

# Master of Arts (M.A.) in Counseling Program

## PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Western Seminary offers several program options through the Portland campus. The Oregon Board approved Master of Arts (M.A.) in Counseling can be taken as a stand-alone degree, or combined with another degree to pursue a dual degree track. Dual degree options include the M.A. in Counseling and the M.Div. track in Pastoral Counseling; the M.A. in Counseling and the M.A. in Ministry and Leadership with emphases in Chaplaincy or Pastoral Care to Women; and the M.A. in Counseling and the M.A. (Biblical and Theological Studies).

In addition to the Seminary's general educational goals, the Counseling programs endeavor to achieve the following:

1. Equip counselors for ministry in and through the church and for outreach to the community.
2. Integrate biblical and theological foundations with the insights of counseling theory and practical counseling strategies.
3. Promote growth in Christian maturity demonstrated through effective interpersonal relationships.
4. Prepare individuals who are seeking state licensure and national certification.

The M.A. in Counseling is intended to prepare Christian counselors with the knowledge, skills, and insight needed to practice counseling in church, non-profit, clinical or school settings. Graduates of the M.A. program are educationally prepared for such vocations as church staff positions in pastoral counseling, related positions in parachurch organizations, family services, mental health clinics, residential and outpatient treatment programs, counseling centers, and public and private school counseling settings.

Western's counseling program asserts an integrative approach which seeks to understand and explain emotional, relational, behavioral, and spiritual problems that people face in life from a thoroughly biblical worldview. The counseling program places an emphasis on theological reflection and spirituality as they relate to the therapeutic process. The program also places an emphasis on marriage and family issues.

Four major areas of study are blended in the M.A. program: biblical, theological, counseling, and spiritual formation. The program combines three components. First is a quality classroom experience. A wide variety of teaching methods are utilized to assist individuals with differing learning styles. The second component is the application of the classroom education in a practical setting—the student's internship site. Western Seminary emphasizes learning by doing. Each student spends five semesters in practicum and internship positions actually doing what they are learning. The third component is the personal examination and reflection that takes place in a variety of settings, including small group case conferences and mentoring with faculty. In these settings the student is challenged to reflect upon the practical application of theory and what meaning it has for them not only professionally, but also personally.

Additionally, graduates of the counseling program may choose to specialize in work with children and adolescents, receiving an official certificate of completion upon graduation. Students are trained to master the art of counseling from a biblically-informed worldview.

## PROGRAM OUTCOMES

In addition to the Seminary's general educational goals, the M.A. in Counseling program attempts to achieve specific outcomes. For each student, these outcomes are:

1. Applies biblical truth to life and ministry through appropriately utilizing biblical interpretation.
2. Employs advanced theological thinking that integrates a gospel-centered worldview to the combination of social and biblical studies.
3. Demonstrates social awareness, social cooperation, sensitivity to diversity, and teamwork. Demonstrates self-awareness, self-expression, and ability to care for self.
4. Demonstrates ongoing, gospel-centered personal and spiritual formation; utilizes life events in a pattern of growth.
5. Demonstrates ability to accept and utilize feedback and engage new or differing ideas; reflects on multicultural and contextual issues.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the general requirements for admission to the Seminary given on pages 20-21, applicants to a counseling program must have earned an accredited baccalaureate degree with a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher (on a 4.0 scale), including a breadth of liberal arts. Applicants who do not meet these general academic requirements may petition the Admissions Committee for consideration.

Entering counseling students are expected to bring a foundational knowledge of psychology. Proficiency in this foundational knowledge will be confirmed through a placement exam, required of all incoming counseling students. If deficiencies are indicated, remedial work will be required. Counseling students may satisfy these deficiencies in one of the following two ways: Complete the appropriate undergraduate course(s) at an approved institution, or complete a computer-assisted instructional program provided through the library services of Western Seminary. The student may not begin the second semester of counseling studies without satisfying proficiency requirements.

Applications must give evidence of personal character, interpersonal relationships, goals, motivation, and potential for future counseling ministry as fitting the program. These will include a vital spiritual life, growing and nurturing relationships with people, commitment to a biblical/theological

*"Western's counseling program is unique in that it facilitates personal and professional development in an atmosphere that blends academic rigor with practical application. Not only will you develop practical skills and techniques, but you will also learn how to think and respond like an effective counselor."*

Dr. Dave Wenzel, Professor of Counseling

orientation to the therapeutic process, and vocational aspirations involving the care and nurture of people. As a part of the admission process all counseling applicants will undergo a criminal background check.

### TRANSFER CREDIT

Upon approval by the Registrar, transfer of up to 13 credit hours of Bible and theology is allowed toward the M.A. in Counseling program from graduate institutions accredited by the Association of Theological Schools. Transfer of up to 12 credit hours of counseling studies is allowed from a state-approved graduate program in the State of Oregon. Students must have earned a grade of B or better for a course to be considered for transfer and coursework must have completed no more than five years prior to matriculation to Western Seminary.

Alternatively, students may receive advanced standing of up to 13 credit hours of Bible and Theology coursework toward their program if they are able to demonstrate current competency in required coursework based on prior study (based on parallel undergraduate work or transfer credit that is ineligible for consideration based on age). Transferability of credits earned at Western and transferred to another institution is at the discretion of the receiving institution. Consult the Registrar's Office for information on eligibility of transfer credit and advanced standing.

### RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS

Of the 73 credit hours required for the M.A. in Counseling program, a minimum of 48 credit hours must be completed through coursework at Western Seminary, with a minimum of 20 credit hours taken in resident study at Western Seminary's Portland campus. All work leading to the Master of Arts in Counseling must be completed within five years from the time of matriculation. Extension of this limit requires approval of the Administrative Committee. Reinstatement to the program after withdrawal requires Admissions Committee action and may subject the student to additional requirements for the degree. All credits applied toward the degree requirements must be earned within ten years of the awarding of the degree.

### DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The Master of Arts in Counseling degree is conferred upon the attainment of certain personal and academic requirements. In addition to the general seminary requirements outlined on pages 34-36, degree candidates must (1) give evidence of a genuine Christian character, orthodox belief, and conduct consistent with a God-given call to a position of leadership; (2) complete all courses in the prescribed M.A. curriculum with a minimum grade point average of 3.0. During their final semesters in the program students are required to pass the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam, which is in preparation for National Certification and Oregon state licensure.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students may complete their studies in as few as four semesters with a minimum of 73 credit hours required as a minimum for graduation (77 total credit hours required to complete the optional specialization below). The program is designed around a common core of 60 credit hours of counseling coursework, 8 credit hours of biblical studies, and 5 credit hours of theological studies.

## Master of Arts in Counseling Core

### 73 CREDITS

Theological Studies [5]    Biblical Studies [8]  
Counseling Studies [57]    Counseling Electives [3]

**DEGREE TOTAL**  
**= 73 CREDITS**

### State Licensure

Western Seminary has designed the M.A. degree track for students anticipating the possibility of seeking licensure in a variety of states. While Western cannot obtain the individual approval of these states, the curriculum was designed after a careful review of national requirements. Students are encouraged to contact state licensing agencies to determine specific requirements. Western has built enough elective credits into the curriculum in order for the program to flex with state requirements.

**Oregon license applicants who receive their degrees on or after October 1, 2014, must complete 60 or more semester credit hours of counseling and a clinical experience of 700 hours including at least 280 direct contact hours. For further information, please contact the Counseling Office.**

### CURRICULUM PLAN

*Please note: Biblical studies, theological studies, hermeneutics and church history courses may be offered in 2-credit or 1-credit (i.e., BLS 511X, BLS 511Y) formats, depending on the campus location.*

#### Biblical interpretation studies: 8 credits

DBS 516	Survey of Learning to Interpret Scripture .....	(2)
BLS 511	Survey of Genesis to Song of Solomon .....	(2)
BLS 512	Survey of Prophets to Gospels .....	(2)
BLS 513	Survey of Acts to Revelation .....	(2)

#### Theological studies: 5 credits

THS 511	Survey of Knowing the Triune God: Theology I .....	(2)
THS 512	Survey of the God of our Salvation: Theology II .....	(2)
THS 513	Survey of Living as the Community of the Spirit: Theology III .....	(1)

#### Counseling studies: 60 credits

CNS 501	Clinical Foundations: Basic Counseling Skills/Interventions .....	(2)
CNS 502	Psychological Theory & Techniques .....	(2)
CNS 503	Family Systems Therapy .....	(2)
CNS 504	Psychotherapeutic Systems .....	(2)
CNS 505	Psychopathology .....	(3)
CNS 506	Legal and Ethical Issues .....	(3)
CNS 507	Human Life Span Development .....	(3)
CNS 508	Introduction to Integrative Issues .....	(2)

CNS 509	Advanced Integration.....	(2)
CNS 510	Spiritual Development and Assessment .....	(2)
CNS 512	Group Counseling .....	(2)
CNS 513	Social and Cultural Foundations .....	(2)
CNS 516	Marriage Counseling .....	(2)
CNS 518	Career and Lifestyle Development .....	(2)
CNS 519	Treatment Planning and Outcome Assessment .....	(1)
CNS 523	Human Sexuality.....	(2)
CNS 524	Research in Counseling & Family Studies .....	(2)
CNS 525	Tests and Measurements .....	(3)
CNS 526	Psychopharmacology .....	(1)
CNS 528	Neuropsychology and Intro to Psychopharmacology .....	(1)
CNS 529	Counseling Addictions .....	(2)
CNS 530	Counseling Practicum .....	(2)
CNS 531	Internship Case Conference I .....	(2)
CNS 532	Internship Case Conference II .....	(2)
CNS 533	Internship Case Conference III .....	(2)
CNS 534	Internship Case Conference IV .....	(2)
CNS 544	Counseling Violence and Abuse Issues .....	(2)
CNS 557	Emergency Preparedness: Suicide Prevention .....	(1)
CNS 558	Emergency Preparedness: Trauma Counseling.....	(1)
CNS 5xx	Counseling electives (Consult with department advisor) .....	(3)
CNS 581	Comprehensive Clinical Integration Paper .....	(0)

### CHILD AND YOUTH COUNSELING SPECIALIZATION

Each year the Counseling Department admits a limited number of counseling students to a specialized Child and Youth Counseling specialization within the M.A. program. In addition to the 60 required credit hours of counseling courses listed above, Child and Youth Counseling Specialization students use their electives toward the following required courses, bringing their total to 77 credit hours.

These courses include:

CNS 542	Child Assessment and Treatment .....	(1)
CNS 546	Counseling Adolescents .....	(1)
CNS 561R	Parent Skill Training .....	(1)
CNS 562J	Healing Children Through Non-Directive Play.....	(2)
CNS 563K	Advanced Play Therapy .....	(2)
CNS 530C	Child/Youth Internship Case Conference .....	(2)

This specialization has been made possible in part through a grant from the Collins Foundation. In addition to these courses the students will be utilizing a state of the art training center on campus, including video and audio taping capabilities, one-way viewing rooms, live supervision of counseling sessions, and specialized reference materials. Upon completion of the specialization, students will receive a Child and Youth Counseling Certificate.

