



McMaster Divinity
College

2013-2014 Catalogue

Why MDC?

Having decided that seminary study is what God is calling you to do, you must still decide which seminary to attend.

There are many fine seminaries to choose from in Canada and the United States, as well as in other nations around the world. We believe, however, that we are second to none in providing the kinds of programs that prepare tomorrow's Christian leaders today. We are striving to be and become a seminary for the twenty-first century church, one that can prepare you for the avenue of ministry God calls you to pursue.

As a fully-accredited seminary, McMaster Divinity College is a graduate, professional school dedicated to helping prepare people for Christian leadership with and through the Christian community in Canada and internationally. To this end, students are encouraged to acquire excellence in academic studies, to achieve competence in leadership, to develop essential disciplines of worship and devotion, to grow towards spiritual maturity, authenticity and sensitivity in relationships with God in Christ and with other persons, and to develop a zeal for the presentation of the gospel. This is our mission and purpose.

Our academic programs are designed to challenge you as a student, to develop your theology based upon knowledge and understanding of the Bible, history, doctrine, and an openness to the Holy Spirit. The College emphasizes, true to its scriptural motto —“In Christ All Things Hold Together” (Colossians 1:17) — the integration of reflection and action, faith and works, praxis and academics. The courses of study are designed to enlarge your understanding of the Bible and the great Christian tradition, as well as the vibrant contemporary situation.

Integral to our rigorous academic studies is an intensive Ministry Formation program. During each year (for a total of three) of study for the Master of Divinity (M.Div.) degree and Graduate Diploma in Ministry (Dip.Min.), and one year of study in the Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) degree, students take part in supervised learning within congregations or in related situations. The growing and developing student thus shares in an opportunity to gain knowledge of, and to assume responsibility for, effective ministry. Opportunities are also made available for the continuing education of clergy and for studies for laypeople.

Although McMaster Divinity College is baptistic in orientation (with roots in the Canadian Baptists of Ontario and Quebec), we are an evangelical seminary open to the entire Christian community and to all those who seek a better understanding of the Christian faith. McMaster Divinity College has high expectations for its students. We invite those who have proven academic abilities (an earned undergraduate degree) to consider our programs. For those who, by virtue of age or first career, have not completed an undergraduate foundation, we have special certificate and diploma opportunities (see the section on degree programs).

McMaster Divinity College today has close to 250 students in a range of degree programs,

including M.Div. and M.T.S., M.A. and Ph.D. degrees. We also have over 1,600 alumni/ae, who continue to serve God in various forms of ministry around the world. McMaster Divinity College has one of Canada's outstanding theological faculties. All of the core faculty members are published scholars, several with international reputations. We have fourteen core faculty, all of whom have Ph.D. or Th.D. degrees or ministry-specific professional degrees. The core faculty is supported by qualified and gifted adjunct and part-time faculty, who teach in a variety of disciplines. The College's annual budget is in excess of two million dollars and endowment and trust funds total more than twenty million dollars, including substantial funds for scholarships, bursaries and other student financial aid.

A Brief History

McMaster Divinity College is heir to an educational tradition that reaches back to 1838, when a Scottish pastor named John Gilmour founded Canada Baptist College in the then commercial centre of Canada, Montreal. At the heart of the College was the theological curriculum. Unfortunately, circumstances led to the closing of the College in 1849.

Eight years after the demise of the Montreal school, one of its principals, Toronto pastor Robert Alexander Fyfe, became one of the leading advocates of the voluntary system of support for denominational schools. He favoured a Baptist college affiliated with a national nonsectarian university. In 1857, he and prominent Baptists established the Canadian Literary Institute at Woodstock in southern Ontario.

In 1881, William McMaster, a wealthy merchant, banker, and Senator of the Dominion of Canada, urged the creation of a theological school related to Woodstock, but situated in the city of Toronto. McMaster was generous in his financial support of the new school, Toronto Baptist College. The College prospered with a growing student body and a useful affiliation with the University of Toronto. Essentially a theological school that stressed the missionary and pastoral labours of its students, the College enjoyed impressive facilities, now housing the Royal Conservatory of Music, provided by the Senator on Bloor Street.

Through a series of agreements with Baptist interests in Woodstock, plus a new commitment of funds from Senator McMaster, Toronto Baptist College secured from the Ontario Legislature in 1887 a charter for an independent Christian university. The new school incorporated the arts and sciences with the training of ministers. The name McMaster was adopted in honour of the chief benefactor, who died suddenly in 1888, leaving one of the largest bequests to an educational institution in Victorian Canada.

The University was persuaded in 1928 that the City of Hamilton afforded a better environment for McMaster University than Toronto. Thus the University of some four hundred students and its theological faculty of five moved to new facilities on Hamilton's west end bordering Coote's Paradise and the Niagara escarpment.

McMaster University was reorganized in 1957, allowing for governance of the institution to

pass from the Canadian Baptists of Ontario and Quebec (CBOQ) to a privately chartered, publicly-funded arrangement. The theological program was transformed into McMaster Divinity College, a separately-chartered affiliate college of the University, although the Faculty of Theology remains in name, with selected faculty members of McMaster Divinity College appointed to it. With its own Senate and Board of Trustees, McMaster Divinity College is situated at the heart of the McMaster University campus.

McMaster was among the first Canadian universities to admit women, the first to confer a theological degree upon a woman, and the first to have a woman professor. McMaster Divinity College has been a leader in developing a supervised Ministry Formation program.

In 1989, members of the Hurlburt family established the George F. Hurlburt Chair in Preaching, the first fully endowed Chair at McMaster University or McMaster Divinity College. The purpose of this professorship is to elevate the office and gift of preaching in Christian ministry. The Hurlburt professorship also supports continuing education for those in ministry, and has become the most distinguished chair of its kind in Canada.

A second endowed chair was inaugurated in 1990, the Centenary Chair in World Christianity. This chair honours the one-hundredth anniversary of the founding of McMaster University with funds made possible by friends and churches of the CBOQ. The Centenary Chair currently supports work by McMaster Divinity College in the area of globalization of the Christian faith.

In 1995, a third endowed chair was established, the J. Gordon and Margaret Warnock Jones Chair in Church and Ministry. Made possible by gifts of the family of J. Gordon Jones, Dr. and Mrs. Edwin Howes and others, the chair encompasses the work of pastoral ministry and the church in its various settings.

The Ministry Formation program—an integral part of ministerial preparation in the M.Div. and M.T.S. degrees, as well as the Graduate Dip.Min.—was endowed in 1997, with the institution of the Garbutt F. Smith Director of Field Education and Clinical Programs.

In 1999, the Howard and Shirley Bentall Chair in Evangelical Thought was created by the generosity of the Rev. Dr. Howard and Dr. Shirley Bentall of West Vancouver, British Columbia. The endowment supports a full-time faculty position in theology, historical theology, systematic theology, and other fields related to the general discipline of theology.

In 2002, the latest of the endowed chairs of McMaster Divinity College was established through the estate of Roy A. Hope. Mr. Hope had a genuine concern for the church confronting the major ethical issues of our day and generously provided for the establishment of a chair in Theology, Ethics and Christian Worldview.

This should give you a helpful view of who we are, where we have come from, and even where we are going. We are excited about where God is leading us in the future. We hope that this history conveys a sense of our continuing to move forward under the guidance of God's Spirit,

as we strive to develop effective evangelical Christian leaders, just as our predecessors trained Christian leaders for their day and age.

Mission Statement

Developing effective evangelical Christian leaders for the church, academy, and society through university-level education, professional training, and ongoing support.

Affiliations

- Canadian Baptists of Ontario and Quebec (CBOQ) One of the principal reasons for the organization of the Canadian Baptists of Ontario and Quebec in 1889 was to provide support for Christian higher education and, specifically, McMaster University. McMaster Divinity College continues the relationship as the official ministerial training school of the CBOQ. The membership of the CBOQ elects some members of the Board of Trustees and provides funds for the College budget. The College provides personnel for various divisions of CBOQ programs. Through the CBOQ, the College also enjoys full recognition in the Canadian Baptist Ministries.
- The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada (EFC) - McMaster Divinity College is an affiliate organization of the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada. Founded in 1964, the EFC brings together over 30 denominations, 150 ministry agencies and educational institutions, 1,000 local congregations and more than 15,000 supporting individuals in order to represent and unite together the roughly 2.5 million evangelical Christians in Canada.
- Canadian Bible Society - McMaster Divinity College was the first institutional member of the Canadian Bible Society, having joined the society in the promotion of work to promulgate the gospel in 2000. The President of McMaster Divinity College has served as a member of the South Central Ontario District board of directors of the Society.
- Council for Christian Colleges & Universities - The Council for Christian Colleges & Universities (CCCU) is an international higher education association of intentionally Christian colleges and universities. Founded in 1976 with 38 members, the Council has grown to 105 members in North America and 77 affiliate institutions in 24 countries. Their mission is to advance the cause of Christ-centered higher education and to help institutions transform lives by faithfully relating scholarship and service to biblical truth.
- Christian Higher Education Canada (CHEC) is a non-profit association of higher education institutions, based in Dundas, Ontario. Members include 33 fully-accredited, degree-granting, Christ-centred institutions representing a broad spectrum of undergraduate and graduate Christian higher education within Canada working together to further the CHEC mission.

ACCREDITATIONS

McMaster University - From its origins as a separately-chartered institution in 1957, McMaster Divinity College has been affiliated with McMaster University. The University has a well-earned reputation as one of the leading tier-one research universities in Canada. McMaster is a full-service university offering educational programs through six faculties. More than 25,000 full time students attend McMaster University, 2,000 of whom are pursuing advanced degrees offered through the School of Graduate Studies. In addition, about 4,000 part-time students are registered in the Fall/Winter sessions, from September to April, and 3,500 in the Summer session, from May to August. The University also provides courses in centres located outside Hamilton, for which full credit is granted. Over 95% of the 1,000 members of the University faculty hold earned doctoral degrees in their areas of specialization. Faculty members are expected to teach both graduate and undergraduate courses and may be involved in the academic counseling of students. Currently our Master of Divinity and Master of Theological Studies degrees are awarded by McMaster University. McMaster Divinity College is one of only a very few evangelical seminaries affiliated with a major research university in North America.

Association of Theological Schools (ATS) - The Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada was established in 1936 as the official accrediting body of professional, graduate theological institutions. The Association requires oversight of member institutions through periodic assessments and annual reports, and it provides resources through publications, training events and general meetings. McMaster Divinity College has been a full member of ATS since 1954, and was granted the maximum ten-year accreditation standing at the last review in 2009-2010. All of the degree programs offered by McMaster Divinity College are accredited by ATS.

Canadian Association for Pastoral Practice and Education (CAPPE) – The Canadian Association for Pastoral Practice and Education was founded in 1965 to foster supervised clinical pastoral education in Canada. Through cooperation with participating institutions and supervisors, students at McMaster Divinity College enjoy certified pastoral education, which may lead to chaplaincy and other types of specialized ministry. McMaster Divinity College is an approved institution for CAPPE programs.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

The following affirmation of faith is intended to indicate where McMaster Divinity College stands in relation to the central doctrines of the Christian faith.

I. God - We affirm: that God is an eternal reality apart from the desires and yearnings of human beings; that the triune God alone is creator, redeemer and sustainer, Lord of history to whom we as creatures address our hope for unity and meaning in our lives; that God's grace, power and saving activity have been made known to us in the life, death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ; and that the Holy Spirit testifies in our hearts and minds through

Creation, experience and the Scriptures of the existence of God, and of His love for the world. We have come to know God through the divine initiative seen in the lives of faithful persons like Abraham, Sarah, Jeremiah, Mary and Jesus. God's continuing grace calls forth our thanksgiving and praise which we are bound to offer in Christian worship and in service to our fellow beings.

II. Jesus Christ - We affirm: that Jesus Christ, born of the virgin Mary, is the Son of God, fully God and fully human, and is the complete revelation of God, the one mediator between God and humankind; that Jesus Christ, through his earthly life and mission, his sacrificial death and triumphal resurrection, saves us from sin and separation from God and gives us new and eternal life; that Jesus Christ restores us to full fellowship with God and creates the possibility for healed relationships with other persons and with the whole of God's creation; and that Jesus Christ calls us to a life of obedient discipleship as we patiently await his own coming in power and glory to judge the world and to establish the kingdom of God.

III. Scripture - We affirm: that the Scriptures, the Old and New Testaments, have been given to us by the inspiration of God as the standard for Christian faith, life and teaching; that the Scriptures, though written by human hands, are the Word of God, uniquely authoritative, revealing to us the will of God in Jesus Christ, the living Word; that, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the study of the Scriptures, their setting, their languages and their message, employing the finest tools and minds, is honouring to God and leads us to the deeper truths of His Word; and that our task is to apply our hearts, our minds and our skills to the understanding of the Scriptures and to the proclamation of their message to our age.

IV. The Church - We affirm: that the church is the living body of Christ (Christ is its head, the one in whom and through whom the church exists. He alone is king, by whom the people of God are delivered from darkness. He alone is priest, by whom the people of God are redeemed and nourished. He alone is prophet who calls us to service in the world); that the ancient marks of the church are the qualities we seek for the church – unity, holiness, universality and apostolicity (by the power of the Holy Spirit we offer ourselves for the encouragement of the unity of the church, for the nurture of holiness in the lives of its members, for the extension of the church throughout the world and for becoming true successors of the apostles); that the church exists to worship God and to witness for Him in the world, identifying itself with the needs of men and women in every dimension of their experience (the inspiration of our mission is Jesus Christ, crucified and risen); that we seek to bring people into communion with God through repentance and faith leading to baptism, to discipleship, and to anticipation of the coming new age when the kingdoms of this world become the Kingdom of God and of His Christ – the day of which the Lord's Supper is a sign.



Stanley E. Porter

President and Dean, Professor of New Testament

B.A. Point Loma College, San Diego, California

M.A. Claremont Graduate School, Claremont, California

M.A. Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, Illinois

Ph.D. University of Sheffield, England

Stan has taught for twenty years in post-secondary institutions in Canada, the US A, and the UK. His publications include fourteen authored books and over 130 authored journal articles; he has also edited over 55 volumes. He remains a well-known and respected expert in Greek and New Testament studies throughout the world, and has a vision for the College to become a first choice seminary of academic excellence and exemplary leadership training.



Lee Beach

Assistant Professor of Christian Ministry & Director of Ministry Formation

B.R.E. Canadian Bible College, Regina, Saskatchewan

M.Div. Tyndale Seminary, Ontario

Ph.D. McMaster Divinity College, Hamilton, Ontario

Lee brings his experience of 17 years as a pastor with the Christian Missionary Alliance into his role as Ministry Formation Director. He sees Ministry Formation as an integral part of ministry preparation since it is the place where theory and practice become integrated. He oversees all aspects of the program, from assisting students as they look for placement opportunities to coordinating Ministry Reflection Seminars.



