



Saint Paul School of Theology Course of Study School

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General Information

The Course of Study for Ordained Ministry in The United Methodist Church is provided and administered by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, Section of Elders and Local Pastors for persons:

- Who are certified candidates for ordained ministry,
- Who have successfully completed the Studies for License as a Local Pastor or one-third of their work for a master of divinity degree,
- Who have been licensed by the Bishop after approval by the District Committee and Board of Ordained Ministry, and
- Who are unable to attend an approved school of theology.

The Course of Study for Ordained Ministry is offered at eight regional Course of Study Schools typically held each summer on the campuses of United Methodist theological seminaries. Saint Paul School of Theology is one of the seminaries that offer the Course of Study School. Extension courses for part-time local pastors are held throughout the year in locations where there is a high concentration of local pastors. Visit www.gbhem.org/ministry.html for a listing of all schools offering the Course of Study.

The Saint Paul Course of Study School offers the Course of Study program in four sessions. The primary session for full-time and part-time local pastors is held each summer in July when all courses in the program are offered. The winter session offers courses in the second, third and fourth years each January. The winter session is also available to full-time and part-time local pastors. Finally, courses for part-time local pastors only are offered in the fall and spring sessions where classes are held one weekend per month for three consecutive months.

The summer and winter sessions of the Saint Paul Course of Study School use an integrative teaching system where foundational and functional classes are taught together. This model exposes students to both theory and application. A student enrolls for one module that will have two instructors and two courses offered.

Costs of the Program

	Summer and Winter Sessions		Fall and Spring Extended Sessions	
Tuition	\$0	Paid by the Division of Ordained Ministry	\$205	Paid by the student or annual conference
Registration fee	\$200	Per module (two courses), paid by the student	\$75	Paid by the student or annual conference
Housing	\$527	Approximate cost per module, paid by the student or the annual conference	\$56	Per weekend paid by the student or annual conference
Books	\$200	Approximate cost per module, paid by the student	\$150	Approximate cost per module, paid by the student

Course of Study School is designed to be a year-round learning experience. Registered students receive and prepare from advance assignments and book lists. Students who do not complete and submit the assignments by the published deadlines will be withdrawn from the program. Students also receive further assignments during the two-week class sessions.

The 2000 *United Methodist Book of Discipline* will give you some guidelines about Local Pastors. Some basics include:

- Initial contact needs to be made with an elder/deacon in your local parish.
- Read *The Christian as Minister* (can be purchased at Cokesbury).
- Visit with your district superintendent.
- Make contact with your district committee on ordained ministry, and they will help you through the inquiry and discernment process. A mentor will be assigned to you as a guide with whom you will be accountable.
- If your ministry decision is affirmed and a ministry setting is available, then you would probably be appointed to either a part-time or full-time ministry setting. Part-time local pastors are required by the *Discipline* to complete two Course of Study courses per calendar year. Full-time local pastors are required to complete four courses per calendar year.
- Attend licensing school facilitated by your annual conferences' board of ordained ministry.
- Register to attend Course of Study School.

For more information contact Janet Barnhard at 816-483-9600, ext. 111, or by email at janetb@spst.edu