# Master of Arts (M.A.) in Counseling/ Master of Divinity in Pastoral Counseling Dual Degree Program

## PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The M.A. in Counseling/M.Div. (Pastoral Counseling specialization) dual degree program expands the student's preparation in the biblical and theological areas, and adds a substantial ministerial emphasis (see the M.Div. program description). It is designed to prepare individuals for both professional counseling and such ministries as the pastorate, pastoral counseling, family ministries, pastoral care, chaplaincy, discipleship, and small group ministries. Additionally, the dual degree track program begins preparation for membership in the American Association of Pastoral Counselors. The Master of Arts in Counseling degree program is designed to meet the educational requirements for licensure by the Oregon State Board of Licensed Professional Counselors.

## PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Please see the Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Counseling program pages for more information on program outcomes.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the general requirements for admission to the Seminary given on pages 20-21, applicants to a counseling program must have earned an accredited baccalaureate degree with a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher (on a 4.0 scale), including a breadth of liberal arts. Applicants who do not meet these general academic requirements may petition the Admissions Committee for consideration.

Entering counseling students are expected to bring a foundational knowledge of psychology. Proficiency in this foundational knowledge will be confirmed through a placement exam, required of all incoming counseling students. If deficiencies are indicated, remedial work will be required. Counseling students may satisfy these deficiencies in one of the following two ways: Complete the appropriate undergraduate course(s) at an approved institution, or complete a computer-assisted instructional program provided through the library services of Western Seminary. The student may not begin the second semester of counseling studies without satisfying proficiency requirements.

Applications must give evidence of personal character, interpersonal relationships, goals, motivation, and potential for future counseling ministry as fitting the program. These will include a vital spiritual life, growing and nurturing relationships with people, commitment to a biblical/theological orientation to the therapeutic process, and vocational aspirations involving the care and nurture of people. As a part of the admission process all counseling applicants will undergo a criminal background check.

## TRANSFER CREDIT

Upon approval by the Registrar, transfer of up to 12 counseling credit hours is allowed from a state-approved graduate program in Oregon. Transfer of up to 45 credit hours toward the M.Div. is allowed from graduate institutions accredited by the Association of Theological Schools. Students must have earned a grade of B or better for a course to be considered for transfer and coursework must have completed no more than five years prior to matriculation to Western Seminary.

Alternatively, students may receive advanced standing of up to 22 credit hours of the M.Div. requirements if they are able to demonstrate current competency in required coursework based on prior study (based on parallel undergraduate work or transfer credit that is ineligible for consideration based on age). Transferability of credits earned at Western and transferred to another institution is at the discretion of the receiving institution. Consult the Registrar's Office for information on eligibility of transfer credit and advanced standing.

## RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS

Of the 128 credit hours required for the M.A. in Counseling and M.Div. combined program, a minimum of 48 Counseling and 45 M.Div. credit hours must be completed through coursework at Western Seminary, with a minimum of 93 credit hours taken in resident study at Western Seminary's Portland Campus. The Master of Arts in Counseling and Master of Divinity must be completed within seven years from the time of matriculation. Extension of this limit requires approval of the Administrative Committee. Reinstatement to the program after withdrawal requires Admissions Committee action and may subject the student to additional requirements for the degree. All credits applied toward the degree requirements must be earned within ten years of the awarding of the degree.

## DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The Master of Arts in Counseling degree and Master of Divinity degree is conferred upon the attainment of certain personal and academic requirements. In addition to the general seminary requirements outlined on pages 34-36, degree candidates must (1) give evidence of a genuine Christian character, orthodox belief, and conduct consistent with a God-given call to a position of leadership; (2) complete all courses in the prescribed M.A. curriculum with a minimum grade point average of 3.0. During their final semesters in the program students are required to pass the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam, which is in preparation for National Certification and Oregon state licensure.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Students may complete their studies in as few as eight semesters with a minimum of 128 credit hours required as a minimum for graduation. The program is designed around a common core of 36 hours, 14 credit hours of biblical languages, 60 credit hours of counseling, and 18 credit hours of ministerial studies.

**CURRICULUM PLAN**

*Please note: Biblical studies, theological studies, hermeneutics and church history courses may be offered in 4-credit or 2-credit (i.e., BLS 501X, BLS 501Y) formats, depending on the campus location.*

**Spiritual formation: 4 credits**

SFS 502	Practicing Prayer and Other Key Disciplines.....	(2)
SFS 504	Growing into Ethical Maturity.....	(2)

**Biblical studies: 16 credits**

DBS 506	Learning to Interpret Scripture.....	(4)
BLS 501	Interpreting Genesis to Song of Solomon .....	(4)
BLS 502	Interpreting the Prophets to Gospels.....	(4)
BLS 503	Interpreting Acts to Revelation .....	(4)

**Biblical language studies: 14 credits**

(see note below on biblical language options)

NTS 501	Functional Foundations of Greek.....	(3)
NTS 502	Functional Application of Greek .....	(3)
or NTS 508	Introducing Foundation for Greek Exegesis .....	(3)
NTS 509	Greek Reading and Syntax .....	(3)

(Students complete either NTS 501/502 or NTS 508/509)

OTS 501	Functional Foundations of Hebrew .....	(3)
OTS 502	Functional Application of Hebrew .....	(3)
or OTS 508	Introducing Foundation for Hebrew Exegesis .....	(3)
OTS 509	Hebrew Reading and Syntax .....	(3)

