**Master of Arts (Theological Studies)**

The Master of Arts (Theological Studies) or MA(TS) is an academic degree in religion and theology. The purpose of the MA(TS) is to prepare persons for leadership through a general program of graduate theological studies and an integrated academic concentration, which provides theologically informed leadership on behalf of the church. A baccalaureate degree is required for admission.

**Curricular Components**

The MA(TS) degree program requires completion of 49 credit hours and is equivalent to two years of full-time study. Full-time enrollment is 9-15 credit hours per semester. Half-time enrollment is 6-8 credit hours per semester. Enrollment overload (over 15 credit hours per semester, over three credit hours in winter term, or over six credit hours in summer) is discouraged and requires the permission of the student’s advisor and Dean of Academic Programs or VPAAD. All requirements must be completed within six years.

The requirements for the MA(TS) include focused study of a theological discipline in depth and in the context of broader theological disciplines, a summative evaluation, and the study of languages as appropriate.

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| **Requirement**  | **Credit hours required**  | **How Is The Requirement Fulfilled?**  |
| Introduction to the Hebrew Bible  | 3  | HBS 301  |
| Introduction to the New Testament  | 3  | NTS 301  |
| Introduction to Christian Traditions I  | 3  | HST 301  |
| Introduction to Christian Traditions II  | 3  | HST 302  |
| Introduction to Systematic Theology  | 3  | THL 301  |
| Introduction to Christian Ethics  | 3  | ETH 301  |
| Information Literacy in Theological Education | 1 | MIN 231 |
| Hebrew Bible  | 3  | HBS 4\*\* |
| New Testament | 3 | NTS 4\*\* |
| Upper Level History **OR** Upper Level Theology **OR** Upper Level Ethics | 3 | HST 4\*\* **OR** THL 4\*\* **OR** ETH 4\*\* |
| Upper Level Theology  | 3  | THL 4\*\*  |
| **Concentration** |
| Concentration Specific Electives | 9 |  |
| Supporting Electives (2 required, 3 credits ea.) | 6 |  |
| **Summative** |
| Thesis Proposal | 1 | MATS 401 **or** MATS 403 |
| Thesis Conference | 2 | MATS 402 **or** MATS 404 |
| **Total Hours**  | **49 credit hours** |

**Concentration**

A concentration (15 credit hours) is to be declared upon matriculation in the degree program and no later than the completion of ten credit hours. Concentrations offered are: Biblical Studies (faculty advisors, Israel Kamudzandu and Harold Washington), Ethics or Church and Society (faculty advisor Angela D. Sims), Historical Studies (faculty advisor, James Brandt), Theological Studies (faculty advisors, Nancy R. Howell, Kris Kvam), and Wesleyan Studies (faculty advisor, Henry H. “Hal” Knight III). Students may shape the MA(TS) degree program in consultation with their faculty advisors by incorporating related courses from other disciplines into their declared concentration.

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| **Concentration – MA(TS)** | **Semester Credit Hours**  |
| Curricular Components\*approval of course choices by specialization advisor is required  |
| 1. Coursework in the Area of Concentration
 | 15 |
| **Total Hours**  | **= 15**  |