Mark J. Boda

Professor of Old Testament

B.Th. Ambrose University College, Regina, Saskatchewan

M.Div. Westminster Theological Seminary, Glenside, Pennsylvania

Ph.D. University of Cambridge, England

Mark joined the College in 2003 after teaching for nine years at Canadian Theological Seminary, Saskatchewan. He has published significant works on prayer and penitence in the Old Testament and Christian Theology and on Babylonian and Persian period Hebrew books and history (Ezra, Nehemiah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi, Lamentations, Jeremiah). He teaches with enthusiasm about the Old Testament and its continued relevance for the Christian life today.



Lois K. Dow

Assistant Professor of New Testament and Greek

B.Th. Emmanuel Bible College, Ontario

B.A. University of Guelph, Ontario

M.A. Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, Illinois

M.Th. London School of Theology (Brunel), England

Ph.D. McMaster Divinity College, Hamilton, Ontario

Lois is the Managing Editor of the McMaster Divinity College Press.



Paul Evans

Assistant Professor of Old Testament

B.C.S. North American Baptist College, Edmonton,

M.T.S. Wycliffe College, Toronto

Ph.D. University of St. Michael's College, Toronto

Paul specializes in Old Testament studies and in his teaching and research emphasizes the theological significance of the Old Testament and the value of its application for the Church today. He has published several articles on the books of Kings and Chronicles.



Gordon Heath

Associate Professor of Christian History

B.Th. Tyndale University College, Ontario

M.Div. (Hon.) Acadia University, Wolfville, Nova Scotia

Ph.D. University of St. Michael's College, Toronto, Ontario

Gordon joined us in the summer of 2004 after five years teaching history at Tyndale University College. His research interests lie particularly in the area of church/state and church/war issues. Besides teaching at the College, he also serves as Director of the Canadian Baptist Archives.



Michael P. Knowles

Professor of Preaching; George F. Hurlburt Chair in Preaching

B.A. (Hon.) University of Victoria, British Columbia

M.Div. Wycliffe College, Toronto, Ontario

Th.D. University of Toronto, Ontario

An ordained minister in the Anglican Church of Canada, Michael teaches courses in both ministry and biblical studies in a way that seeks to integrate sound biblical exegesis, Christian spirituality, and practical application for the life and ministry of the faith community.



Gus Konkell

Professor of Old Testament

B.R.E Winnipeg Bible College, Winnipeg, Manitoba

M.Div. Winnipeg Theological Seminary, Winnipeg, Manitoba

Ph.D. Westminster Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Gus is president *emeritus* of Providence University College and Theological Seminary at Otterburne Manitoba where he served as president from 2001- June 30, 2012 when he resigned before joining us at the Divinity College. His research interests include Lexical and semantic studies; textual history & textual criticism, Hebrew and Greek Old Testament texts and Old Testament exegetical and theological studies.



Christopher D. Land

Assistant Professor of New Testament and Linguistics

B.R.S. Heritage College and Seminary, Cambridge, Ontario

M.A. McMaster Divinity College, Hamilton, Ontario

Ph.D. McMaster Divinity College, Hamilton, Ontario

Christopher joined McMaster Divinity College as Assistant Professor of New Testament and Linguistics in 2013. His research focuses on the application of linguistic theories and methods in biblical scholarship, as well as on the life of the Apostle Paul and the historical development of early Christianity. Chris directs the Centre for Biblical Linguistics, Exegesis and Translation, and he is Director of Development for the OpenText.org project. He also co-chairs the McMaster Divinity College Linguistics Circle.



Wendy J. Porter

Director of Music and Worship

B.A. (Hon.) Trinity Western University, Langley, British Columbia

Ph.D. University of Surrey, England

Wendy is the Director of Music and Worship at the Divinity College and teaches courses in Christian ministry, particularly in the areas of sacred music, liturgics, and worship. Her research and publications explore the interface of theology and church music from the early church to the present.



Steven M. Studebaker

Assistant Professor of Systematic and Historical Theology

B.A. Northwest College, Saint Paul, Minnesota

M.A. Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, Illinois

Ph.D. Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Steven taught for three years at Emmanuel College in Georgia before coming to McMaster Divinity College to take up the theology position in July 2006. He has also taught courses at Marquette University and Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. His research interests include Jonathan Edwards, David Coffey, and pneumatology.



Cynthia Long Westfall

Assistant Professor of New Testament

B.A. Biola College, La Mirada, California

M.A. Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff, Arizona

M.Div. Denver Seminary, Littleton, Colorado

Ph.D. University of Surrey, England

Cindy has published in the area of discourse analysis of the New Testament and is a recognized expert on the book of Hebrews. Her book on Hebrews and its form and meaning appeared in 2006. Cindy has taught previously at Mars Hill Graduate School, Denver Seminary and Colorado Christian University.



Phil Zylla

Academic Dean and Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology

B.A. Rel. North American Baptist College, Edmonton

M.Div. North American Baptist Seminary, Edmonton

Th.M. Princeton Theological Seminary, New Jersey

D.Th. University of South Africa

Prior to his appointment at MDC as Academic Dean, Phil was Principal at ACTS Seminaries from 2001-2007. Phil has served three churches as Senior Pastor over the past 20 years as well as being adjunct professor in pastoral theology at Taylor Seminary, St. Stephens College, Regent College, and George Fox Evangelical Seminary. Phil has published articles and spoken widely in the areas of spiritual formation and the role of suffering in the life of the Christian.

Faculty Emeriti/ae

When faculty have attained the rank of full Professor and have concluded their teaching careers at McMaster Divinity College, the College may wish to recognize their outstanding and continuing contributions to the life of the College and to the scholarly community at large. One way of honouring such an individual, and to provide for the continuation of that individual's contribution, is to award the status of Professor Emeritus. We are proud of our Professors Emeriti/ae.

Malcolm J.A. Horsnell

Professor Emeritus of Old Testament

B.A. Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario

B.D. Toronto Baptist Seminary, Ontario

Th.M. Princeton Theological Seminary, New Jersey

Ph.D. University of Toronto, Ontario

Malcolm came to McMaster Divinity College in 1978 and served as a faculty member until 2003, teaching a range of courses in the Old Testament, including both language and content courses. Besides being an ordained Baptist minister, Malcolm has published three books and numerous articles in Old Testament and near Eastern studies. He still visits MDC on a regular basis and has been involved in adjunct teaching.

- **Joseph D. Ban**, B.S., B.D., Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Christian Ministry
- **Melvyn R. Hillmer**, B.A., B.D., Th.D., Principal and Professor Emeritus of New Testament Studies
- **Reinhold J. Kerstan**, B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D., Professor Emeritus of Preaching and Communications

Retired Faculty

We also wish to honour several faculty who have retired from our ranks, having made a significant contribution to the life of the College.

- **Elmer G. Anderson**, B.A., B.D., Director of Field Education
- **Joyce Bellous**, B.A., B.Ed., M.A., Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Director of the Master of Religious Education Program
- **Ruth B. Fraser**, B.S., M.Ed., Director of Field Education
- **Ken Morgan**, B.Th., B.A., M.T.S., D.Min., Lecturer in Baptist Studies, Director of the Canadian Baptist Archives
- **William R. Wood**, B.A., B.D., Th.M., D.Min., Assistant Professor of Christian Ministries and Baptist Polity

Adjunct Faculty

- **Claude E. Cox**, B.A., M.Div., Th.M., M.A., Ph.D. , adjunct professor in Old Testament and Hebrew
- **Craig Evans**, B.A., M.Div., M.A., Ph.D., adjunct professor and Payzant Distinguished Professor in New Testament at Acadia Divinity College
- **Kelvin Mutter**, B.Th., B.A., M.T.S., M.Th., Th.D. , adjunct professor in Christian Ministry (Counselling)
- **Matthew Brook O'Donnell**, B.S c., M.Div., Ph.D., adjunct professor in New Testament and principal partner of the OpenText.org project
- **Wade Rowatt**, B.S., M.Div., Th.M. , Ph.D. , adjunct professor in Ministry Studies
- **Franklin Pyles**, B.A., M.Div., Ph.D ., adjunct professor in Ministry Studies and Theology
- **Paul Bates**, adjunct professor in Ministry Studies
- **Prince Conteh**, M.A., D.Th., Ph.D., Adjunct Professor in Ministry Studies and Research Fellow in Religious Studies at the University of South Africa

People of MDC

Sabrina Dyson (maternity leave)

Student Records Assistant

B.Sc., B.Ed. Brock University St. Catharines, Ontario

Sabrina ensures that support is given to the Student Records and other areas and departments of the MDC as needed.

Sara Fusilier (maternity leave)

Admissions Counsellor

M.A. McMaster Divinity College

Sara is one of the first people visitors encounter when exploring MDC as a possible place to study and regularly represents MDC at a variety of conferences and events. She also works with students providing information about programs, admissions requirements, fees and scheduling.

Sabeth Kapahu

Advancement and Marketing Assistant

B.A. Pacific Rim Christian College, Honolulu, USA

Sabeth assists the Director of Marketing and the Director of Advancement in maintaining the image and relationship of the college with past, present, and potential friends, students and donors of the Divinity College.

Bill Marshall

Director of Finance

B.A. University of Saskatchewan

As Director of Finance, Bill oversees all financial functions, including the preparation of financial statements, budgets, major financial transactions and contractual arrangements with various suppliers of service to the College. Bill worked for five years in public accounting and previously for 32 years with a national insurance company in various senior finance roles.

Tanya Perrin (maternity leave)

Assistant to the Registrar

B.A. Rocky Mountain College, Calgary, Alberta

Tanya is the primary contact for student registration. She also works with student files to track program completion and ensure that graduation requirements are fulfilled.

Phil Strickland

Admissions Counsellor

M.A., M.Div.

Phil is one of the first people visitors encounter when exploring MDC as a possible place to study and regularly represents MDC at a variety of conferences and events. He also works with students providing information about programs, admissions requirements, fees and scheduling.

Nina Thomas

Registrar, Director of Admissions and Marketing

B.M.O.S. University of Western Ontario

Nina is responsible for students from pre-Admission to Graduation and beyond. As well, she is responsible for advertising and branding of our institution. Nina is also the supervisor of all those in staff positions.

Alison Van Andel

Student Records Assistant

B.A. Redeemer University

Alison is the primary contact for student registration. She also works with student files to track program completion and ensure that graduation requirements are fulfilled.

Virginia Wolfe

Assistant to the Director of Finance &

Operations Assistant

B.Math., University of Waterloo, Ontario

Virginia assists the Director of Finance in the management of College financial matters. She is the contact for booking equipment and rooms in the College and also for coordinating parking.

Dan Morrison

Communications Manager

M.Div. Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, Springfield, MO

Dan oversees the social media and online communications of the Divinity College. He is the primary person responsible for maintaining our website.

Paradigm for Transformative Learning: Knowing, Being, and Doing

In order to achieve our mission, McMaster Divinity College has committed itself to the transformational paradigm of “Knowing...Being...Doing... as the basis for both our professional and research degree programs. All of our courses impart a body of knowledge (knowing) that enhances our students’ understanding, insight, and perspective on the important issues of the Christian faith. We are convinced, however, that education must push beyond the informational to the formational (being) and result in an inner transformation, where all members of the learning community are conformed to Christ’s image. This paradigm of education includes advanced vocational competencies (doing) so that graduates from our degree programs are equipped for what will be required of them as they move from graduation to their chosen ministry formation. We hope that you will consider joining the community of McMaster Divinity College and come to be formed with excellence in mind, heart, and will.

**PROGRAMS AT
MDC**

Programs at MDC

Master of Divinity (M.Div.)
Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.)
Graduate Diploma in Ministry (Dip.Min.)
Graduate Certificate of Christian Studies (Cert.C.S.)
Occasional Student (Occ.)

Whether you are preparing for full-time Christian ministry or sense the need to deepen your knowledge of God and His Word, you need to determine which program of study is right for you. Each program has a particular role to play in the life of the church and in preparation for forms of Christian ministry. If you have further questions, please contact us.

Master of Divinity (M.Div.)

Program Type:

Professional Degree

The M.Div. degree has traditionally served as the primary avenue of preparation for professional Christian ministry. It is still the optimal degree for those serving in local church ministry and remains a necessity for those who sense a call to chaplaincy. It provides for spiritual, intellectual, and practical formation in terms of biblical, historical, theological, and pastoral competencies, equipping students to be effective leaders in the church and contemporary society. A significant component of this program is Ministry Formation; we have integrated this feature throughout three years of the program.

Program Duration:

Designed to be completed in 3 years

Requirements:

- Agreement with the McMaster Divinity College Statement of Faith
- Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution with a minimum B- average

Concentrations:

PS Pastoral Studies
CW Christian Worldview
CC Church and Culture
PC Pastoral Care and Counselling
BS Biblical Studies: General, OT, or NT
CT Christian Thought and History
IS Interdisciplinary Studies

Master of Divinity (M.Div.)

Program Description:

BIBLICAL STUDIES	Units
Foundations in Biblical Studies I	3
Foundations in Biblical Studies II	3
Biblical Languages	12
Option One – Practical Languages	
Option Two – Pastoral Languages	
Option Three – Advanced Languages	
Total Required:	18
THEOLOGICAL STUDIES	
Foundations in Theology and History I	3
Foundations in Theology and History II	3
Total Required:	6
MINISTRY STUDIES	
Foundations for Effective Ministry I and Ministry Formation Seminar	9
Foundations for Effective Ministry II and Ministry Formation Seminar	9
Foundations for Effective Ministry III and Ministry Formation Seminar	9
Spiritual Formation Retreat	P/F
Total Required:	27
Specializations (6 courses)	18
Pastoral Studies	
Christian Worldview	
Church and Culture	
Pastoral Care and Counseling	
Biblical Studies: General, OT, or NT	
Christian Thought and History	
Interdisciplinary Studies	
ELECTIVES	
Free Electives	12
Free electives (2) or Thesis Option (25,000 words)	6
Total Required:	18
Program Total	81

Thesis Option

There is also the option of doing a thesis as part of this degree. Students who demonstrate sufficient academic success (at least a B+ or higher in the subject area and a GPA of at least B+) are encouraged to consider the thesis option. The thesis allows students to pursue their own research, while working with an academic mentor on the faculty. *Those who intend to go on for further academic training are strongly encouraged to pursue the thesis option.* (6 units)

Ministry Formation

The goal of Ministry Formation is to offer McMaster Divinity College students an opportunity for ministry experience, integration of classroom learning with ministry practice, and reflection on personal and theological issues as they pertain to their own development as ministering persons. The program seeks to be highly intentional in its process and outcomes so as to maximize the student's development for future ministry. By emphasizing the central development tenets of "Knowing, Being, Doing," the Ministry Formation program seeks to be integrated with the rest of the College's curriculum, and is intentional in its desire to be an effective program for the formation of current and future ministers in the Church. Ministry Formation is a required course in all three years of the M.Div. program.

Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.)