(Students complete either OTS 501/502 or OTS 508/509)

NTS 515	Principles of Exegesis .....	(2)
or OTS 515	Principles of Exegesis .....	(2)

**Theological studies: 16 credits**

THS 501	Knowing the Triune God: Theology I .....	(4)
THS 502	Glorifying the God of our Salvation: Theology II .....	(4)
THS 503	Living as the Community of the Spirit: Theology III .....	(2)
THS 508	Integrating Ministry and Theology .....	(2)
CHS 505	Wisdom from Church History .....	(4)
or CHS 506	Insight and Inspiration from Church History.....	(2)
CHS 5xx	Church history elective .....	(2)

(Students complete either CHS 505 or CHS 506 and a CHS elective)

**Ministerial studies: 18 credits**

DIS 501	Communicating Christ in Culture .....	(2)
DMS 501	Thinking Theologically about Ministry Leadership .....	(2)
DMS 502	Introducing Theology and Practice of Worship .....	(2)
DMS 506	Developing Godly Leadership for the 21st Century.....	(2)
or PCW 513	Women in Leadership .....	(2)
EMS 505	Growing Disciples Intentionally .....	(2)
PTS 503	Practicing Evangelism and Apologetics .....	(2)
PTS 504	Maximizing the Church's Redemptive Influence .....	(2)
PTS 508	Developing Strong Families .....	(2)
PTS 510	Preparing and Preaching Expository Sermons .....	(2)

**Counseling studies: 60 credits**

CNS 501	Clinical Foundations:	
	Basic Counseling Skills/Interventions .....	(2)
CNS 502	Psychological Theory & Techniques .....	(2)
CNS 503	Family Systems Therapy .....	(2)
CNS 504	Psychotherapeutic Systems .....	(2)
CNS 505	Psychopathology .....	(3)
CNS 506	Legal and Ethical Issues .....	(3)
CNS 507	Human Life Span Development .....	(3)
CNS 508	Introduction to Integrative Issues .....	(2)
CNS 509	Advanced Integration.....	(2)
CNS 510	Spiritual Development and Assessment .....	(2)
CNS 512	Group Counseling .....	(2)
CNS 513	Social and Cultural Foundations .....	(2)
CNS 518	Career and Lifestyle Development .....	(1)
CNS 519	Treatment Planning and Outcome Assessment .....	(1)
CNS 523	Human Sexuality.....	(2)
CNS 524	Research in Counseling & Family Studies .....	(2)
CNS 525	Tests and Measurements .....	(3)
CNS 526	Psychopharmacology .....	(1)
CNS 528	Neuropsychology and Intro to Psychopharmacology .....	(1)
CNS 516	Marriage Counseling .....	(2)
CNS 529	Counseling Addictions .....	(2)
CNS 530	Counseling Practicum .....	(2)
CNS 531	Internship Case Conference I .....	(2)
CNS 532	Internship Case Conference II .....	(2)
CNS 533	Internship Case Conference III .....	(2)
CNS 534	Internship Case Conference IV .....	(2)
CNS 544	Counseling Violence and Abuse Issues .....	(2)
CNS 557	Emergency Preparedness: Suicide Prevention .....	(1)
CNS 558	Emergency Preparedness: Trauma Counseling.....	(1)
CNS 5xx	Counseling electives	
	(Consult with department advisor) .....	(3)
CNS 581	Comprehensive Clinical Integration Paper .....	(0)



# Master of Arts (M.A.) in Counseling/ Master of Arts in Ministry and Leadership Dual Degree Program

## PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The M.A. in Counseling/M.A. in Ministry and Leadership dual degree program is specifically designed for students who envision their future will include ministry to and with women or as a chaplain to special populations. Please see further information for the specializations of the M.A. in Ministry and Leadership for Chaplaincy (page 45) or Pastoral Care to Women (page 47). The Master of Arts in Counseling degree program is designed to meet the educational requirements for licensure by the Oregon State Board of Licensed Professional Counselors.

## PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Please see the Master of Arts in Ministry and Leadership and Master of Arts in Counseling program pages for more information on program outcomes.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the general requirements for admission to the Seminary given on pages 20-21, applicants to a counseling program must have earned an accredited baccalaureate degree with a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher (on a 4.0 scale), including a breadth of liberal arts. Applicants who do not meet these general academic requirements may petition the Admissions Committee for consideration.

Entering counseling students are expected to bring a foundational knowledge of psychology. Proficiency in this foundational knowledge will be confirmed through a placement exam, required of all incoming counseling students. If deficiencies are indicated, remedial work will be required. Counseling students may satisfy these deficiencies in one of the following two ways: Complete the appropriate undergraduate course(s) at an approved institution, or complete a computer-assisted instructional program provided through the library services of Western Seminary. The student may not begin the second semester of counseling studies without satisfying proficiency requirements.

Applications must give evidence of personal character, interpersonal relationships, goals, motivation, and potential for future counseling ministry as fitting the program. These will include a vital spiritual life, growing and nurturing relationships with people, commitment to a biblical/theological orientation to the therapeutic process, and vocational aspirations involving the care and nurture of people. As a part of the admission process all counseling applicants will undergo a criminal background check.

## TRANSFER CREDIT

Upon approval by the Registrar, transfer of up to 12 counseling credit hours is allowed from a state-approved graduate program in Oregon. Transfer of up to 30 credit hours toward the M.A. in Ministry and Leadership is allowed from graduate institutions accredited by the Association of Theological

Schools. Students must have earned a grade of B or better for a course to be considered for transfer and coursework must have completed no more than five years prior to matriculation to Western Seminary.

