Master of Arts in Theology and Ministry

The Master of Arts in Theology and Ministry (M.A.T.M.) degree is a forty-eight semester hour degree with two tracks: Congregational Ministry and Social Transformation. This degree is designed for persons who serve (or plan to serve) vocationally or bi-vocationally as specialized ministers, associate ministers, or leaders in community agencies of non-profit networks. The degree provides a basic understanding of theological disciplines with a mixture of practical coursework in order to focus on Christian service in various church and community settings.

For example, United Methodist students preparing for deacons’ ordination may fulfill, with assistance from the Office of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, UMC expectations and utilize this degree to meet specific educational requirements. Normally those pursuing ordination in a vocation other than deacon pursue the M.Div. degree. Similarly, persons interested in non-profit agency work or service in a community organization might find the MATM a degree that provides theological education alongside experience in a chosen context of service.

Curriculum

I. Distributive Requirements - 27 hrs.

A. Religious Heritage - 12 hrs.
   2. History - choose one from CHHI 60013 History of Christianity I, Early and Medieval, CHHI 60023 History of Christianity II, Reformation and Modern, or CHHI 70013 History of Christianity in America
   3. Theology - CHTH 60003 Introduction to Christian Theology I

B. Cultural/Global Context - 6 hrs.
   1. Choose one from CHET 60013 Introduction to Contemporary Theological Ethics, CHET 65013 History of Christian Ethics
   2. Choose one from CHHI 70023 The Church in the Midst of Pluralism, CHHI 70533 The Black Religious Experience in America, JWST 60003 Introduction to Judaism, RECU 60023 Christian Theology of Religions, RECU 60043 Interreligious Dialogue, RECU 70053 Studies in World Christianity, or RECU 65053 African-American Experiences and Perspectives in Social Ethics

C. Personal and Spiritual Formation - 9 hrs.
   1. Choose one from CHHI 70403 History of Christian Spirituality, SPIR 60003 Spiritual Life and Leadership, SPIR 70213 Spiritual Themes in Literature, SPIR 70013 Themes and Perspectives in American Spirituality, SPIR 70023 Spiritual Resources and Disciplines, or SPIR 65013 Spirituality and Ecological Justice
   2. Supervised Ministry (6 semester hours in congregational or non-profit settings): PRTH 65013 Supervised Ministry I and PRTH 65023 Supervised Ministry II

II. Specialization - 9 hrs.
Track 1: Congregational Ministry: Any combination of three courses chosen from among PRTH, WRSP, REED, PTPC, SPIR and HOML. All prerequisites for desired courses must be met.

Track 2: Social Transformation: Any combination of three courses in Cultural/Global Context (see I.B.2. above for examples), religion and culture, social ethics, or leadership. All prerequisites for desired courses must be met.

Course plans for specializations are developed in consultation with an advisor and other appropriate faculty members. The plan is to be sent to the Office of the Associate Dean prior to the completion of 18 hours. The Associate Dean, in consultation with the advisor and other appropriate faculty members will approve the plan.
III. Electives - 12 hrs.

Specialization and elective hours are to be selected in consultation with the student's faculty advisor. Graduate courses from TCU divisions normally do not receive credit toward the M.A.T.M. degree. Exceptions are considered on a case-by-case basis by the Office of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. Master of Liberal Arts (MLA) courses, however, do not count toward a degree at Brite.