Program Type:

Professional Degree

The complexities of the world in which we live necessitate that Christians have a firm foundation for what they believe. The M.T.S. degree addresses this need through coursework that aids in the development of Christian character and offers instruction and practical formation in terms of biblical, historical, theological, and ministry competencies, developing students to be effective leaders in the church and society.

Program Duration:

Designed to be completed in 2 years

Requirements:

- Agreement with the McMaster Divinity College Statement of Faith
- Bachelor's Degree from an accredited institution with a B- average

Concentrations:

PS	Pastoral Studies
CW	Christian Worldview
CC	Church and Culture
PC	Pastoral Care and Counselling
BS	Biblical Studies: General, OT, or NT
CT	Christian Thought and History
IS	Interdisciplinary Studies

Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.)

Program Description:

BIBLICAL STUDIES	Units
Foundations in Biblical Studies I	3
Foundations in Biblical Studies II	3
Total Required:	6
THEOLOGICAL STUDIES	
Foundations in Theology and History I	3
Foundations in Theology and History II	3
Total Required:	6
MINISTRY STUDIES	
Foundations for Effective Ministry I <i>and</i> Ministry Formation Seminar	9
Spiritual Formation Retreat	P/F
Total Required:	9
Specializations (6 courses)	18
Christian Worldview	
Church and Culture	
Pastoral Care and Counseling	
Biblical Studies: General, OT, or NT	
Christian Thought and History	
Interdisciplinary Studies	
ELECTIVES	
Free Electives	9
Free electives (2) <i>or</i> Thesis Option (25,000 words)	6
Total Required:	15
Program Total	54

Thesis Option

There is also the option of doing a thesis as part of this degree. Students who demonstrate sufficient academic success (at least a B+ or higher in the subject area and a GPA of at least B+) are encouraged to consider the thesis option. The thesis allows students to pursue their own research, while working with an academic mentor on the faculty. *Those who intend to go on for further academic training are strongly encouraged to pursue the thesis option.* (6 units)

NOTE: Students wishing to write a thesis in biblical studies, must use two (2) of their electives for appropriate biblical language study.

Graduate Diploma in Ministry (Dip.Min.)

Program Type:

The Graduate Diploma in Ministry is a non-degree program that is virtually identical in its style, approach, and content to the M.Div. degree. This program is designed for those who have experienced a call to ministry but have no undergraduate degree. However, it is restricted to those who have the endorsement of their denomination and a specific plan of action (developed both by the individual and denominational leadership) for working within their denominational context after the completion of the program.

Program Duration:

Designed to be completed in 3 years

Requirements:

- Agreement with our Affirmation of Faith
- Student must be over the age of 35
- Have endorsement of his/her denomination or ecclesiastical body

Concentrations:

PS Pastoral Studies
 CW Christian Worldview
 CC Church and Culture
 PC Pastoral Care and Counselling
 BS Biblical Studies: General, OT, or NT
 CT Christian Thought and History
 IS Interdisciplinary Studies

Program Description:

BIBLICAL STUDIES	Units
Foundations in Biblical Studies I	3
Foundations in Biblical Studies II	3
Biblical Languages	12
Option One – Practical Languages	
Option Two – Pastoral Languages	
Option Three – Advanced Languages	
Total Required:	18
THEOLOGICAL STUDIES	
Foundations in Theology and History I	3
Foundations in Theology and History II	3
Total Required:	6

MINISTRY STUDIES	
Foundations for Effective Ministry I and Ministry Formation Seminar	9
Foundations for Effective Ministry II and Ministry Formation Seminar	9
Foundations for Effective Ministry III and Ministry Formation Seminar	9
Spiritual Formation Retreat	P/F
Total Required:	27
Specializations (6 courses)	18
Pastoral Studies	
Christian Worldview	
Church and Culture	
Pastoral Care and Counseling	
Biblical Studies: General, OT, or NT	
Christian Thought and History	
Interdisciplinary Studies	
ELECTIVES	
Free Electives	12
Free electives (2) or Thesis Option (25,000 words)	6
Total Required:	18
Program Total	81

Ministry Formation

The goal of Ministry Formation is to offer McMaster Divinity College students an opportunity for ministry experience, integration of class room learning with ministry practice, and reflection on personal and theological issues as they pertain to their own development as ministering persons. The program seeks to be highly intentional in its process and outcomes so as to maximize the student's development for future ministry. By emphasizing the central development tenets of "Knowing, Being, Doing," the Ministry Formation program seeks to be integrated with the rest of the College's curriculum, and is intentional in its desire to be an effective program for the formation of current and future ministers in the Church. Ministry Formation is a required course in all three years of the M.Div. program.

Program Requirements

Ministry Formation is a required course in all three years of the M.Div. and Dip.Min. programs and one year of the M.T.S. program. The selection and negotiation of placement sites begins several months in advance of the course in collaboration with the Director of Ministry

Formation. Students may not register for the course until all arrangements have been finalized and approved by both the Director and the student, in conjunction with the Ministry Formation Supervisor.

Program Components

There are five key components of the Ministry Formation program. These educationally-focused components distinguish Ministry Formation from other kinds of ministry or professional experiences such as lay ministry, professional ministry, fieldwork, mission experiences, and volunteer work. (For this reason, previous experience is not considered for academic credit). The components include:

- Equivalent of 240 hours of practical ministry experience in an approved field placement setting (10 hours per week during the fall/winter semesters)
- The formulation of, and adherence to, an individualized Learning/Ministry Covenant.
- Mentoring and weekly supervision sessions with an approved Field Supervisor.
- Participation in a Ministry Reflection Seminar.
- Comprehensive written and oral feedback from all partners in the Ministry Formation program.

Placement Options

Every effort is made to match students with a field placement setting that is consonant with their individualized learning objectives, vocational goals, denominational preferences and ministry interests. A wide variety of field placement options are available, including churches of various denominations, para-church organizations, healthcare facilities, campus ministries, correctional institutions, and community service agencies. The Ministry Formation office has a listing of approved field placement sites for students' consideration. Students may also suggest alternative sites for approval. Placement selection is a collaborative process involving the student, the site supervisor, the placement, and the Director of Ministry Formation.

International Ministries and Summer Placements

International placements, summer mission projects, and summer ministry placements are other possible alternatives, provided that all McMaster Divinity College course criteria and standards are met. Negotiations for these types of placements need to begin several months in advance in collaboration with the Director of Ministry Formation. The College encourages students to explore these kinds of placements, since they often have unexpected rewards for ministry experience.

Ministry Reflection Seminar

All students taking Ministry Formation are divided into small seminar groups called Ministry Reflection Seminars (MRS). These groups meet for 1.5 hours each week throughout the academic year for group theological reflection on the ministry experiences encountered in the

field placements. The seminars are jointly led by faculty members and experienced ministry practitioners. During the summer semester, the seminars occur in a distance-education/internet format.

Evaluation

Detailed, ongoing, comprehensive assessment is provided to students to facilitate their discernment of ministry gifts and callings, as well as areas of challenge and growth. Final grading of Ministry Formation and the Ministry Reflection Seminar is on a Pass/Fail basis.

Supervised Pastoral Education

All students, particularly those who are interested in counselling and chaplaincy ministries, are encouraged to take at least one unit of Supervised Pastoral Education (SPE) at an accredited site approved by the Canadian Association for Pastoral Practice and Education (CAPPE). Students may choose between Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) in a chaplaincy setting where they give pastoral care to people in crisis, or Pastoral Counseling Education (PCE) in a pastoral counselling setting where they counsel people confronting life problems. An accredited mentor guides small groups of students in self-discovery and through issues arising in the day-to-day ministries of the students.

A SPE unit may be applied as 3 units of Ministry Formation or 3 units of Ministry Studies electives. Students may elect to take two SPE units (6 units of credit) if preparing for a chaplaincy or counseling ministry. The units may be applied to a focus in Ministry Studies, and result in the Ministry Studies focus having a chaplaincy or pastoral counseling emphasis. SPE units are typically offered as an intensive 12-week intensive summer unit or a two-day per week extended unit conducted from September to April. The Director of Ministry Formation has full details regarding Supervised Pastoral Education.

Graduate Certificate of Christian Studies (Cert.C.S.)

The Graduate Certificate of Christian Studies is a non-degree program that allows students to enhance their spiritual development. It is ideal for individuals who do not wish to be confined to a specific area of study or a particular degree program. Although there is a suggested course of study, there are no restrictions on the ten courses required to receive a Cert.C.S. The credits of the Cert.C.S. program can be used toward the M.Div., M.T.S., and Dip.Min. programs.

Program Duration:

Designed to be completed 1-10 years

Requirements:

- Agreement with the McMaster Divinity College Statement of Faith
- Be at least 24 years of age

M.A. (Christian Studies) & Ph.D. (Christian Theology)

The Master of Arts (M.A.) in Christian Studies and the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) (Christian Theology) degrees are designed to function within the biblical and theological context of a Christian seminary situated on the campus of a leading university. The entrance requirements attempt to identify students whose background and academic records indicate the ability to engage in graduate-level study of a theological subject on the basis of significant previous performance. In particular, these advanced degree programs are designed to encourage:

1. Comprehensive knowledge of theological studies;
2. Original research and writing that advance theological understanding for the sake of the church, academy, and society;
3. Excellence in communication and practice of ministry;
4. Professional skills, character, and leadership.

M.A. (Christian Studies)

Program Type:

Research Degree

The M.A. (Christian Studies) degree is particularly designed to prepare students for doctoral level studies or to develop advanced competence in theological studies. It is two years of full-time study or up to four years of part-time study, requiring 36 units of advanced-level course work and one year for the writing of the thesis in an area of Christian studies. This program has a research-oriented emphasis, building on prior academic preparation in the general areas of theological education.

Program Duration:

Designed to be completed in 2-4 years

Requirements:

- Agreement with the McMaster Divinity College Statement of Faith
- Bachelor's degree from an accredited university or its educational equivalent, of which 10 courses must be in the area of Theological or Christian Studies (with at least a B+ average)
- Six units (two terms) of biblical languages study in the applicant's anticipated area of emphasis. Ministry Studies and Theological Studies applicants may choose either Greek or Hebrew.

Concentrations:

Biblical Studies

Theological Studies

Ministry Studies

Program Description:

In keeping with the program objectives of providing opportunities for advanced study and research in preparation for doctoral studies or other leadership roles in the Church and society, M.A. candidates will complete six 6-unit courses at the graduate level. In addition, each student will write a 40,000-word thesis under the supervision of a faculty member, which must be orally defended.

The M.A. may be done part-time. However, it must be completed within four years.

Year 1:

- Research Methods

One Interdisciplinary Study in Christian Theology, in examination area:

- Biblical Theology (BS)
- Theological Contours of Ministry (MS)
- Ministry and Evangelical Thought (TS)

Two courses in the area of :

- Advanced Topics in Biblical Studies
- Advanced Topics in Theological Studies
- Advanced Topics in Ministry Studies

Year 2:

Two courses in the area of :

- Advanced Topics in Biblical Studies
- Advanced Topics in Theological Studies
- Advanced Topics in Ministry Studies

*Note: One of the above courses may be taken during the summer session.

Thesis

- The thesis project is a major piece of writing intended to provide an in-depth foundation for further study of enhanced knowledge and proficiency in a defined area.

Of the four "Advanced Topics" courses, please note that two may be 3-unit courses taken at the 6-unit level. One may be a Directed Study and one may be a Letter of Permission course.

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Christian Theology

Program Type:

Research Degree

The Ph.D. (Christian Theology) is particularly designed to prepare students for the teaching, writing, and leadership ministries of the Church. It is a full-time degree that builds upon previous foundational theological study and encourages the development of valuable ministerial and teaching experience.

Program Duration:

Designed to be completed in 4-6 years

Requirements:

- Agreement with the McMaster Divinity College Statement of Faith
- Bachelor's degree from an accredited university or its educational equivalent, with at least a B+ average
- Master's degree from an accredited university or its educational equivalent (e.g. M.A., M.T.S., M.Div., Th.M.) with at least a B+ average (students with an emphasis in Ministry Studies will normally have an M.Div. degree)
- At least ten term-long courses in the examination area selected for study, or related areas, with at least a B+ average in these courses
- A major piece of written academic work (minimum 10,000 words), preferably a master's thesis, in the student's proposed area of specialization, written in English
- Appropriate biblical language requirement

It is required that a student would have at least 9 units (three terms) of one biblical language for entrance into Ministry Studies and Theological Studies programs. A student whose emphasis is Biblical Studies will have studied at least 12 units (four terms) of the major biblical language of his/her emphasis (i.e, Greek (NT) or Hebrew (OT)) and at least 6 units (two terms) of the other. The student may be required to gain facility in additional languages or higher competence in the biblical languages in light of her/his program of study as set by his/her committee.

Concentrations:

Biblical Studies

Theological Studies

Ministry Studies

Program Description:

In keeping with the objective of providing Ph.D. students with opportunities to develop a breadth of knowledge and skills through coursework and comprehensive examinations, as well

as focused, specialized research in the form of a dissertation, the following list comprises the minimum requirements for the program. Students must also demonstrate competence in biblical and modern languages as appropriate.

Year 1:

- Research Methods

One of the following courses in Interdisciplinary Studies in Christian Theology:

- Biblical Theology (BS)
- Theological Contours of Ministry (MS)
- Ministry and Evangelical Thought (TH)

Two courses in the selected area of emphasis:

- Advanced Topics in Biblical Studies
- Advanced Topics in Theological Studies
- Advanced Topics in Ministry Studies

Total Required: 4 courses

Modern Language Exam:

At least one modern research language, such as German or French, is required for all Ph.D. students. Competence in modern languages is to be demonstrated through a language examination set by the primary and secondary advisors or other suitable person at McMaster Divinity College and is to be decided by the committee of advisors. This requirement must be met before students will be permitted to move into the dissertation phase of the program. The modern language exam should be completed by the end of the first year of study.

Year 2:

One of the following courses in Interdisciplinary Studies in Christian Theology:

- Biblical Theology (BS)
- Theological Contours of Ministry (MS)
- Ministry and Evangelical Thought (TS)

One course in the selected area of emphasis:

- Advanced Topics in Biblical Studies
- Advanced Topics in Theological Studies
- Advanced Topics in Ministry Studies

Two courses in the examination area of which both may be Directed Studies (maximum of two Directed Studies in program).

Note: One of the interdisciplinary courses (in either Year 1 or Year 2) must be in the area of

Note: One of the interdisciplinary courses (in either Year 1 or Year 2) must be in the area of emphasis.

Total Required: 4 courses

Comprehensive Exams:

Three written comprehensive exams in the area of emphasis, as well as an oral defense, are required upon the completion of coursework.

Vocational Practice

Vocational practice is required in each term of coursework. It must create meaningful, intellectual, and reflective interaction between the area of emphasis and one's chosen vocation.

Years 3 & 4

Dissertation:

Based on the area of emphasis, a dissertation (minimum 80,000 words) must be written demonstrating expert knowledge of the area and both presenting and supporting a new thesis regarding the subject area. The dissertation will be defended orally.