Alternatively, students may receive advanced standing of up to 15 credit hours of the M.A. in Ministry and Leadership degree requirements if they are able to demonstrate current competency in required coursework based on prior study (based on parallel undergraduate work or transfer credit that is ineligible for consideration based on age). Transferability of credits earned at Western and transferred to another institution is at the discretion of the receiving institution. Consult the Registrar's Office for information on eligibility of transfer credit and advanced standing.

## RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS

Of the 116 credit hours required for the M.A. in Counseling/ M.A. in Ministry and Leadership combined program, a minimum of 48 Counseling and 30 Ministry and Leadership credit hours must be completed through coursework at Western Seminary, with a minimum of 40 credit hours taken in resident study at Western Seminary's Portland Campus. All work leading to the Master of Arts in Counseling and Master of Arts in Ministry and Leadership must be completed within six years from the time of matriculation. Extension of this limit requires approval of the Administrative Committee. Reinstatement to the program after withdrawal requires Admissions Committee action and may subject the student to additional requirements for the degree. All credits applied toward the degree requirements must be earned within ten years of the awarding of the degree.

## DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The Master of Arts in Counseling degree and Master of Arts in Ministry and Leadership degree is conferred upon the attainment of certain personal and academic requirements. In addition to the general seminary requirements outlined on pages 34-36, degree candidates must (1) give evidence of a genuine Christian character, orthodox belief, and conduct consistent with a God-given call to a position of leadership; (2) complete all courses in the prescribed M.A. curriculum with a minimum grade point average of 3.0. During their final semesters in the program students are required to pass the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam, which is in preparation for National Certification and Oregon state licensure.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students may complete their studies in as few as eight semesters with a minimum of 116 credit hours required as a minimum for graduation. The program is designed around a common core of 30 hours, 12 credit hours of ministry and leadership studies, 60 credit hours of counseling, and 14 credit hours in an area of specialization.

## CURRICULUM PLAN

### Counseling studies: 60 credits

CNS 501	Clinical Foundations:	
	Basic Counseling Skills/Interventions .....	(2)
CNS 502	Psychological Theory & Techniques .....	(2)
CNS 503	Family Systems Therapy .....	(2)
CNS 504	Psychotherapeutic Systems .....	(2)
CNS 505	Psychopathology .....	(3)
CNS 506	Legal and Ethical Issues .....	(3)
CNS 507	Human Life Span Development .....	(3)
CNS 508	Introduction to Integrative Issues .....	(2)
CNS 509	Advanced Integration.....	(2)
CNS 510	Spiritual Development and Assessment .....	(2)
CNS 512	Group Counseling .....	(2)
CNS 513	Social and Cultural Foundations .....	(2)
CNS 518	Career and Lifestyle Development .....	(2)
CNS 519	Treatment Planning and Outcome Assessment .....	(1)
CNS 523	Human Sexuality.....	(2)
CNS 524	Research in Counseling & Family Studies .....	(2)
CNS 525	Tests and Measurements .....	(3)
CNS 526	Psychopharmacology .....	(1)
CNS 528	Neuropsychology and Intro to Psychopharmacology .....	(1)
CNS 516	Marriage Counseling .....	(2)
CNS 529	Counseling Addictions .....	(2)
CNS 530	Counseling Practicum .....	(2)
CNS 531	Internship Case Conference I .....	(2)
CNS 532	Internship Case Conference II .....	(2)
CNS 533	Internship Case Conference III .....	(2)
CNS 534	Internship Case Conference IV .....	(2)
CNS 544	Counseling Violence and Abuse Issues .....	(2)
CNS 557	Emergency Preparedness: Suicide Prevention .....	(1)
CNS 558	Emergency Preparedness: Trauma Counseling.....	(1)
CNS 5xx	Counseling electives	
	(Consult with department advisor) .....	(3)
CNS 581	Comprehensive Clinical Integration Paper .....	(0)

### Spiritual formation studies: 4 credits

SFS 502	Practicing Prayer and Other Key Disciplines .....	(2)
SFS 504	Growing into Ethical Maturity .....	(2)

### Biblical interpretation studies: 16 credits

Please note: Biblical studies, theological studies, hermeneutics and church history courses may be offered in 4-credit or 2-credit (i.e., BLS 501X, BLS 501Y) formats, depending on the campus location.

DBS 506	Learning to Interpret Scripture .....	(4)
BLS 501	Interpreting Genesis to Song of Solomon .....	(4)
BLS 502	Interpreting the Prophets to Gospels .....	(4)
BLS 503	Interpreting Acts to Revelation .....	(4)

### Theological studies: 10 credits

THS 501	Knowing the Triune God: Theology I .....	(4)
THS 502	Glorifying the God of our Salvation: Theology II .....	(4)
THS 503	Living as the Community of the Spirit: Theology III .....	(2)

### Ministry and leadership studies: 12 credits

DIS 501	Communicating Christ in Culture .....	(2)
DMS 501	Thinking Theologically about Ministry Leadership .....	(2)
DMS 506	Developing Godly Leadership for the 21st Century .....	(2)
	or PCW 513 Women in Leadership .....	(2)
EMS 505	Growing Disciples Intentionally .....	(2)
PTS 504	Maximizing the Church's Redemptive Influence.....	(2)
PTS 505	Providing Leadership in Ministry .....	(2)

