

MASTER OF CHRISTIAN STUDIES

SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MISSIONS

Purpose Statement

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

Program Emphases

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

Expected Student Learning Outcomes

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

Required Courses Include:

Old Testament I: Promise, Covenant, and Praise	3 hrs.
Old Testament II: Wisdom, Justice, and God's Rule	3 hrs.
New Testament I: Gospels and Acts	3 hrs.
New Testament II: Letters of the New Testament	3 hrs.
Biblical Interpretation	3 hrs.
Theology I: God, Revelation and Humanity	3 hrs.
Theology II: Christ, the Spirit, and Last Things	3 hrs.
Communicating Biblical Truth	3 hrs.
Evangelism and Missions	3 hrs.
Spiritual Formation	3 hrs.
Survey of Church History	3 hrs.
Christian Leadership	3 hrs.
Total:	36 hrs.

Academic Calendars and Schedules

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

Admission Requirements

1. A Baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution, or equivalent.
2. Official transcript(s) showing all course work, completion of baccalaureate degree(s). Even if withdrawal occurred prior to earning credits and even if those credits do not apply to the current degree being sought, official transcripts must be sent from each institution.
3. A minimum college cumulative grade point average of 2.4 (on a 4.0 scale). Applicants with a college cumulative grade point average below 2.4 (on a 4.0 scale) may be accepted on academic probation on an individual basis.
4. Complete online M.C.S. application process at www.uu.edu/applications/graduate and submit \$25 application fee.
5. Three personal letters of recommendation.
6. If English is not a student's first language, minimum scores of 560 or 220 computer must be achieved on the TOEFL.
7. A 3-5 page essay outlining the applicant's spiritual journey.

Transfer of Credit

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

Financial Information

Application Fee:	\$25
General Student Fee:	\$24/hour
Tuition per Semester Hour:	\$370

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

All financial information is subject to change without notice.

Financial Assistance

Financial aid information for graduate students is available on our website at www.uu.edu/financialaid/graduate/. Generally, graduate students may be eligible for Federal Direct student loans or private alternative student loans, depending on the program of study and the eligibility of the borrower. Union University is also approved by the Department for Veterans Affairs to offer educational benefits to veterans, reservists, and

dependents of veterans who qualify for Veterans Benefits. Any person who qualifies for VA Benefits should check with the Office of Student Financial Planning as soon as possible after acceptance into a graduate program.

Graduation Requirements

- A. The completion of 36 hours of course work with a GPA of 3.0 or higher
- B. The fulfillment of all financial obligations
- C. The approval of the faculty

Dual Degree Option

A dual degree option is offered between the School of Social Work and the School of Theology and Missions. Students will complete the required social work courses from one of the options (either 24 or 51 hours), the required Christian studies courses (24 hours), and an additional 12 hours of electives.

60-hour option:

- I. Required Social Work Courses—24 hours:
Required Core from Advanced Standing
- II. Required Christian Studies Courses—24 hours:
MCS 500, 505, 510, 515, 517, 538, 545, 546
- III. Four Electives from the following (2 from each discipline)—12 hours:
A.SW: 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554,

555, 556, 557, 558, 610, 611, 612

B. MCS: 516, 520, 535, 536

C. SW/MSC 580 Study Abroad (Communities and Trauma)

SW/MCS 580 Study Abroad (Poverty)

87-hour option:

- I. Required Social Work Courses—51 hours:
Required Core from Regular Standing
- II. Required Christian Studies Courses—24 hours:
MCS 500, 505, 510, 515, 517, 538, 545, 546
- III. Four Electives from the following (2 from each discipline)—12 hours:
A.SW: 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 610, 611, 612
B. MCS: 516, 520, 535, 536
C. SW/MSC 580 Study Abroad (Communities and Trauma)
SW/MCS 580 Study Abroad (Poverty)

Admission Requirements for Dual Degree:

Applicants to the dual degree must apply to and be accepted to each program separately, per current admission requirements in each program.

515. New Testament II: The Letters of the New Testament (3)

A survey of the Pauline epistles, the general epistles and Revelation, with more intensive study of selected texts and issues. Included is a survey of basic issues in Pauline theology, issues in interpreting New Testament letters and the hermeneutics of the book of Revelation.

516. Survey of Church History (3)

An examination of events and individuals that shaped the history of Christianity from the first century to the present and application of the knowledge gained to current ministry and missions.

517. Spiritual Formation (3)



536. Evangelism and Missions (3)

An introduction to the ministry of evangelism and missions that moves from its biblical basis and theological foundations to a study of contemporary strategies, methodologies, movements, and trends with a focus on their practical application.

538. Christian Leadership (3)

The course focuses on how biblical values affect models of organizational leadership within the local church and other Christian institutions.

545. Theology I: God, Revelation, and Humanity (3)

A study of the nature, method, and content of Christian theology, the course will focus on prolegomena, God and revelation, and the doctrine of humanity.

546. Theology II: Christ, the Spirit, and Last Things (3)

A study of nature, method, and content of Christian theology, the course will focus on the person and work of Christ, Holy Spirit, Salvation, Church and Last Things.

Offered as needed**537. Introduction to Christian Ethics (3)**

An introduction to Christian ethics that focuses on ethical methodology and application of Christian ethical principles to key issues in church and society.

539. The Ministry of Biblical Counsel (3)

An introduction to the underlying principles and methods involved in offering biblical counseling in today's church and society.

579. External Domestic Study Programs (1-4)

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

579PF. External Domestic Study Programs (Pass/Fail) As Needed

All courses and their applications must be defined and approved prior to registering.

580. Study Abroad Programs (1-4)

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

580PF. Study Abroad Programs (Pass/Fail) As Needed

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

585. Special Study (1-4)

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

598. Seminar (1-4)

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

655. Independent Study (1-4)

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

Please note: The MCS curriculum was revised for students beginning with August 2017 enrollment. Students enrolled before August 2017 should consult their catalogue of record (the catalogue from the year they were enrolled) to find the curriculum requirements applicable to their MCS degree.