Supervision

From the outset, as part of the admission process, students work with a primary supervisor whose expertise and scholarly interests correspond with the student's area of emphasis. In addition, each student has the support of a supervisory committee, which consists of the primary supervisor, a secondary supervisor, the Academic Dean, and any other members from inside or outside of the College as deemed appropriate. This committee will work closely with the student to assist in planning and approving the student's program of courses and research, to decide on timing of comprehensive and language examinations, to provide the student with regular appraisals of progress, to decide when the student is ready to write the dissertation, and to give advice during this process.

COURSES AT MDC

Courses at MDC

Please note that all of the courses listed may not be offered on an annual basis.

Course Descriptions

M.DIV., M.T.S., DIP.MIN., CERT.C.S., OCC.

Core Courses

OT 1A03/NT 1A03 – Foundations in Biblical Studies 1 & 2

An orientation to the Bible that provides an interpretive framework that is biblically and theologically grounded, spiritually sensitive, critically aware and practically relevant. Attention will be paid to the contents of individual biblical books, their growth and development, and the historical contexts out of which they emerged (the ancient Near East, Second Temple Judaism and the Greco-Roman world). Focus will be given to the relationship between the Testaments, unity and diversity within the biblical canon and important theological themes and motifs. An orientation will be given to key interpretive principles for reading and applying the Bible.

TH 1A03/CH 1A03 – Foundations in Theology and History 1 & 2

A fusion of Christian history and theology that explores the story of Christianity from a small band of disciples to the world's largest religion that prepares you for your life of faith and ministry in today's world. This foundational course provides the background necessary for further theological and historical studies.

MS 1A03/MS 1B03 – Foundations for Effective Ministry 1a & 1b

This course is designed to help students explore what it means to engage the world in a distinctly Christian way and orient their lives, talents, callings and abilities around God's perspective on the world and how we are invited to participate in His transformational purposes. The course will help students consider how a theological vision for life in this world and a personal encounter with God influence every aspect of life regardless of what their own specific calling may be. Students will consider the key elements of a Christian worldview, a foundational philosophy of Christian leadership and an introduction to the mission of the church.

MS 2A03/MS 2B03 – Foundations for Effective Ministry 2a & 2b

Ministry is about changing lives — changing and being changed through discipleship, worship, and proclamation. To borrow the language of John Bunyan, this course will amount to a Pilgrim's Progress, in this case guided by Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. As pilgrims, we will worship together; we will follow Christ together; we will learn to speak of Him. Students will select from a wide range of assignments that fit personal goals, as the course is designed to be richly diverse in styles of learning and community endeavour.

MS 3A03/MS 3B03 – Foundations for Effective Ministry 3a & 3b (starting Fall 2014)

MF 1A03/MF 2A03/MF 3A03 – Ministry Reflection Seminar

Ministry Reflection Seminar (MRS) is a small group based learning experience that is designed to provide a place for interactive discussion and group theological reflection on the lived experiences of ministry. MRS groups occur in connection with the student's field placement or in the case of MTS students their place of identified engagement for professional and/or ministry experience. **MRS is taken in connection with Foundations for Effective ministry 1, 2 and 3 in the case of MDiv students and Foundations for Effective Ministry 1 or 2 for MTS students.**

The seminars are rooted in an action-reflection learning model designed to cultivate theologically reflective practitioners and provide a forum for integrating the academic, spiritual, relational and vocational dimensions of ministry through a guided process of group reflection. The seminars also are intended to provide a safe space for exploring and clarifying one's gifts, graces, and growing edges in ministry within a corporate, caring community context.

Students enrolled in the concurrent Foundations for Effective Ministry (September to April) meet in their seminar groups once per week over the full academic year for 1.5 hours per session.

Ministry Reflection Seminars differ from many other kinds of classroom environments in that the starting point for discussion is the lived experiences of ministry. On a rotational basis, students take turns presenting to the group a written *Theological Reflection Report* (details will be provided) that provides the focal point for guided group reflection. Students also take turns being the group facilitator. The reflective process draws on many kinds of knowledge including scripture, theology, Christian tradition, culture, other disciplinary knowledge, as well as personal, experiential and spiritual insights. Through the collective struggle to “think theologically” about the puzzles, dilemmas and uncertainties encountered in ministry practice and lived experience, the hoped-for outcome is new insight and creative responses that can be taken directly back into the placement context.

MS 3C00 - Spiritual Retreat

A retreat is held that offers students opportunity for further input on their spiritual, personal and ministry formation, as well as the opportunity to write and present a summative reflection on their formation during their time at McMaster Divinity College. This retreat is mandatory for graduating students (professional programs) in their final year.

Language Courses

Language Courses are considered core courses in the MDiv. Please consult the program outline for the courses required. Language courses may be taken as electives in the MTS or as part of

the Biblical Studies specialization.

HEB 2A03 – Introduction to Biblical Hebrew 1

This course introduces students to biblical Hebrew in order to impart an active knowledge of the language. This course sets students on a journey of learning Hebrew, which will greatly enhance their capacity for study in the biblical texts and prove a tremendous aid to interpretation. Students will learn the Hebrew alphabet, pronunciation and the basics of the grammar, syntax and vocabulary of the language of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament. Emphasis will be on morphology (words and their forms) and syntax (how words fit together to make coherent sentences). The course also places a strong emphasis on acquiring a broad vocabulary for reading the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament in Hebrew. During this course students will begin to read the Old Testament/Hebrew Bible in its original language.

HEB 2B03 – Introduction to Biblical Hebrew 2

This course is a continuation of HEB 2A03 and continues the journey of learning Hebrew with an aim to enhance students' capacity for study in the biblical texts and enhance their biblical interpretation. Building on the previous course, students will learn more grammar, syntax and vocabulary of the language of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament. There will be continued emphasis on morphology (words and their forms) and syntax (how words fit together to make coherent sentences). There will also be a continued emphasis on acquiring a broad vocabulary for continued reading in the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament. The knowledge acquired should enable the student to read the simple prose and poetry of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament in its original language.

Prerequisite: HEB 2A03

HEB 3A03 - Intermediate Hebrew 1

A reading course in classical (biblical) Hebrew. Sample texts will be read from some or all of the following: the Hebrew Bible, the Mishnah, ancient Hebrew inscriptions, and the Dead Sea Scrolls, with emphasis on the Hebrew Bible. Prerequisite: HEB 2B03

HEB 3B03 - Intermediate Hebrew 2

A continuation of HEB 3A03. Further sample texts will be read from some or all of the following: the Hebrew Bible, the Mishnah, ancient Hebrew inscriptions, the Dead Sea Scrolls, with emphasis on the Hebrew Bible.

Prerequisite: HEB 3A03 (in most cases)

NT 1B03 - Introduction to New Testament Greek 1

A study of the New Testament Greek language, leading to the mastery of the general principles of grammar and syntax.

NT 1C03 - Introduction to New Testament Greek 2

A continued study of the New Testament Greek language, leading to the mastery of the general principles of grammar and syntax.

Prerequisite: NT 1B03 or NT 1G03

NT 1G03 – Introduction to New Testament Greek 1 (online)

An online study of the New Testament Greek language that leads to the mastery of the general principles of grammar and syntax. **Note:** This course is held each semester.

NT 1H03 – Introduction to New Testament Greek 2 (online)

An online study of the New Testament Greek language that leads to the mastery of the general principles of grammar and syntax. **Note:** This course is held each semester.

Prerequisite: NT 1G03 or NT 1B03

NT 2I03 – Greek Exegesis 1

This course is an exegetical and interpretive study of one or more New Testament books based on the Greek text. We will work closely with the Greek text and learn to understand and articulate its original meaning as well as consider its meaning for today. Course content may differ from year to year (e.g. Mark, Luke, John, Romans, Acts, 1 Corinthians) and may, under different descriptions, be repeated for credit. This course is normally offered in the Fall term.

Prerequisite: NT 1C03

NT 2J03 – Greek Exegesis 2

In this course, we will take seriously the idea that beginning with the original Greek can provide pastors and teachers with a deeper and richer encounter with the Greek text so that it becomes a reflective starting point rather than an esoteric and authoritative-sounding add-on. Students will not only improve their ability to read Greek, they will also learn some practical techniques that will move them beyond irresponsible word studies and into the exciting experience of working with biblical text in its original language.

Specialization/Elective Courses

All other courses are taken as either specialization courses or elective courses. Please see the outline for each professional program to see how many courses are mandatory for each specialization and/or elective. Note: There are a required number of specialization courses. Electives can be courses taken outside the specialization OR additional courses in the specialization area.

NOTE: Below is an example of some of the courses offered as specialization or elective courses. Each year we aim to add to this list, depending on the requirements of students in the programs during a particular academic year.

Evangelism and the 4th Gospel (BS/CC/CW/PS)

John's Gospel is a highly missional narrative. Explicitly written to engender belief in Jesus in the lives of its readers, it depicts Jesus' evangelistic encounters as highly experiential and interactive. John's narrative offers a suggestive vision for missional engagement in a context where Jesus and his message are new or even unknown, much like our own cultural reality. This course will centre around an interactive study of selected passages and themes from John's Gospel with a view to understanding how Jesus' message and methods can deeply inform the evangelistic enterprise of the church in postmodern, post-Christian contexts today.

Leadership Themes in the New Testament (BS/CC/CW/PS)

When Jesus sent out his disciples to minister, he warned them that they would need to be both sensible and peaceable. They would, he warned, be sheep among wolves (Matt 10:16). Two thousand years later, it is clear that many Christian leaders have been cunning but not irreproachable, behaving more like wolves among sheep than the other way around. Alternatively, many leaders have been torn apart in the course of their ministry because they have not responded sensibly to the social and cultural forces that complicate Christian leadership. In this course, we will examine what the New Testament tells us about leadership, taking into account both explicit teachings on leadership as well as a number of exemplary leaders (both positive and negative). We will seek to understand: what leadership looked like in the church of the first century; what social and cultural forces complicate Christian leadership; and what it means to lead sensibly and peaceably.

History of Worship and Liturgy (CC/CT/PS)

What do Christian worshipers from the 6th century, the 16th century, or from the Jesus movement in the 20th century have to teach us about meaningful worship today? This course explores the intricate mosaic of Christian worship that spans the centuries. We will step into the colours, sounds, texts, textures and aromas of Christian worship from biblical times up to the present. If we invited a historical guest from an earlier time to visit our places of worship today, what would they see and how would they challenge us? This course involves hands-on exploration of Christian worship as we discover what we can learn about meaningful worship from ancient and more recent practices of Christian worship and liturgy. We will engage in personal and unique expressions of worship and liturgy through individual arts or historical projects. And we will seek to develop a richer understanding of worship and a greater appreciation for the diverse expression of God's worshipers through the ages

Biblical Theology & the Christian Worldview (BS/CC/CT/CW)

This course introduces the discipline of biblical theology, which integrates the contents and theological themes of the Old and New Testaments as the essential foundation for Christian discipleship and ministry. More specifically, this course examines the language of Exodus 34:6-7, tracing the development of a biblical theology of God through the Hebrew Bible, its various ancient renderings, then via intertestamental literature to the New Testament and the person of Jesus, and thereafter in rabbinic and patristic exegesis. Greek and Hebrew are used but not required.

Ethics and Spirituality in the OT (BS/CT/CW)

Jesus and Pharisees derived their morality and spirituality from the Hebrew Bible. Yet Jesus would say, "If your righteousness is not better than that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven" (Matt 5:20). How could such diametrically opposed concepts of spirituality be derived from the same Scriptures? This course will develop the unchanging morality and spirituality taught in the Hebrew Scriptures, examining the many ways it has been misused and misunderstood.

Spiritual Formation in the Church (CW/PC/PS)

This course examines how Christians mature in faith, develop as disciples, and live out the values of the Kingdom of God. Careful attention will be given to the research on spirituality, discipleship, and the church as community. Participants will be challenged to reflect on, dialogue with, and develop actions plans for the spiritual formation and discipleship of the congregation. Participants will explore the nature of spiritual formation and discipleship in the context of a faith community. The problems and complexities of spiritual formation and discipleship will be examined with a view towards strategic proposals for the participant's own context. Assumptions regarding spirituality and spiritual formation will be uncovered and fresh paradigms for the postmodern context will be developed in dialogue with other course participants. The course design assumes a high level of commitment to the development of strategic proposals for spiritual formation in the participant's own ministry context.

Hebrews and the Early Church (BS/CC/CT)

Hebrews is written to help a first century Christian community in a time of crisis, equipping them as they possibly faced homelessness and forced immigration. Therefore, when understood in its context, Hebrews is not only a book that helps us to encounter Jesus at a deeper level, but it models spiritual disciplines and theological skills. An exegetical and interpretative study of the Book of Hebrews in English translation, this class involves an acquaintance with structure, content, message, context and other interpretive issues of Hebrews as well as its meaning for today in discipleship, community and ministry.

Women in Christian History (CC/CT/CW/PC)

A survey and analysis of the roles and impact of women in the history of Christianity from the earliest churches to the modern period of global Christianity.

Pastoral Counselling (PC/PS)

This course examines the theory and practice of spiritual care and counseling in the context of Christian ministry. Emphasis will be on foundational counseling skills and processes within a framework of focused, short-term counseling. Particular attention will be directed to counseling in the crises and transitions of life. Students will also examine this theory, as well as other counseling theories, methods and processes, in light of theology, the realities of ministry, and topics of interest or concern that are relevant to the practice of ministry.

Preaching Paul/Preaching Paul Using Greek (BS/PS) (also 2nd year language)

No follower of Jesus has shaped Christian theology as much as the apostle Paul, who in the course of his correspondence with a series of fledgling first-century congregations delineated the fundamental contours of a Christ-centred world view. Because of his foundational importance and the complexity of his thought, the church in every generation since has continued to debate, interpret, and re-apply Paul's theology for their own day. In keeping with this long tradition, this course will highlight current trends in Pauline interpretation, while focusing on the application of Paul's theology to contemporary Christian discipleship and ministry, with special reference to congregational preaching. Our study will give particular attention to both the content and the method of Paul's apostolic proclamation. NOTE: There is a Greek component to this course for those using it as a language course.

The World and Writings of John Wesley (CC/CT/CW)

Considered by many to be the "father of evangelicalism," John Wesley is a fascinating figure who was instrumental in the formation of modern-day evangelicalism. This course will examine his life, theology, impact, as well as study his social context and associates (and enemies!).

Psalms and Contemporary Culture (BS/CC/PC)

This course explores the Book of Psalms as a catalyst for personal devotion and contemporary ministry. Giving attention to its original form and function within a worshipping and reading community will unlock its riches for life today both individually and corporately. Attention will be given to its historical setting, literary form, canonical shape, and biblical theological significance. Opportunities will be provided to hone skills for interpreting Hebrew poetry for life today as well as to create contemporary expressions based on the Psalms' themes and forms.