### SPECIALIZATION OR TRACK

#### 14 credits — Select one

#### CHAPLAINCY SPECIALIZATION:

MFM 500	Discovering/Developing Your Ministry Potential .....	(2)
ICS 501	The Chaplaincy.....	(2)
ICS 530	Chaplaincy Practicum .....	(1+1+1+1)
<i>Select 6 credits from the courses below, or related electives with advisor approval:</i>		

ICS 505	Hospital Chaplaincy .....	(2)
ICS 506	Military Chaplaincy .....	(2)
ICS 533	Clinical Pastoral Education .....	(2)
PTS 503	Practicing Evangelism and Apologetics .....	(2)
PTS 506	Pastoral Duties .....	(2)

#### PASTORAL CARE TO WOMEN SPECIALIZATION:

MFM 500	Discovering/Developing Your Ministry Potential .....	(2)
PCW 511	Pastoral Understanding of Women .....	(2)
PCW 531-534	Pastoral Care to Women Practicum .....	(1+1+1+1)
<i>Select 6 credits from the courses below, or related electives with advisor approval:</i>		

PCW 512X	Women in Pain, Part I .....	(2)
PCW 512Y	Women in Pain, Part 2 .....	(2)
PCW 513	Women in Leadership .....	(2)
PCW 514	Building Relational Ministries for Women .....	(2)
PCW 515	Develop and Deliver Life-Changing Messages .....	(2)
PCW 521	Develop Life Changing Bible Study Curriculum .....	(2)

(Note: Students specializing in Pastoral Care to Women are required to complete at least five PCW specialized courses in addition to PCW 531-534. These may include the PCW courses listed in the ministry core described above.)

# Master of Arts (M.A.) in Counseling/ Master of Arts (Biblical and Theological Studies) Dual Degree Program

## PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The M.A. in Counseling/M.A. (Biblical and Theological Studies) dual degree program expands the student's preparation in the biblical and theological areas (see the M.A. [Biblical and Theological Studies] program description).

It is designed to prepare individuals for both professional counseling and such ministries as the family ministries, pastoral care, discipleship, and small group ministries. The Master of Arts in Counseling degree program is designed to meet the educational requirements for licensure by the Oregon State Board of Licensed Professional Counselors.

## PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Please see the Master of Arts (Biblical and Theological Studies) and Master of Arts in Counseling program pages for more information on program outcomes.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the general requirements for admission to the Seminary given on pages 20-21, applicants to a counseling program must have earned an accredited baccalaureate degree with a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher (on a 4.0 scale), including a breadth of liberal arts. Applicants who do not meet these general academic requirements may petition the Admissions Committee for consideration.

Entering counseling students are expected to bring a foundational knowledge of psychology. Proficiency in this foundational knowledge will be confirmed through a placement exam, required of all incoming counseling students. If deficiencies are indicated, remedial work will be required. Counseling students may satisfy these deficiencies in one of the following two ways: Complete the appropriate undergraduate course(s) at an approved institution, or complete a computer-assisted instructional program provided through the library services of Western Seminary. The student may not begin the second semester of counseling studies without satisfying proficiency requirements.

Applications must give evidence of personal character, interpersonal relationships, goals, motivation, and potential for future counseling ministry as fitting the program. These will include a vital spiritual life, growing and nurturing relationships with people, commitment to a biblical/theological orientation to the therapeutic process, and vocational aspirations involving the care and nurture of people. As a part of the admission process all counseling applicants will undergo a criminal background check.

## TRANSFER CREDIT

Upon approval by the Registrar, transfer of up to 12 counseling credit hours is allowed from a state-approved graduate program in Oregon. Transfer of up to 32 credit hours toward the M.A. (Biblical and Theological Studies) program is allowed from graduate institutions accredited by the Association

of Theological Schools. Students must have earned a grade of B or better for a course to be considered for transfer and coursework must have completed no more than five years prior to matriculation to Western Seminary.

Alternatively, students may receive advanced standing of up to 32 credit hours of the M.A. (Biblical and Theological Studies) degree requirements if they are able to demonstrate current competency in required coursework based on prior study (based on parallel undergraduate work or transfer credit that is ineligible for consideration based on age). Transferability of credits earned at Western and transferred to another institution is at the discretion of the receiving institution. Consult the Registrar's Office for information on eligibility of transfer credit and advanced standing.

## RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS

Of the 114 credit hours required for the M.A. in Counseling/ M.A. (Biblical and Theological Studies) combined program, a minimum of 48 counseling and 32 biblical and theological studies credit hours must be completed through coursework at Western Seminary, with a minimum of 40 credit hours taken in resident study at Western Seminary's Portland Campus. All work leading to the Master of Arts in Counseling and Master of Arts (Biblical and Theological Studies) must be completed within six years from the time of matriculation. Extension of this limit requires approval of the Administrative Committee. Reinstatement to the program after withdrawal requires Admissions Committee action and may subject the student to additional requirements for the degree. All credits applied toward the degree requirements must be earned within ten years of the awarding of the degree.

## DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The Master of Arts in Counseling degree and Master of Arts (Biblical and Theological Studies) degree is conferred upon the attainment of certain personal and academic requirements. In addition to the general seminary requirements outlined on pages 34-36, degree candidates must (1) give evidence of a genuine Christian character, orthodox belief, and conduct consistent with a God-given call to a position of leadership; (2) complete all courses in the prescribed M.A. curriculum with a minimum grade point average of 3.0. During their final semesters in the program students are required to pass the Counselor Preparation Comprehensive Exam, which is in preparation for National Certification and Oregon state licensure.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Students may complete their studies in as few as eight semesters with a minimum of 114 credit hours required as a minimum for graduation. The program is designed around a common core of 32 hours, 60 credit hours of counseling, and 22 credit hours in an elective track.



