

MAMS	
Overall Learning Objectives	Degree-Level Expectations
<p>Overall objectives. The Master of Arts in Ministry and Spirituality program through both its academic and pastoral components seeks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to present new theological insights for a deeper understanding of ministerial issues; • to enable students to understand the relationship among theological reflection, ministerial development and spiritual growth; and • to open the creative power of the imagination to new ministerial alternatives. 	<p><u>Depth and Breadth of Knowledge</u></p> <p>The faculty ensures that students have mastered a body of knowledge in the areas of biblical, systematic, moral and pastoral theology with appropriate depth to foster theological integration for pastoral ministry. Required courses assure the breadth of the field of study for theological integration: three biblical, two ethical, culture and religion, religious experience in world religions, four prescribed courses in systematic theology, three seminars on theological integration for ministry, and three elective courses to allow the student to pursue specific concerns based on their interests in specialization. Depth of knowledge particular to this program involves the personal reflection and integration of spiritual and pastoral concerns.</p> <p><u>2. Research and Scholarship</u></p> <p>Each mandatory requirement seeks to ensure that students gain an understanding of the appropriate substantive aspects of the area of theological concern. They will be able to reflect on culture, society and faith by applying the techniques of attending to experience, interpreting that experience and making critical assessments of it. Students will demonstrate critical understanding of the relationship between faith practices, cultural contexts, and pastoral practices for the general good and for justice in society.</p> <p><u>3. Level of application of Knowledge</u></p> <p>Students completing the MA in MS degree will have demonstrated an ability of theological and spiritual reflection on concerns of pastoral ministry. The three integration seminars provide the backbone of the program where in each case students are challenged to articulate their reflection on integration and to listen constructively to the articulation of others. Students will be able to reflect systematically and intelligibly and demonstrate an integration of pastoral skills.</p> <p><u>4. Professional Capacity/Autonomy</u></p> <p>Over the course of the program, students will develop the intellectual, affective, and professional capacities required for a life of pastoral leadership. They will demonstrate emotional maturity, moral integrity, social skills, pastoral sensibilities and social concern in societal situations. They will be able to give a reasonable account of the premises and characteristics of a Christian tradition. They will seek to develop capacities of leadership as construed in their faith and social communities. Students will demonstrate an ability to reflect critically on their own sense of call to pastoral leadership and service. They will attend to the spiritual development and well-being of self and others and will display the capacity for self-reflexive and spiritual practices within communities of faith and in society in general.</p> <p><u>5. Level of Communication Skills</u></p> <p>Students will function effectively and collegially in their school community both inside and outside the classroom. They will be able to appreciate their own theological tradition and respect the plurality of dimensions of faith, culture, and collaborative work. They will have developed communication skills to articulate their theological integration in writing and speech. They will have acquired listening skills, respectful of differences in order to foster an ongoing exchange of ideas.</p> <p><u>6. Awareness of Limits of Knowledge</u></p> <p>Required courses are designed in part to underscore pluralism in both faith and culture. Students will appreciate the various dimensions of interfaith and ecumenical interaction through an enhancement and respect of the quality of differences. They will recognize the limits of their theological and cultural perspectives so as to pursue further study and professional development, and to make referrals in their pastoral ministry when necessary.</p>