Social Justice in the Bible (BS/CC/CT/CW/PC)

In our current cultural context, there are few issues more important and practical than social justice. How do we implement God's justice on earth? This course has practical and urgent implications for the Church and its mission. This course will examine the foundation for the definition and practice of social justice in the church, by exploring the Old Testament foundations, the theology and practice in the life of Jesus and the early church, and the challenges, opportunities and responsibilities for application in the contemporary Canadian, North American and global context. Content will be alternated with interactive activities of reflection and application.

Genesis for Today (BS/CC/CT/CW)

This course leads students through a detailed reading of the book of Genesis with a view to its theological, historical and literary interpretation and significance. In order to equip students for interpreting this foundational book we will take into account critical matters & methodologies, ancient Near Eastern parallels and the canonical context of the book as the introduction to the Pentateuch and all of Christian Scripture. We will also focus on several questions throughout our study: What does Genesis say about science and the origins of life on earth? What does Genesis teach concerning and the nature of humanity? How does an

understanding of Genesis impact our worldview? What does Genesis teach us about God's Covenant(s) with humans? In this course we will examine the literary structure, authorial purpose(s) and theological significance of the book of Genesis, in order to underscore its continuing relevance for the church and society today.

The Lord's Prayer and Spirituality (BS/CW/PC/PS)

This course explores Jesus' experience of and teaching about prayer (above all the "Lord's Prayer") as the primary paradigm both for Christian spirituality in general and for Christian prayer in particular. Special attention will be given to John's Gospel, according to which Jesus' experience of God provides the model and foundation for the spirituality of Jesus' followers. Students are encouraged to examine their own understanding and practice of Christian spirituality on the basis of this perspective. Consideration will also be given to prayer as it is presented and practised throughout the remainder of the New Testament, in relation to the identity of Jesus.

The Holy Spirit and the Church Today (CC/CT/PS)

This course explores the doctrine and theology of the Holy Spirit (pneumatology). It examines the biblical theology of the Spirit. It covers the historical development of pneumatology in the early-church, medieval period, and the modern period. It considers the rise of contemporary theologies and movements of the Holy Spirit—e.g., the Pentecostal movement—and what they mean for contemporary Christian thought and life.

Preaching in Post-Modern Culture (CC/PS)

"Simplifying to the extreme, I define postmodern as incredulity towards metanarratives" (Jean-François Lyotard). Preaching Christ within a culture dismissive of universal truth claims is no small challenge. Nonetheless, after identifying the characteristics of postmodernism and assessing recent homiletical responses, we will endeavour to construct a workable model for contemporary proclamation that emphasizes narrative, community, Christology, and spiritual experience.

Baptist History and Thought (CC/CT/PS)

This course is an introduction to the history, doctrine, organization and style of Baptist congregational life and mission. Special attention will be given to the development of Canadian Baptist churches.

Self Care in Ministry (PC/PS)

Whether in a counseling setting or in a church ministry, the challenges and obligations of Christian helping professions are demanding and exacting. Ministering persons experience daunting challenges in the use of emotional resources, setting boundaries for ministry, and establishing livable routines that will sustain and nurture their lives while engaging in the tasks of Christian ministry. This course will explore strategies for self-care, resources to endure ministry for the long-haul, and a careful examination of threats to personal, professional, and ministry success. Participants will be exposed to literature that will aid them in the development of a personal plan that addresses areas of concern, depletion, and emotional

fatigue. Furthermore, the course will explore a theology of self that enables a holistic concern for the well being of those who invest in full-time counseling, pastoral care, and other pastoral activities that demand soulful engagement.

Biblical Interpretation & Contemporary Ministry (BS/CW/PS)

A study of the principles of interpretation and application of the Bible, culminating in a project in the student's area of specialization that will make a crucial contribution to their portfolio. Attention is given to students developing a clearly defined hermeneutical framework that is biblically and theologically grounded, spiritually sensitive, critically aware and practically relevant.

Creative Ministry (CC/CW/PS)

The Canadian church today exists in the midst of a cultural revolution that has dislocated it from its place as a shaper of culture to one on the margins of culture. What impact does that have on the work of Christian Ministry? What is the role of the ministry leader in the contemporary church? What are the key practices of ministry that need to be undertaken? How do we cultivate Christian communities that can effectively engage the realities of our cultural context? This course will explore these questions by inviting students to consider the nature of the church and some of the concrete ministry practices that help the church to live into its identity as a set apart people. Special attention will be paid to the characteristics that are necessary in forming a missional community for 21st century Canada.

Theology of Suffering (PS/PC)

Gustavo Gutierrez asks, "Are suffering human beings able to enter into an authentic relationship with God and find a correct way of speaking about God?" This is the core question of this course. We will give attention to both the spirituality for a theology of suffering and to the methods for framing a theology of suffering. Participants will be invited to consider ways in which their own view of suffering is being shaped. This course will examine various theological approaches to suffering including those of noted theologians: Dorothy Soelle, Jurgen Moltmann, Gustavo Gutierrez, Rubem Alves and Henri Nouwen. Nicolas Wolterstorff suggests that "the valley of suffering is the vale of soul-making". The course examines the structure of suffering and the ways in which the mission of the church correlates to the reality of suffering in the world.

Christology in the New Testament (BS/CT/CW)

Nowadays, most people take it for granted that Jesus of Nazareth was a Galileean Jew who lived in the first century and was executed by the Romans. Yet Jesus was also much more than this, as can be seen from the fact that an estimated two billion people claim to follow him still today, two thousand years after his crucifixion. In this course we will take a historical approach to this astonishing development and seek to understand how Jesus' earliest followers came to regard him as much more than a mere teacher. This will require us to explore the worldviews of Second Temple Judaism and of the wider Greco-Roman world, because these worldviews form the background against which first-century people came to understand Jesus. Most importantly, however, we will examine the different voices within the New Testament in order

to see what they have to say about the identity of Jesus of Nazareth.

Theological Reflection in Ministry (CW/PC/PS)

One of the essentials of personal, professional and spiritual growth, as well as long-term effectiveness in ministry, is developing the discipline of reflecting theologically on our own experience and practice. In Christian ministry, the ability to reflect on experience through a well-focused theological lens is foundational to the development of our inner spiritual lives and meaningful personal ministry. This course is designed to help us understand the importance of theological reflection on our lives and ministry, and then to implement the art of theological reflection for the purpose of transforming the practice of ministry (whether that be for one-on-one counseling, general congregational care, chaplaincy, parish nursing, or the more public roles of ministry, such as preaching, teaching and worship-leading). This course invites us to explore personal (embedded and deliberative) theology, discover how theological reflection may shape us and our ministry, become familiar with the resources, practise skills necessary for engaging in it and leading it, and develop a method that fits you and your ministry.

Preaching Jonah/Preaching Jonah Using Hebrew (BS/PS) (also 2nd year language)

Why is there a book of Jonah, and what should it do when you preach it? Jonah is unique among all Biblical books. Among its distinctions is the conflict it has caused and the vastly diverse creativity of sermons preached from it. This course will probe the intentions and purpose of the author of this prophetic composition, his method of accomplishing his goals, and how ministers can further his goals in their preaching. It will examine structure, genre, and setting in order to ascertain how this book was intended to teach about God and spirituality. NOTE: There is a Greek component to this course for those using it as a language course.

Reading Course (BS/CC/CT/CW/PC/PS)

Although it is hoped that we provide courses that will appeal to a broad section of students, there are times when a student is particularly interested in a certain topic. Elective credit may be gained in the form of a special reading course directed by a member of the faculty. Approval of a proposal and bibliography is required.

Special Topics (BS/CC/CT/CW/PC/PS)

Elective credit may be gained in the form of courses offered from time to time on special topics chosen and approved by the faculty. These courses may be offered during the academic year or during our one-week summer intensives. Some recent topics have been: Dietrich Bonhoeffer: His Life, Theology and Significance for Today, Charismatic Theology, Liberation Theologies, Theology of Leadership, History of Evangelicalism, The Reformation, Theology of the Cross, Mission and Evangelism, Christian Ethics at Work, War and Peace, Church for This Generation and the Next: Contemporary Models of Church Ministry, Pastoral Care and Counseling with Grieving Persons, Theology of Leadership, Exile as a Motif for Postmodern Ministry, Church for this Generation and the Next, Reaching and Transforming the Next Generation Through the Local Church, Anger and Anxiety in the Context of Pastoral Counselling, Pastoral Care Through the Life Cycle, Chaplaincy 1 and 2, The Spiritual Life of the Ministering Person, Pastoral Care with Difficult Persons and Abnormal Behaviour, Pastoral Care

with Adolescents, Christian Mission in a Global Context, Christianity in a Pluralistic Society, The Church: Then and Now, Gender in Ministry, Paul: His Life, Letters and Theology, Rooted in the Vine: Studying John's Gospel, The Petrine Epistles, The Kingdom of God: New Testament and Early Church Developments.

Course Descriptions: M.A. and Ph.D. programs

M.A. (Christian Studies)

Required Courses

CH/MS/NT/OT/TH 6ZA6 - Research Methods

This course explores the theory and practice of research methodologies as they apply to post-graduate study within the theological disciplines. Among the specific issues under consideration will be the sources, nature, ethics, and tools of scholarly research; building a cogent argument; presentation formats (proposals, reviews, articles, lectures, etc.); and the transition from research to publication.

Interdisciplinary Seminars in Christian Studies

CH/MS/NT/OT/TH 6ZB6 – Biblical Theology

Drawing on recent studies and debates within the study of Biblical and Old Testament theology, this course provides an opportunity for deeper reflection on the hermeneutics of Scripture within theology. In this course students will locate their academic discipline(s) within the broader context of theological and cultural reflection. It also exposes students to the resources of the biblical tradition for their academic reflection.

CH/MS/NT/OT/TH 6ZM6 – Theological Contours of Christian Ministry

This course offers a specifically Christological account of the church's ministry, explaining it less as an *imitation* of Christ than as a *participation* in Christ's ongoing ministry in and on behalf of the world. Accordingly, lectures, classroom exercises, and assignments will explore such foundational theological concerns as the nature of pastoral identity, the purpose of the church, and the goals of Christian ministry. While the course focuses on ministerial theology and praxis in a congregational setting, consideration will also be given to forms of ministry in other contexts.

CH/MS/NT/OT/TH 6ZD6 – Ministry and Evangelical Thought

This course explores how evangelicals have thought about and practiced ministry since the eighteenth century. Attention will be placed on the diversity of ministry structures, theologies, and dominant personalities, as well as on having students develop their own vocational objectives in the light of previous evangelical people and patterns.

Area of Specialty Courses

Biblical Studies

NT/OT 6ZL6 – Advanced Grammar and Linguistics

This course assumes knowledge of traditional Greek or Hebrew grammar in order to analyze recent developments in language and linguistic study. The course covers both diachronic and synchronic aspects, but concentrates on recent theoretical developments and their pertinence for analysis and exegesis of the Greek New Testament or Hebrew Bible.

NT/OT 6ZN6 - The Old Testament in the New Testament

This course provides an overview and an in-depth exploration of the issues involved in understanding the use of the Old Testament in the New Testament, the spectrum of fields of study and methodologies utilized in different approaches and the controversies involved in that relationship.

NT/OT 6ZF6 – History of Biblical Interpretation

This course assumes that the student is familiar with the basic theories of biblical interpretation, and builds upon this knowledge to explore traditional and recent methods of critical biblical interpretation in more detail. Consideration is given to both the development of biblical interpretation and the various methods currently employed.

OT 6ZT6 Textual Traditions of the Old Testament

A study of the various scribal traditions which preserved the Old Testament with attention to the disciplines of textual, redaction and canonical criticism. The variety of ancient witnesses to Old Testament texts will be analyzed and evaluated for their contribution to the establishment of the original text of the Old Testament, to the elucidation of the development of the texts of the Old Testament, and to the role of particular texts and manuscripts as canonical texts.

Other course options:

Old Testament Wisdom Literature
A Severe Mercy: Sin and Its Remedy in the Old Testament
Old Testament Prophecy
Old Testament Psalms
Synoptic Traditions in the Old Testament
Intermediate Hebrew 1
Intermediate Hebrew 2
New Testament Exegesis (Greek)

See also Ph.D. courses

Theological Studies

TH 6XC6 Christianity and Culture

The West and its church are in decline. How should Christians respond? Cheer the collapse of Christendom? Launch a Reconquista of Christendom? Or something else? This course explores ways to navigate the postmodern and post-Christian culture. It considers the different ways Christians negotiate the path of being 'in,' but not 'of' the world. It studies select historical

CH/TH 6XW6 Women in Christian History

A survey and analysis of the roles and impact of women in the history of Christianity from the earliest churches to the modern period of global Christianity.

Other course options:

Christianity in the Canadian Experience
Theology of the Cross
Theology of the Holy Spirit
Current Issues in Theology
The World and Writings of John Wesley
The Reformation
Ethics and Spirituality in the Old Testament

See also Ph.D. courses

Ministry Studies

MS 6XP6 Preaching Paul

No follower of Jesus has shaped Christian theology as much as the apostle Paul, who in the course of his correspondence with a series of fledgling first-century congregations delineated the fundamental contours of a Christ-centred world view. Because of his foundational importance and the complexity of his thought, the church in every generation since has continued to debate, interpret, and re-apply Paul's theology for their own day. In keeping with this long tradition, this course will highlight current trends in Pauline interpretation, while focusing on the application of Paul's theology to contemporary Christian discipleship and ministry, with special reference to congregational preaching. Our study will give particular attention to both the content and the method of Paul's apostolic proclamation.

MS 6XS6 Spiritual Formation in the Church

This course examines how Christians mature in faith, develop as disciples, and live out the values of the Kingdom of God. Careful attention will be given to the research on spirituality, discipleship, and the church as community. Participants will be challenged to reflect on, dialogue with, and develop action plans for the spiritual formation and discipleship of the congregation. Participants will explore the nature of spiritual formation and discipleship in the context of a faith community. The problems and complexities of spiritual formation and

discipleship will be examined with a view towards strategic proposals for the participant's own context. Assumptions regarding spirituality and spiritual formation will be uncovered and fresh paradigms for the postmodern context will be developed in dialogue with other course participants. The course design assumes a high level of commitment to the development of strategic proposals for spiritual formation in the participant's own ministry context.

MS 6XC6 Mission and Contemporary Culture

Effective leadership in today's church and academy call for a theology that is informed by the missional identity of the church and can meet the demands of an increasingly globalized and post-Christian context in the West. This course will seek to help students develop a practical theology of mission by considering its biblical roots, the challenge of contextualization, and emerging approaches to mission in contemporary ministry. How the various theological disciplines can contribute to and interact with a theology of mission will be a central part of the courses overall dialogue.