**CURRICULUM PLAN****Counseling studies: 60 credits**

CNS 501	Clinical Foundations:	
	Basic Counseling Skills/Interventions .....	(2)
CNS 502	Psychological Theory & Techniques .....	(2)
CNS 503	Family Systems Therapy .....	(2)
CNS 504	Psychotherapeutic Systems .....	(2)
CNS 505	Psychopathology .....	(3)
CNS 506	Legal and Ethical Issues .....	(3)
CNS 507	Human Life Span Development .....	(3)
CNS 508	Introduction to Integrative Issues .....	(2)
CNS 509	Advanced Integration.....	(2)
CNS 510	Spiritual Development and Assessment .....	(2)
CNS 512	Group Counseling .....	(2)
CNS 513	Social and Cultural Foundations .....	(2)
CNS 518	Career and Lifestyle Development .....	(2)
CNS 519	Treatment Planning and Outcome Assessment .....	(1)
CNS 523	Human Sexuality.....	(2)
CNS 524	Research in Counseling & Family Studies .....	(2)
CNS 525	Tests and Measurements .....	(3)
CNS 526	Psychopharmacology .....	(1)
CNS 528	Neuropsychology and Intro to Psychopharmacology .....	(1)
CNS 516	Marriage Counseling .....	(2)
CNS 529	Counseling Addictions .....	(2)
CNS 530	Counseling Practicum .....	(2)
CNS 531	Internship Case Conference I .....	(2)
CNS 532	Internship Case Conference II .....	(2)
CNS 533	Internship Case Conference III .....	(2)
CNS 534	Internship Case Conference IV .....	(2)
CNS 544	Counseling Violence and Abuse Issues .....	(2)
CNS 557	Emergency Preparedness: Suicide Prevention .....	(1)
CNS 558	Emergency Preparedness: Trauma Counseling.....	(1)
CNS 5xx	Counseling electives	
	(Consult with department advisor) .....	(3)
CNS 581	Comprehensive Clinical Integration Paper .....	(0)

**Spiritual & personal formation studies: 4 credits**

SFS 502	Practicing Prayer and Other Key Disciplines .....	(2)
SFS 504	Growing into Ethical Maturity .....	(2)

**Biblical interpretation studies: 16 credits**

*Please note: Biblical studies, theological studies, hermeneutics and church history courses may be offered in 4-credit or 2-credit (i.e., BLS 501X, BLS 501Y) formats, depending on the campus location.*

DBS 506	Learning to Interpret Scripture .....	(4)
BLS 501	Interpreting Genesis to Song of Solomon .....	(4)
BLS 502	Interpreting the Prophets to Gospels .....	(4)
BLS 503	Interpreting Acts to Revelation .....	(4)

**Theological studies: 12 credits**

THS 501	Knowing the Triune God: Theology I .....	(4)
THS 502	Glorifying the God of our Salvation: Theology II .....	(4)
THS 503	Living as the Community of the Spirit: Theology III .....	(2)
THS 508	Integrating Ministry and Theology .....	(2)

**SPECIALIZATION OR TRACK****22 credits — Select one****EXEGETICAL TRACK****Biblical language studies: 18 credits**

NTS 508	Introducing Foundation for Greek Exegesis .....	(3)
NTS 509	Greek Reading and Syntax .....	(3)
NTS 5xx	Greek Exegesis Elective .....	(2)
OTS 508	Introducing Foundation for Hebrew Exegesis .....	(3)
OTS 509	Hebrew Reading and Syntax .....	(3)
OTS 5xx	Hebrew Exegesis Elective .....	(2)
NTS 515	Principles of Exegesis .....	(2)
or OTS 515	Principles of Exegesis .....	(2)

**Thesis or restricted electives: 4 credits**

(Students complete either a thesis—RES 500 and RES 502—or four credits of restricted electives chosen in consultation with their advisor.)

**THEOLOGICAL TRACK****Theological studies: 4 credits**

CHS 505	Wisdom from Church History .....	(4)
or CHS 506	Insight and Inspiration from Church History.....	(2)
CHS 5xx	Church history elective .....	(2)

(Students complete either CHS 505 or CHS 506 + CHS elective.)

**Restricted electives: 18 credits**

With advisor's consent, select courses from BLS, NTS, OTS, CHS, or THS prefixes. Students are encouraged to consider using part of these electives for study in the biblical languages. Students may request permission from the program director to write a thesis as part of their electives.

# Graduate Studies Diploma Program

## PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Western Seminary offers the flexible, one-year Graduate Studies Diploma (GSD) program for individuals with varying objectives for theological education. The program may be appropriate for:

- Ministry directors and staff in a local church;
- Mission personnel in professional and non-professional roles who seek formal biblical, theological and missiological training;
- Christian school educators who need to further their education in biblical and theological studies;
- Laypersons and marketplace leaders who desire to deepen their preparation for effective lay ministry;
- Individuals who need a “trial year” in seminary to better define their vocational aspirations;
- Spouses of Western students who wish to participate in some aspect of their spouse’s education.

