Stafford Loans. However, the student may contact the Student Financial Planning Office about private alternative loans.

Graduation Requirements

- A. The completion of 33 hours of course work with a GPA of 3.0 or higher
- B. The fulfillment of all financial obligations
- C. The approval of the faculty

Core Decision: Make of Christian Studies (MCS)

500. Old Testament I: Promise, Covenant, and Praise (3)

An investigation of the theological implications of God's promises that were given to his covenant people, as well as the people's response to God in praise and lament. This course will analyze these themes through the study of the history, background, literary genre, structure, and theology of Genesis through Psalms. Exegetical methodologies for analyzing narrative and poetic texts will be introduced.

505. Old Testament II: Wisdom, Justice, and God's Rule (3)

An investigation of how practical principles of divine wisdom impact human behavior and doubting, how God's plan to create a world of justice and trust impacted Israelite and world history, and how God's sovereign power will one day triumph and usher in the messianic kingdom. This course will introduce a method of analyzing the prophet's messages in order to perceive how they attempted to transform the worldview of their audiences by persuading them to change their thinking and behavior.

510. New Testament I: The Gospel and Acts (3)

Offered as needed

579. External Domestic Study Programs (1-4)

All courses and their application must be defined and approved prior to travel.

580. Study Abroad Programs (1-4)

All courses and their application must be defined and approved prior to travel.

585. Special Study (1-4)

Group studies which do not appear in the department course offerings. Course content will be determined by need.

598. Seminar (1-4)

Graduate studies seminar to be used at the discretion of the department.

655. Independent Study (1-4)

Individual research and study under the guidance of a graduate faculty member.

Please note: The MCS curriculum was revised for students beginning with August 2012 enrollment. Students enrolled before August 2012 should consult their catalogue of record (the catalogue from the year they were enrolled) to find the curriculum requirements applicable to their MCS degree.