Other course options:

Topics in Preaching

Topics in Music and Worship

Topics in Christian Ministry

Current Perspectives in Practical Theology

See also Ph.D. courses

Ph.D. Christian Theology

Required Courses

CHTH G100 - Research Methods

This course explores the theory and practice of research methodologies as they apply to post-graduate study within the theological disciplines. Among the specific issues under consideration will be the sources, nature, ethics, and tools of scholarly research; building a cogent argument; presentation formats (proposals, reviews, articles, lectures, etc.); and the transition from research to publication.

CHTH G125

Interdisciplinary Seminars in Christian Theology

Biblical Theology

Drawing on recent studies and debates within the study of Old Testament theology, this course provides an opportunity for deeper reflection on the hermeneutics of Scripture within theology. In this course students will locate their doctoral discipline(s) within the broader context of theological and cultural reflection. It also exposes students to the resources of the biblical tradition for their doctoral reflection.

Theological Contours of Christian Ministry

This course offers a specifically Christological account of the church's ministry, explaining it less as an *imitation* of Christ than as a *participation* in Christ's ongoing ministry in and on behalf of the world. Accordingly, lectures, classroom exercises, and assignments will explore such foundational theological concerns as the nature of pastoral identity, the purpose of the church, and the goals of Christian ministry. While the course focuses on ministerial theology and praxis in a congregational setting, consideration will also be given to forms of ministry in other contexts.

Ministry and Evangelical Thought

This course explores how evangelicals have thought about and practiced ministry since the eighteenth century. Attention will be placed on the diversity of ministry structures, theologies, and dominant personalities, as well as on having students develop their own vocational objectives in the light of previous evangelical people and patterns.

Examination Area Courses

CHTH G105

Biblical Studies

Advanced Grammar and Linguistics

This course assumes knowledge of traditional Greek or Hebrew grammar in order to analyze recent developments in language and linguistic study. The course covers both diachronic and synchronic aspects, but concentrates on recent theoretical developments and their pertinence for analysis and exegesis of the Greek New Testament or Hebrew Bible.

The Old Testament in the New Testament

This course provides an overview and in-depth exploration of the issues involved in understanding the use of the Old Testament in the New Testament, the spectrum of fields of study and methodologies utilized in different approaches, and the controversies involved in that relationship.

History of Biblical Interpretation

This course assumes that the student is familiar with the basic theories of biblical interpretation, and builds upon this knowledge to explore traditional and recent methods of critical biblical interpretation in more detail. Consideration is given to both the development of biblical interpretation and the various methods currently employed.

Textual Traditions of the Old Testament

A study of the various scribal traditions which preserved the Old Testament with attention to the disciplines of textual, redaction and canonical criticism. The variety of ancient witnesses to Old Testament texts will be analyzed and evaluated for their contribution to the establishment of the original text of the Old Testament, to the elucidation of the development of the texts of

the Old Testament, and to the role of particular texts and manuscripts as canonical texts.

Papyrology and Textual Criticism

A study of the characteristics of manuscripts from antiquity to the invention of printing, with special attention to biblical manuscripts and insights gained for study of the biblical texts, including textual criticism.

Other course options

Advanced Topics in Language and Linguistics
Advanced Topics in New Testament Studies
Advanced Topics in Old Testament Studies
A Severe Mercy: Sin and Its Remedy in the Old Testament
New Testament Texts
Old Testament Texts
Old Testament Prophecy
Old Testament Psalms
Synoptic Gospels
Synoptic Traditions in the Old Testament
Textual Tradition

Theological Studies

Theology of the Cross

Reconciliation with God and one another through the person and work of Jesus Christ is central to the Christian tradition, yet the role of the cross in that atonement has been described in many different ways. In this course nine major atonement theories are evaluated and consider how to best describe the work of the cross today.

Christianity and Culture

The West and its church are in decline. How should Christians respond? Cheer the collapse of Christendom? Launch a Reconquista of Christendom? Or something else? This course explores ways to navigate the postmodern and post-Christian culture. It considers the different ways Christians negotiate the path of being 'in,' but not 'of' the world. It studies select historical examples such as the early church response to Jewish and Hellenistic cultures, the monastic reaction, medieval Christendom, the Protestant Reformation alternatives, the liberal, neo-orthodox, fundamentalist, and evangelical responses to modernism, as well as current responses to the contemporary condition of western culture.

Other course options:

Topics in Christian History
Advanced Topics in Christian Theology
Advanced Topics in Christian Ethics
Christianity in the Canadian Experience

Ministry Studies

Mission and Contemporary Culture

Effective leadership in today's church and academy call for a theology that is informed by the missional identity of the church and can meet the demands of an increasingly globalized and post-Christian context in the West. This course will seek to help students develop a practical theology of mission by considering its biblical roots, the challenge of contextualization, and emerging approaches to mission in contemporary ministry. How the various theological disciplines can contribute to and interact with a theology of mission will be a central part of the courses overall dialogue.

The Pastoral Theology of Henri Nouwen

Henri Nouwen published over 40 books and is notably one of the most important and widely read spiritual writers in recent years in North America. He taught at Notre Dame, Yale Divinity School and Harvard Divinity School but spent the last decade of his life as the pastor of the Daybreak Community of L'Arche in Toronto. Nouwen was influenced by early pioneers in pastoral theology including Anton Boisen and Seward Hiltner. These roots allowed him to integrate spiritual ideas with their counterparts in pastoral psychology and psychology of religion. He had extensive training in the field of pastoral theology though little is written on his explicit methods of exploring pastoral theological themes. This course seeks to mine the writings of Henri Nouwen for his approach to pastoral theological exploration as it pertains to contemporary issues in the field.

Other course option

Advanced Topics in Preaching and Worship
Advanced Topics in Ministry Studies
Biblical Interpretation for Preaching
Current Perspectives in Practical Theology

CHTH G120

Directed Studies

A course designed or selected by the student's doctoral committee to develop the student's emphasis. It may be repeated for credit as the topics change.

Directed Study in New Testament Studies
Directed Study in Old Testament Studies
Directed Study in Christian History
Directed Study in Christian Theology
Directed Study in Preaching and Worship

Directed Study in Ministry Studies

See also M.A. courses

EVENTS, PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES

The McMaster Journal of Theology and Ministry

The McMaster Journal of Theology and Ministry is an electronic and print journal that seeks to provide pastors, educators, and interested lay persons with the fruits of theological, biblical, and professional studies in an accessible form. Published by McMaster Divinity College in Hamilton, Ontario, it continues the heritage of scholarly inquiry and theological dialogue represented by the College's previous print publications: the Theological Bulletin, Theodolite, and the McMaster Journal of Theology. Print versions of the Journal will be available from Wipf & Stock every September for the previous academic year. You are welcome to submit articles and book reviews of interest to the Journal's readership. All articles submitted for publication will be peer-reviewed, in order to maintain appropriate academic and professional standards for the publication.

Conferences

The H.H. Bingham Colloquium in New Testament

Conveners: Stanley E. Porter, Ph.D., and Cynthia Long Westfall, Ph.D.

McMaster Divinity College annually sponsors a colloquium in New Testament studies. Outstanding biblical scholars from around the world share in a colloquium each June to present their perspectives on a selected topic. The discussion of this topic is intended to provide both scholarly and practical benefit to the whole church, and scholars, pastors, laypeople and students are all encouraged to attend. The format of the colloquium includes presentations, panel discussions, and frequent opportunities for question and answer. Interaction from those who attend is welcomed.

Dr. H.H. Bingham was a noted Baptist leader who served as pastor at a number of Ontario Baptist churches. His leadership abilities were recognized by Baptists all across Canada and the world. He served as General Secretary to the Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec and as Vice-President of the Baptist World Alliance. He displayed the qualities of genuine friendship, dedicated leadership, unswerving Christian faith, tireless devotion to duty, insightful service as a preacher and pastor, and visionary direction for congregation and denomination alike. This colloquium has been endowed by his daughter, Ms. Doris Kennedy, of Calgary, Alberta, as an act of admiration and appreciation for a wonderful father and minister.

Many of these colloquia have been published in the McMaster New Testament Studies series.

John N. Gladstone Festival of Preaching

Established in 1991, the Festival of Preaching is an annual series of lectures and worship experiences devoted to the art and gift of pulpit ministry. Those attending the conference enjoy probing scholarly lectures and participate in creative and diverse worship services. Each Festival includes a number of lectures by the featured speaker. In 1992, Yorkminster Park

Baptist Church in Toronto gave a substantial gift to McMaster Divinity College for the endowment of the Festival. The event subsequently was named in honour of the Rev. John N. Gladstone, pastor for 28 years of Yorkminster Park and an alumnus of McMaster University. In 1993 and 1996, Dr. Gladstone was the principal worship leader. With its focus on Christian proclamation, the purpose of the Gladstone Festival is to offer students, faculty, alumni, and local church leaders illuminating and provocative biblical, theological, and pastoral insights for ministry. The Gladstone Festival of Preaching has in a short time become an event of national significance.

Theological Research Seminars

Conveners: Gus Konkell, Ph.D., Wendy Porter, B.A., Ph.D., Steve Studebaker, Ph.D.

The Theological Research Seminar meets six times throughout the regular academic terms (Fall and Winter) and showcases research that is being conducted on our campus. Professors, students and visiting scholars are invited to read or summarize papers followed by questions and discussion. These seminars are open to participation and attendance by anyone interested in the research topic being explored. These topics include all areas of theology, including Old and New Testament studies, Greek and Hebrew language and linguistics, Systematic Theology, Church History, Ethics, Practical Theology and related disciplines.

Presentation at the seminar is open to those at McMaster Divinity College and other interested scholars. A number of well-known scholars have been invited to make presentations in the future, and we look forward to their contribution. Attendance is open to any who wish to hear the papers presented and participate in the following discussion. The format of each session begins with presentation of a paper, or a synopsis of a paper distributed earlier, followed by a generous amount of time for exploring issues raised by means of question and answer and discussion. Students of McMaster Divinity College and other qualified students are invited to be a part, not only in terms of their active participation in the discussion, but also in making presentations to the seminar.

Summer at MDC

McMaster Divinity College offers a dynamic summer program. The *Summer at MDC* program is designed to offer a further range of options both for traditional students and for those who wish to explore various areas of theological education. Summer at MDC typically runs from May to July and the courses are shorter, more intensive in nature.

Those who should consider taking courses during the summer sessions include full-time degree students who wish to either be able to take a reduced course load during the academic year or get ahead in their program of study, part-time students who wish to keep accumulating courses toward their particular degree or diploma program, occasional students who wish to try a seminary course in a more intensive environment, either for personal enrichment or to determine whether seminary study is for them, and pastors and other church workers who wish to participate in continuing education. We strongly encourage pastors and others

involved in Christian ministry to consider our *Summer at MDC* offerings as a regular part of their in-service training.

A number of different types of courses are offered during the summer sessions. Most courses that are offered, however, draw upon the availability of a number of visiting faculty, who come specifically to McMaster Divinity College to offer courses in their areas of specialty. As a result, the summer sessions often offer courses that would not normally be available during the regular academic year and may not be available again. Students are encouraged to register for these courses when they see them being offered. The courses offered during the summer session normally carry the regular unit credits and are applicable to McMaster Divinity College degree programs subject to the requirements of the particular degree.

Canadian Baptist Archives

Director: Ph.D.

McMaster Divinity College provides space for the Canadian Baptist Archives and administers the collection. These archives are now the largest collection of their kind in Canada. The archives and library include records of local churches, organizations and institutions, plus personal papers of prominent Baptists. A library of Baptistiana totaling 3,000 volumes is maintained in support of the primary documentation.

An Overview of the Archives' Contents

Several hundred Baptist congregations have deposited their original records in the Archives, which also contain the official records of the Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec, Union d'Eglises Baptist Françaises au Canada, and other organizations. Special collections include documents for the John Milton Society for the Blind in Canada, the Plymouth Brethren, Charles Haddon Spurgeon, and British Christianity. Additional materials include theses, pamphlets, periodicals, and personal papers and biographical material of pastors, missionaries and educators. One of the more recent additions to the Archives are the papers of Norman Dabbs (missionary and martyr in Bolivia).

A Brief History of the Archives

Baptists in Ontario and Quebec established an historical collection in 1865, when the Canadian Baptist Historical Society was founded. This early society actively solicited memoirs and church records for the next five years before it appears to have ceased its efforts. The mandate for the present collection of the Canadian Baptist Archives is derived directly from the constitution of that early attempt to preserve the history and the records of Canadian Baptists.

By 1912, a Historical Committee was once again seeking records of churches, associations and the BCOQ. Books and pamphlets by Baptists and/or against Baptists was sought for the Convention Historical Collection. After World War II, the Historical Committee saw a need for more deliberate cataloguing of material received. Professor Gaylord P. Albaugh served as curator of the collection from 1947 to 1958. In 1961, the name of the Collection was changed to the Canadian Baptist Historical Collections, and in 1971, it acquired the current designation,

Canadian Baptist Archives. Currently, the collection is supervised by the Director of the Canadian Baptist Archives as an employee of McMaster Divinity College and staffed with a part-time archivist.

Admissions, Fees and Financial Aid

General Admission Policies

The traditional course of study for pre-seminary study has been a liberal arts undergraduate degree. Because of the diverse types of ministry as well as the wide-ranging backgrounds of students, no single type of undergraduate degree can be seen as normative for seminary study today. Nevertheless, there are certain identifiable qualities of a liberal arts curriculum that are highly desirable for a seminary student, including the ability to think critically, research diligently, write coherently, and communicate clearly.

The admission requirement for most professional degree programs is a four-year undergraduate degree from an accredited institution. These requirements may be modified from time to time by McMaster Divinity College.

Admission is granted by specific action of the College and is not to be presumed solely on the basis of application. McMaster Divinity College reserves the right to restrict enrollment to students whose goals are in accord with its statement of faith and mission statement, and, if it should be necessary, to limit the number of students enrolled.

Entrance Requirements

Note: All students are required to agree with the McMaster Divinity College statement of faith.

Master of Divinity (M.Div.)

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution with a minimum B- average (approximately 2.7 GPA on a four point scale) average
- Three letters of recommendation: Academic, Pastoral, and Character
- Personal statement

Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.)

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution with a minimum B- average (approximately 2.7 GPA on a four point scale)
- Three letters of recommendation: Academic, Pastoral, and Character
- Personal statement

Graduate Diploma in Ministry (Dip.Min.)

- Age 35 or older at the time of admission
- Approval in writing from the applicant's denominational office or ecclesiastical body
- Completed an Ontario Secondary School diploma or its equivalent with a minimum B average. For those individuals who have completed post secondary academic courses, a minimum B- average
- Three letters of recommendation: Academic, Pastoral, and Character
- Personal statement

Graduate Certificate of Christian Studies (Cert.C.S.)

- Age 23 or older at the time of admission
- Ontario Secondary School diploma or its equivalent, as confirmed by an official transcript
- Three letters of recommendation: Academic, Pastoral, and Character
- Personal statement

Occasional Student Status (Occ.)