Since these credits could also subsequently be applied to M.A. or M.Div. degree programs (depending upon the specific curricular requirements for each), the GSD is also suitable for those who wish to enroll in seminary without making the commitment required for a degree program. GSD students are able to select the discipline in which they will take most (or all) of this coursework. The diploma program, by itself, is typically not adequate preparation for vocational ministry. While it is not intended to provide a full level of training and education for pastoral, church-planting, and teaching ministries, it does provide a foundation of biblical education and ministry skills helpful for bi-vocational ministries and those serving in a support capacity. The program is designed to fulfill minimum educational requirements of certain parachurch and mission organizations. The diploma program may be used as the equivalent of the first year of either the M.Div. or M.A. programs.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students entering the diploma program are expected to present a baccalaureate degree and give evidence of Christian faith, character, promise, and maturity. The same admission standards, materials, and procedures as for the M.Div. program are required. Applicants who seek admission, but do not meet admission requirements, may seek special consideration from the Admissions Committee.

## TRANSFER CREDIT

Upon approval by the Registrar, transfer of up to 15 credit hours toward the Graduate Studies Diploma program is allowed from graduate institutions accredited by the Association of Theological Schools. Students must have earned a grade of B or better for a course to be considered for transfer and coursework must have completed no more than five years prior to matriculation to Western Seminary.

Alternatively, students may receive advanced standing of up to 7 credit hours of the Graduate Studies Diploma requirements if they are able to demonstrate current competency in required coursework based on prior study (based on parallel undergraduate work or transfer credit that is ineligible for consideration based on age). Transferability of credits earned

at Western and transferred to another institution is at the discretion of the receiving institution. Consult the Registrar’s Office for information on eligibility of transfer credit and advanced standing.

## RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS

Of the 30 credit hours required for the Graduate Studies Diploma program, a minimum of 15 credit hours must be completed through coursework at any of the Western Seminary campus locations. Reinstatement to the program after withdrawal requires Admissions Committee action and may subject the student to additional requirements for the degree. All work leading to the Graduate Studies Diploma must be completed within three years from the time of matriculation. All credits applied toward the program requirements must be earned within ten years of the awarding of the diploma.

## GRADUATE STUDIES DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

To earn a diploma, a student must complete 30 semester hours of study with a 2.5 cumulative grade point average. Many courses are offered by an intensive (on campus) schedule, or through a variety of distance learning formats. The intensive module permits study through convenient scheduling options throughout the year. The distance learning format provides opportunity to individuals outside Portland to study and learn while remaining in their home area and ministries. All credits applied toward the degree requirements must be earned within ten years of the awarding of the degree.

Western Seminary offers four options in the Graduate Studies Diploma program: Open Track, Bible and Theology specialization, Ministry specialization, and Pastoral Care to Women specialization.

## CURRICULUM PLAN

*Please note: Biblical studies, theological studies, hermeneutics and church history courses may be offered in 4-credit or 2-credit (i.e., BLS 501X, BLS 501Y) formats, depending on the campus location.*

## SPECIALIZATION OR TRACK

### 30 credits — Select one

#### OPEN TRACK

##### **Biblical and theological studies: 6 credits**

Any course with a BLS, CHS, DBS, NTS, OTS, THS prefix

##### **Bible or ministry studies: 2 credits**

Any course with a DIS, DMS, CNS, EMS, FMS, ICS, MCS, MFM, PCW, PTS, YMS prefix

##### **Concentration studies: 8 credits**

Courses in one area with advisor consent

##### **Electives: 14 credits**

**BIBLE AND THEOLOGY SPECIALIZATION****Spiritual formation studies: 2 credits**

SFS 501 Learning to Love God and Others ..... (2)

**Biblical interpretation studies: 16 credits**

DBS 506 Learning to Interpret Scripture ..... (4)

BLS 501 Interpreting Genesis to Song of Solomon ..... (4)

BLS 502 Interpreting the Prophets to Gospels ..... (4)

BLS 503 Interpreting Acts to Revelation ..... (4)

**Theological studies: 10 credits**

THS 501 Knowing the Triune God: Theology I ..... (4)

THS 502 Glorifying the God of our Salvation: Theology II ..... (4)

THS 503 Living as the Community of the Spirit: Theology III ..... (2)

**Electives: 2 credits****MINISTRY SPECIALIZATION****Ministerial studies: 12 credits from the following:**

SFS 501 Learning to Love God and Others ..... (2)

SFS 504 Growing into Ethical Maturity ..... (2)

DIS 501 Communicating Christ in Culture ..... (2)

DMS 501 Thinking Theologically about Ministry Leadership ..... (2)

DMS 502 Introducing Theology and Practice of Worship ..... (2)

DMS 506 Developing Godly Leadership for the 21st Century ..... (2)

EMS 505 Growing Disciples Intentionally ..... (2)

PTS 503 Practicing Evangelism and Apologetics ..... (2)

PTS 504 Maximizing the Church's Redemptive Influence ..... (2)

PTS 507 Pastoral Counseling ..... (2)

PTS 508 Developing Strong Families ..... (2)

**Other ministry electives: 8 credits****Electives: 10 credits****PASTORAL CARE TO WOMEN SPECIALIZATION****Spiritual formation studies: 4 credits**

SFS 501 Learning to Love God and Others ..... (2)

SFS 504 Growing into Ethical Maturity ..... (2)

**Ministerial studies: 6 credits**

Any course with a DMS or PTS prefix with advisor approval

**Pastoral care to women studies: 12 credits***Required:*

PCW 511 Pastoral Understanding of Women ..... (2)

PCW 512X Women in Pain, Part I ..... (2)

PCW 513 Women in Leadership ..... (2)

*Restricted electives: choose six credits from:*

PCW 512Y Women in Pain, Part 2 ..... (2)

PCW 514 Building Relational Ministries for Women ..... (2)

PCW 515 Develop and Deliver Life-Changing Messages ..... (2)

PCW 521 Develop Life Changing Bible Study Curriculum ..... (2)

**Electives: 8 credits**