- One letter of recommendation: Pastoral
- Personal statement

Letter of Permission Students (LOP)

- Letter of permission from the institution where the student is enrolled in a program

Master of Arts (M.A.) in Christian Studies

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited university or its educational equivalent, normally with at least a B+ average
- Applicants normally will have their undergraduate degree or equivalent in the field of Christian Theology or a directly related discipline, including one year of study of a biblical language. At a minimum, applicants will have the equivalent of one year of study of theological or religious studies (such as New Testament, Old Testament, Christian Theology/Interpretation, Christian History, Christian Ministry) appropriate to their academic interests (to be evaluated)
- Two letters of recommendation, academic; one letter of recommendation, pastoral
- Statement of intent

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Christian Theology

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited university or its educational equivalent, normally with at least a B+ average
- Master's level degree from an accredited university or its educational equivalent, normally with at least a B+ average (students emphasizing Ministry Studies will normally have a M.Div. degree)
- At least 10 term-long courses in the examination area selected for study, or related areas, with at least a B+ average in these courses.
- A major piece of written academic work, preferably a thesis written at the master's level, relevant to theological study. This must be written by the student in English and must demonstrate the student's academic competence, including the ability to sustain proper argumentation, to interact with a depth and breadth of primary and secondary literature with proper documentation
- Completed at least 9 units (three terms) of one biblical language for emphasis in Ministry Studies, and at least 12 units (four terms) of one biblical language for Theological Studies. Students who wish to emphasize Biblical Studies would normally have studied at least 12 units (four terms) of their major biblical language and at least 6 units (two terms) of the other
- Knowledge of the appropriate modern language(s)
- Two letters of recommendation, academic; one letter of recommendation, pastoral
- Statement of intent

Students for whom English is a Second Language

Applicants whose first language is not English are required to supply evidence of English competence. Admission will not be granted until this evidence is produced. Normally, the university guideline of a Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score of 580 (computer-based test equivalent of 237 or internet-based test equivalent of 92) is the minimum accepted by McMaster Divinity College. Meeting these test scores does not guarantee admission to the College and additional testing or remedial work may be required before admission is granted.

Readmission

If 12 months have passed since the last registration, students must complete the readmission process that consists of:

- Letter or explanation for absence
- Reference from a pastor or Christian leader addressing the absence
- Submission of transcripts for any work completed at other institutions, if applicable

If three years have passed since the last registration, students must re-apply and follow the current regulations and curriculum of the catalogue under which they re-enter. In evaluating an application for re-admission into a program that is incomplete, normally a course will be credited only if completed within the previous 10 years.

Application Procedures

Individuals seeking admission to any program at McMaster Divinity College should complete an application form and provide the other required documents. The forms required for application are provided upon request or can be downloaded from our website at mcmasterdivinity.ca

Applicants must provide official transcripts of all academic work completed prior to admission, as well as the required letters of recommendation. If official documents are in a language other than English you must submit an official, notarized English conversion. Transcripts and all other documents pertaining to applications become the property of McMaster Divinity College.

McMaster Divinity College is both a theological community and an academic community. Therefore, all students of any status who are accepted for study at McMaster Divinity College are expected to observe all regulations of the College. Failure to observe these regulations may be grounds for dismissal.

Admission Fees & Deadlines

McMaster Divinity College practices a rolling admissions policy in which applications are evaluated on an ongoing basis once an application is complete. A complete application

requires that all of the pertinent material has been received by the College. Nevertheless, there are firm admission deadlines established to facilitate the processing of applications, the granting of financial aid, and the establishment of Ministry Formation placements. The admission fees and deadlines are as follows:

Admission Fees & Deadlines				
	September 2013	January 2014	September 2014	Application Fee
M.Div., M.T.S., Dip.Min., Cert.C.S.	June 1, 2013	November 15, 2013	June 1, 2014	\$0
Occasional Student	August 1, 2013	December 1, 2013	August 1, 2014	\$0
M.A.	June 1, 2013	November 15, 2013	June 1, 2014	\$75
Ph.D.	January 15, 2013	N/A	January 15, 2014	\$75
Please note that applications may be accepted after the deadline with a late fee of \$25.00 charged. However, late applications may influence financial aid allotment, course registration, and Ministry Formation placements.				

Classification of Students

Full-Time Students

Full-time students in the M.A., M.Div., M.T.S., Dip.Min., and Cert.C.S. are those registered for at least 24 units in the two regular terms of the academic year. A student may not normally register for more than a total of 33 units in the Fall and Winter semesters of the regular academic year without permission. No student is to take more than 39 units in an entire academic year (Fall, Winter and Summer) without permission. Please note that all Ph.D. students are considered to be of full-time status.

Part-Time Students

Part-time students are those registered for fewer than 24 units in the two regular terms of the academic year (Fall and Winter semesters).

Occasional Students

Persons who are not pursuing a degree, diploma, or certificate program may register as occasional students. Applying and registering as an Occasional Student may be beneficial for an individual who wishes to explore seminary education with the possible intention of pursuing a degree. Otherwise, students who wish to pursue continuing education for credit purposes may choose this status. Occasional students may take up to 9 units (normally 3 courses), after which time they must apply for admittance to a program if they wish to continue with seminary studies (unless using the courses for credit at another institution).

Letter of Permission Students

Students who are enrolled at other institutions may take courses at McMaster Divinity College for credit at another institution. At the end of the semester, LOP students must request a transcript to be sent to their educational institution using the transcript request form on our website.

Audit Students

Audit students are persons who wish to take a course without unit credit and without grade. Auditing a course requires the permission of the instructor of the individual course. Audit students must complete an Audit Application Form. No credit is given for audited courses. Auditing students are expected to attend class sessions, but the course instructor may limit their participation. Usually, audit students are required to read the assigned texts.

Financial Information

Tuition & Fees

Tuition and fees for the 2013-2014 year can be found on our website mcmasterdivinity.ca. The costs for special events and supplemental programs are separate. Any fee inquiries should be directed to the Student Records Office.

Fees Explanation

Fees include tuition, registration, library, examinations, diploma, and the DSA fees. As soon as a student registers into 18 units or more per academic year (September-April), whether it is through the initial registration in September or the drop/add process in January, a \$192.00 fee for the Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Health Insurance Plan and \$57.43 for Student Health is applied to the student account. This mandatory insurance fee is included within the tuition fee at 18 units or greater. If you have adequate personal insurance coverage, you may opt out at www.studentcare.net. This must be completed before September 27. Please note that neither the Health Insurance Plan nor Student Health fees cover dental work.

UHIP (University Health Insurance Plan)

The cost of medical treatment is very expensive in Ontario. It is extremely important that all international students, including exchange students, have adequate coverage while in Canada. The University health Insurance Plan (UHIP) is a comprehensive plan that is mandatory to international students and their dependents. The plan provides doctors' services, hospital ward accommodation, all maternity claims even if pregnancy began before you arrived in Ontario, and coverage for medical care outside Ontario or Canada. The plan is compulsory and students will not be permitted to register unless they purchase UHIP. Students may purchase additional coverage under UHIP if they intend to stay in Canada after completion of their studies or would like to travel outside of Canada. Please note that UHIP does not cover the cost of prescription drugs and dental work. Visa students are also covered under the GSA

Health Insurance Plan.

Financial Aid

General Financial Aid Policies

McMaster Divinity College has one of the more generous financial aid programs of seminaries in North America. A combination of low tuition rates and the financial resources available through our scholarship and bursary program ensures that most students can proceed through their program without incurring a burdensome debt load. Through the generosity of a number of people, churches, and foundations, McMaster Divinity College is able to provide substantial financial aid to many, if not most, qualifying students. Financial aid is allotted according to student financial need and/or academic merit. Qualifying students will receive a portion of their tuition paid for by various forms including bursaries, and prizes. No student is paid money directly, but any financial aid awarded is paid against the student's account. If the student fails to carry the number of credits on the basis of which the award is made, the student may have to repay money to McMaster Divinity College.

Each student desiring financial assistance must complete a Financial Aid application form in order to establish his or her financial need.

All full-time students are eligible for financial aid. There is a limited amount of funding available for part-time students. To qualify, part-time students must be either employed in vocational ministry or be unable to attend full-time for health or disability reasons.

Financial Aid Requirements

To qualify for financial aid, students must adhere to these principles:

- Students must be studying full-time (enrolled in 24 or more units per year or enrolled in the Ph.D. program) or working in full-time ministry.
- Students must not be on academic probation. McMaster Divinity College reserves the right in the case of large numbers of applicants to allot aid in a two-tiered manner: one level for those with an average B- and above, and the other for those with averages above B+.
- Demonstrated Christian character.
- Bursaries are granted on the basis of demonstrated financial need.
- Funds are granted only for specified academic years and cannot be deferred.
- Only students who have been admitted to a graduate program of studies will be considered for scholarships.
- Applications must be made each year, as awards are not automatically renewed.
- Applications are only accepted before the Fall term of each year and must be submitted by the application deadline. Late applications will only be considered if resources allow.

Bursaries, Awards, and Loans

Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP)

To be eligible for assistance under the OSAP program, a student must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident, and qualify for full-time student status. For provincial funding, certain residency requirements in Ontario must also be met. The type and amount of financial aid available to a student is determined by a needs-test. For more information about OSAP for professional programs, please contact the university OSAP office at osap@mcmaster.ca. For more information about OSAP for research programs, please contact the Registrar of McMaster Divinity College.

Prizes and Scholarships

Seminary prizes and scholarships for returning and graduating students are monetary awards ranging from \$100 to \$2,000 made on the basis of academic achievement. Some scholarships may also consider other factors such as school and community involvement, qualities of leadership, or other criteria such as financial need. Scholarships requiring application will be made available during the winter semester. Below is a listing of some of the many scholarships available. Please contact the Financial Aid Office for more details.

- The Canadian Bible Society Prize
- The Ker Memorial Scholarship
- The Margaret and Stanley Ford Scholarship
- The Gordon S. Martin Memorial Scholarship
- The Duncan R. McNab Scholarship
- The John Billes Scholarship (Biblical Studies)
- The John Billes Scholarship (Theological Studies)
- The John Billes Scholarship (Ministry Studies)
- The Harold Lang Scholarship
- The Frank E. Wright Scholarship
- The Muriel Israel Prize
- The Irene McDormand Prize
- The Horace West Bursaries
- The William & Ines Watson Memorial Bursary
- The Catherine Thomson MacAlpine Memorial Scholarship
- The Principal's Gold Medal
- The Dundas Prize in Church History
- The Silas H. Lamb Bursary
- The Rev. Fred Allen Jewell Scholarship
- The Lois Tupper Scholarship
- The Edith Laurence McDermid Scholarship

Assistantships

Teaching and research assistantships to provide Teaching Assistants for faculty and staff (maximum 10 hours per week) are awarded on a competitive basis to students in good academic standing. Ph.D. and M.A. students are given priority over other students. Notice of

available positions is advertised within the College. Work-study grants are separate and independent from other forms of financial aid and do not require a needs-test. Student assistantships, however, are usually awarded to students of distinguished academic performance.

ACADEMIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Registration Procedures & Policies

Registration Process

The process of registration is essential to ensure that your selection of courses for your program is officially recorded on your transcript. Registration takes place at the beginning of each session and is followed by a Drop and Add period to enable last minute academic changes to your registration. New students cannot register for courses until the admission process is complete.

All registration forms and supporting documentation should be received in the Student Records & Registration Office, Room 210 by the registration timeline set out by McMaster Divinity College.

The following documents are required to complete your registration. Detailed guidelines are available on our website at mcmasterdivinity.ca to assist you in completing these forms.

- Registration Form
- Payment Arrangement Form
- Payment by preferred method: cheque, money order or telephone/online banking
- Student Card application (all new students)

Student Cards & Validation Stickers

All students not having a McMaster Divinity College student card are required to submit the following to the Student Records & Registration Office, Room 210:

- Student Information Form
- Passport photo

A student card with validation sticker gives students access to the many different campus facilities as well as withdrawing privileges from Mills Library. A validation sticker will be available once financial arrangements have been processed through McMaster University.

Note: Students must show two pieces of government-issued ID (one with photo) before receiving a student card.

Permission for MDC Courses

Students registering for the following courses require permission prior to registering:

- Ministry Formation
- Reading Course
- Thesis, Dissertation
- Directed Study
- Letter of Permission Course (course to be taken at another institution)

Ministry Formation Registration

Permission from the Director of Ministry Formation must be received prior to registering for this course. For further information on Ministry Formation placements or to make an appointment, please contact Lee Beach at beachl@mcmaster.ca.

Reading Course/Directed Study

The designation of “Reading Course” (professional programs) or “Directed Study” (research programs) is given to courses that allow students to design their own course of study for a particular subject. They are especially beneficial when the student has a particular area of interest that is not addressed by the regularly scheduled course offerings and where the student would benefit from the expertise of one of the faculty.

Students interested in applying for a reading course should begin the process by discussing their ideas with the appropriate faculty member or with the Academic Dean. With the guidance of the appropriate faculty member, the student is responsible for drawing up a written Reading Course/Directed Study Proposal following the guidelines set out in the Application for a Reading Course/Application for a Directed Study. This form is available on our website at mcmasterdivinity.ca. This completed form plus the syllabus of the course must be given to the Registrar one month before the starting date of the semester.

The application must be signed by the faculty supervisor and submit it to the Student Records & Registration Office for approval by the Academic Dean. Students may not register for a reading course without the signed approval of the Dean or designate.

Adding and Dropping Courses

If you must drop a course before completion due to circumstances beyond your control, your student account will be charged a percentage of the cost. Your financial setback will depend on how far into the semester the drop takes place. McMaster Divinity College also reserves the right to charge additional administrative fees for this course of action. Students receiving Financial Aid should carefully consider their actions before dropping courses. Typically, dropping below full-time status (24 units) will put your Financial Aid status in jeopardy. Students must submit drop and add forms to the Student Records Office, Room 210, by the posted timeline.

Time Limits for Program Completion

Students of McMaster Divinity College are expected to complete the M.Div., M.T.S., Dip.Min., and Cert.C.S., programs within a 10 year period. Although it cannot be guaranteed, the College makes every effort to ensure that courses are offered in a timely way so that completing a degree within 10 years is possible for part-time students.

Students are expected to complete the M.A. within a 4-year period and the Ph.D. within a 6-year period. Permission to extend this limit requires a faculty decision.

Readmission

If 12 months have passed since the last registration, students must complete the readmission process that consists of:

- Letter or explanation for absence
- Reference from a pastor or Christian leader addressing the absence
- Submission of transcripts for any work completed at other institutions, if applicable

If three years have passed since the last registration, students must re-apply and follow the current regulations and curriculum of the catalogue under which they re-enter. In evaluating an application for re-admission into a program that is incomplete, normally a course will be credited only if completed within the previous 10 years.

Withdrawal from McMaster Divinity College

A student voluntarily withdrawing from the College, temporarily or permanently, should write a letter to the Registrar informing her/him of this intention. A student may be requested to withdraw from the College for academic reasons or for conduct out of harmony with the College's purpose and mission.

Use of Inclusive Language

McMaster Divinity College uses inclusive language for human beings in worship services, student written materials, and all of its publications. In reference to biblical texts, the integrity of the original expressions and the names of God should be respected. The NRSV and TNIV are examples of the use of inclusive language for human beings. It is expected that inclusive language will be used in chapel services and in all McMaster Divinity College assignments.

Women in Ministry

McMaster Divinity College supports women in training for any and all forms of Christian ministry as well as the subsequent ordination of women. It is expected that no member of the MDC community (students, staff, faculty) will detract from MDC's support of women in ministry. A student's acceptance of admission as a student at MDC is taken as a student's agreement not to detract from MDC's support of women in ministry.

Other Academic Guidelines & Policies

Information on McMaster Divinity College's policies regarding academic honesty, probationary status, grading system, course selection, and other guidelines are available on request or on our website at mcmasterdivinity.ca.

Thesis/Dissertation

Students intending to register for a thesis or dissertation in September must first complete the thesis or dissertation proposal along with the faculty in the area of study. Thesis and dissertation proposals are reviewed and approved by all faculty.

Letter of Permission Courses

Students who wish to take courses at another seminary or university for credit towards their degree must request a letter of permission (LOP). The Letter of Permission Application and supporting syllabi should be submitted to the Student Records Office at least one month prior to the beginning of classes. Students enrolled in the M.Div. or M.T.S. may take up to 5 courses at another institution for credit toward their program. M.A. students can take no more than 1 credit at another institution and Ph.D. students can take a maximum of 2 courses due to the nature of the program. Courses selected to replace required courses at McMaster Divinity College must be close equivalents.

Once approved, the Student Records Office notifies the institution and student. Students are responsible for fulfilling admission requirements set by the other institution. Students must also register their letter of permission course at McMaster Divinity College for the acceptance of the grade. The Student Records Office will enter the correct codes for the LOP course on the registration form. At the end of the course, the student must request an official transcript of the final grade to be sent to the Student Records Office at McMaster Divinity College.

Unfortunately, courses taken elsewhere without a Letter of Permission may not be accepted for transfer credit at McMaster Divinity College.

Advanced Standing

Advanced standing refers to recognition being given for courses that have been taken prior to the student applying for admission and that are deemed to fulfill requirements for course work at McMaster Divinity College. This student is not given credit for those courses and is still required to fulfill the full number of course units required for the degree program. For example, a student who has taken elementary Greek as an undergraduate may not be required to take Introduction to New Testament Greek at McMaster Divinity College, but may be able to substitute Greek exegesis courses.

Advanced Credit

Advanced credit refers to credit being given for courses that have been taken prior to the student's application for admission that have not been applied toward any other degree, but that are credited to the degree program at McMaster Divinity College. Being granted advanced credit reduces the total number of units required to the degree program. For example, a student who has completed a course equivalent to a Christian history course at another accredited seminary may receive credit for the course at McMaster Divinity College, thus reducing the total number of credits required for the degree. Students enrolled in the M.A. or

Ph.D. programs are not granted advanced credit.

Transfer Credit

Transfer credit refers to courses that a McMaster Divinity College enrolled student has taken at another institution, with the permission of the Academic Dean or designate, and which are applied to a degree program here. A Letter of Permission must be obtained before taking a course off campus, and there are limitations to the number of credits taken, depending on the student's program. Students enrolled in the M.A. or Ph.D. programs are not granted transfer credit.

MDC COMMUNITY LIFE

MDC COMMUNITY LIFE

Worship

Those who are preparing for ministry must constantly be aware of their own spiritual relationship with God. Not only is a personal devotional life essential for maintaining this relationship, but those training to be leaders of the church must worship with the church as well. The worship of God is a regular and vital part of life at McMaster Divinity College. We believe that worship is absolutely essential to the formation of students for ministry. The centre of worship for the College is the Nathaniel H. Parker Chapel, named after the first Principal of the College, which is part of the McMaster Divinity College building.

The College worships as a full community each Monday afternoon during the Fall and Winter terms at 2:00 p.m. Faculty, students, and guest preachers from various walks of Christian life lead worship services, which are a mixture of formal, informal and creative styles. Highlights of the worship year are the beginning of year and end of year services led by the President, as well as the Service of Celebration held prior to Convocation for the graduates.

The Divinity Students' Association (DSA)

The Divinity Students' Association is a vital part of the student life of the College. The DSA is composed of all students enrolled in McMaster Divinity College, and its executive is drawn from students in various stages of their studies. The purpose of the Association is to promote fellowship within the Divinity College, to create links with pre-divinity students, to establish meaningful ties with alumni of the College, and to maintain communication with churches of the Baptist community and of other denominations. Typical activities of the DSA include the Fall Orientation and Retreat Days, the Christmas Party, the Spring Banquet, and sponsored lunches that occur monthly throughout the fall and winter semesters. The DSA helps to ensure that the College truly becomes a growing and caring Christian community for every student.

R.E.A.D. On Bookstore

The Divinity College bookstore is located in Rm 145. The bookstore is run by Bernice Quek and is called the R.E.A.D. On Bookstore. It contains textbooks specifically related to MDC programs. Bernice offers textbooks at low rates and can be contacted at books@readon.ca or at 416.622.0655 x308. You can also fax any orders/requests to 416.622.2308. Her website is www.readon.ca.

The McCATS Centre (McMaster Computer Assisted Theological Studies)

The McCATS Centre is a first-class theological resource centre for those engaged in biblical research. The Centre has been prepared to benefit students in the areas of biblical study most conducive to computerized help and contains software designed to aid in the learning of the biblical languages, as well as powerful applications for searching Bible texts in a variety of

formats and languages. Inventory of Software Holdings

- Logos Scholars Gold Package
- Bible Works 7
- MS Office

Student Health Plan

The McMaster GSA Health Plan provides students with unique health benefits. The Plan was designed by students for students to provide many important services and cover expenses not covered by a basic health-care plan (i.e. OHIP), or the equivalent (such as UHIP for international students) such as prescription drugs. All MDC students who register for 18 or more units per academic year (September-April) are automatically enrolled in the Plan. If a student can demonstrate proof of another equivalent health coverage, it is possible to opt out of the Health Plan, no later than September 27th. Visit www.ihaveaplan.ca and follow the appropriate instructions for opting out.

Parking and Transit

Limited parking facilities are available in the McMaster Divinity College parking lot, upon payment by credit card when exiting. Parking is also available on other sites on campus through Parking and Transit Services. The University parking facilities are found around the periphery of the Central Campus and on the West Campus. Various public transport companies service the campus. Local transit service is provided by the HSR (Hamilton Street Railway). Bus/train service from the Toronto area to Hamilton is provided by GO Transit. For all full-time students, applications for Go Transit passes are available at the Administrative Office. Service from Kitchener-Waterloo and Guelph is provided by Coach Canada, while Greyhound provides service from London and Brantford. All of these transit agencies stop right on campus. There is also bus service from the Niagara area to downtown Hamilton, where you can connect to an HSR bus that will bring you to campus. Visit <http://parking.mcmaster.ca> for more information.

McMaster Student Services

Since McMaster Divinity College is located on the main University campus, all College students benefit from ready access to the extensive University student services. Some of these services are listed below:

Titles Bookstore

Titles, McMaster University's bookstore, is owned and operated by the University. A Microcomputer Centre is located within the Bookstore. The Bookstore maintains a some supplementary reading materials, both academic and general. Stationery and computer supplies and other items are also stocked. Charge accounts may be opened after registration. Information about Titles can be accessed at: <http://titles.mcmaster.ca>.

Library Resources

The University Library System consists of Mills Memorial Library (Humanities and Social Sciences), the Innis Library in Kenneth Taylor Hall, containing a collection of business materials, the H.G. Thode Library of Science and Engineering, and the Health Sciences Library in the Health Sciences Centre. An on-line catalogue covering the holdings of all libraries is available and stacks are open to all library users.

The McMaster University Libraries Gateway (<http://library.mcmaster.ca>) contains information on collections, hours and services in all the campus libraries; and is the access point to thousands of electronic resources provided by the libraries. Service is maintained at key reference points in the various libraries and in-library instructional sessions are available. See <http://library.mcmaster.ca/> for more information.

University Technology Services

UTS provides computing services in support of both administrative and networking activities. Every undergraduate and graduate student can register for a MAC ID account that includes an email account, web proxy server account, Web CT account, MacConnect and a printing account (available for a fee per page for laser printing). In addition to the facilities operated by UTS, there is computer equipment located in various departments to support specific academic programs. See <http://www.mcmaster.ca/uts/studentcomputing.htm> for additional information.

Centre for Student Development

The Centre for Student Development is a resource for all McMaster students. It offers services in four main areas: personal counselling, academic skills (including writing skills and English as a Second Language), services for students with disabilities (including ATLAS, a program for students with Learning Disabilities) and Leadership Training. All contact with CSD is confidential. Visit them at <http://csd.mcmaster.ca> or in the basement of the Student Centre (MUSC B-107).

International Student Services (ISS)

The major purpose of the office is to assist international students, visiting scholars, post-doctoral fellows and faculty by providing services such as: reception and orientation for newly arriving students, preliminary information concerning immigration matters, liaison with sponsoring agencies, foreign governments, consulates and embassies, and more. ISS is also the Plan Administrator for the University Health Insurance Plan (UHIP), which is mandatory for all international students. Visit <http://oisa.mcmaster.ca> for more details.

Hospitality Services

McMaster Hospitality Services is a self-supporting department dedicated to providing you with healthy, nutritious and flavourful food. Hospitality Services has five full-service dining locations located conveniently across campus:

- Bridges Café is an exciting vegetarian concept cafeteria.
- Café One in Michael G. Degroote Centre for Learning and Discovery provides Tim Hortons coffee and a variety of 'Grab-n-Go' items.
- The Commons Marketplace provides students with a varied dining experience and is home to Your Healthy Choice, Pacific Rim, Chef's Table, Piller's Deli and Pizza+++.
- East Meets West Bistro, located in the Mary E. Keyes Residence Building, features Asian and Continental cuisine, offering gourmet pizza, rotisserie and stir fry menus.
- La Piazza, an open 'Marché Style' marketplace, is located in the McMaster University Student Centre and features Pizza Pizza, Tim Hortons, Piller's Deli and Creation X International Grill. You will also find Made in Japan, Tim Hortons and Williams Coffee Pub kiosks in the Centre.
- The Wokery, in Kenneth Taylor Hall, is a popular lunch destination for Chinese food prepared fresh to order.

For more locations and other information, visit <http://hospitality.mcmaster.ca>.

Off Campus Resource Centre

The Off-Campus Resource Centre (OCRC) maintains up-to-date lists of available rental accommodation in Hamilton and the surrounding area. Among other services, it also provides free bus route maps, city zone maps, free use of telephones for students to contact landlords, information on housing by-laws and Tenant Protection Act, and personal assistance with the housing search. OCRC is operated on a year-round basis. Visit the web site to see all the listings of available rental units by zone and category. See <http://www.macocho.com>.

Health Services

Campus Health is committed to providing the highest level of health care to all students of the McMaster community throughout the year. It provides medical assessment and treatment of illness or injury, annual health exams, immunizations and allergy injections, laboratory testing and screening, and more. In order to avoid lengthy waits, Campus Health Centre operates on an appointment system rather than a walk-in clinic. To book an appointment, students may call 905.525.9140 x27700 or drop by the Centre located in the lowest level of the Student Centre, MUSC B101. For more information, visit: <http://www.mcmaster.ca/health>.

Athletic Facilities

The Department of Athletics and Recreation provides a wide variety of opportunities for students involved in high performance athletic competition, intramural and club competition as well as recreation, fitness, instructional and outdoor recreation programs. A diverse program of recreational activities is available for those who wish to keep fit, compete in active pursuits at their own level, and enjoy sports and active living opportunities of their choice. McMaster Athletics and Recreation facilities include a 50-metre pool, an outdoor 400-metre

track, dance studio, activity studio, and seven North American squash courts. Access to the various facilities on campus is open to all McMaster students. Please note that McMaster Divinity College's student fees do not include membership to the Athletic Facilities. In Fall 2006, McMaster opened a new Athletic and Recreation complex, featuring one of the largest fitness centres in Canada (17,000 square feet), a cycling studio, fitness studio, new locker rooms, two additional gymnasiums (seven gymnasiums in total), a 200-metre indoor track, international squash courts and an indoor climbing wall. Visit <http://www-athrec.mcmaster.ca> for more information and to register for programs.

Our Surroundings on the McMaster University Campus:

- 300 acres of property
- 30 acres central core
- Pedestrian campus
- Quiet, residential neighbourhood
- Hiking and mountain biking trails

Our Location:

- Hamilton, Ontario
- Fourth largest city in Ontario, ninth in Canada
- 68 km from Toronto; 71 from U.S. border McMaster Divinity College is located on an attractive university campus located at the western end of Lake Ontario, beside the Royal Botanical Gardens and yet within easy reach of downtown Hamilton. Area attractions include Cootes Paradise, the Bruce Trail, the Niagara Escarpment, and the Waterfront Trail. The central university campus is reserved for pedestrian traffic only. The campus is minutes from downtown Hamilton, Ontario, and the activities that a major city has to offer. Buses from the region's public transit system make frequent stops on campus, facilitating travel between McMaster, Hamilton, and the surrounding area.

Location of McMaster Divinity College

McMaster Divinity College is located on the campus of McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. Hamilton is 75 kilometers (45 miles) southwest of Toronto and 100 kilometers (60 miles) west of Niagara Falls. Hamilton is served by the John C. Munro Hamilton International Airport and Lester B. Pearson International Airport near Toronto. Train service is available by VIA, Amtrak, and the GO train at Burlington and Hamilton.

Driving Instructions

From Toronto, Oakville, Burlington Take Highway 403 to the Main Street West exit. At the traffic lights at the top of the ramp turn left and then immediately right on Newton Avenue. Continue to King Street. Cross King Street on to Sterling Street and proceed up Sterling to the McMaster campus.

From Brantford and London

From Brantford travel on Highway 403 to the Aberdeen Street exit. Proceed along Longwood Road to King Street. Turn left at King Street and go to the second traffic light. For entrance to the East Campus turn right onto Sterling Street and proceed along Sterling to McMaster University.

From the Niagara Peninsula

Follow the Queen Elizabeth Way over the Skyway Bridge as though going to Toronto. Take Highway 403 towards Hamilton and exit as described above in the directions for coming from Toronto.

From Kitchener/Waterloo

Take Highway 8 to the Town of Dundas.

Proceed along King Street straight through the town and this will become Cootes Drive. At the end of Cootes Drive, you will turn left onto Main Street. At the first stoplight (there are two left turn lanes—stay in the right lane), turn left and proceed along the road, past the entrance to the underground hospital parking garage. The road becomes Forsyth Avenue. Turn left at the second stop sign into the main entrance of McMaster.

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