

The Master of Arts in Global Leadership Degree Program

OFFERED ON THE PORTLAND CAMPUS

Program Objectives & Requirements

Western Seminary offers the Master of Arts in Global Leadership program for students seeking specialized, graduate, theological education in preparation for ministry leadership in the global context. The M.A. in Global Leadership program endeavors to achieve the following goals:

- Cultivate skills in the efficient study, interpretation and application of Scripture to life and ministry
- Promote growth in Christian maturity demonstrated through effective interpersonal relationships
- Develop understanding and skill in self-awareness, social competence, and ministry formation in diverse cultural settings
- Provide theoretical and practical skills for global leadership of ministry

The M.A. in Global Leadership is designed to prepare students for effective multicultural ministry in the U.S. and abroad. It provides both the foundation and the expertise for service as a bi-vocational or professional worker in a variety of contexts. It also so serves as an excellent degree program for those preparing for doctoral studies in intercultural leadership.

M.A. Program Outcomes

In addition to the Seminary's general educational goals, the M.A. in Global Leadership program attempts to achieve specific outcomes:

- Applies biblical truth to life and ministry through appropriately utilizing biblical interpretation
- Demonstrates ongoing, gospel-centered personal and spiritual formation
- Demonstrates self-awareness, social competence, sensitivity to diversity and teamwork in diverse cultural settings
- Displays effective ministry competence and leadership in a global ministry setting

Admission Requirements

In addition to the general requirements for admission to the Seminary, applicants for the M.A. program are expected to present an accredited baccalaureate degree (or its equivalent) 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. A recommendation from the applicant's pastor and three personal recommendations regarding the applicant's Christian character and leadership potential also are required.

Transfer Credit

Upon approval by the Program Director and Registrar, transfer of up to 24 credit hours is allowed toward the M.A. in Global Leadership program from graduate institutions accredited by the Association of Theological Schools or regional accrediting associations. Students must have earned a grade of B or better for a course to be considered for transfer and coursework must have been completed no more than five years prior to matriculation to Western Seminary. Alternatively, students may receive advanced standing of up to 12 credit hours of the 24 credit hours of transfer credit allowed 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 48 credit hours required for the M.A. in Global Leadership program, a minimum of 24 credit hours must be completed through coursework at Western Seminary, with a minimum of 16 credit hours taken in resident study at Western Seminary's Portland Campus. Depending upon course availability, all 16 credits of resident study may be completed through brief intensive courses of a few days up to two weeks. Up to two-thirds (32 credits) of the degree program may be completed through extension studies while remaining in one's place of ministry. All work leading to the Master of Arts in Global Leadership 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 Global Leadership degree is conferred upon the attainment of certain personal and academic requirements. In addition to the general seminary requirements, degree candidates must (1) give evidence of a genuine Christian character, orthodox belief, and conduct consistent with a God-given call to global leadership; (2) complete all courses in the prescribed M.A. curriculum with a minimum grade point average of 3.0.

Course Requirements

Students may complete their studies in as few as five trimesters, or two years, including mentored field experience. The program is designed around a biblical and theological core of 24 credit hours, a foundational studies sequence of 4 credit hours, global leadership sequence of 12 credit hours, and a ministry specialization sequence of 8 credit hours. These 8 credits of ministry specialization are designed in consultation with the program director to develop an area of expertise suited for global ministry. A significant part of the program is a mentored internship lasting four semesters that includes the development of an effective ministry in a global, multicultural context.

Master of Arts in Global Leadership Curriculum Plan

Foundational Studies: 6 credits

CS501	Learning to Love God and Others	2
MF501	Introduction to Theological Study and Ministry Formation	2

Biblical Interpretation Studies: 12 credits

Please note: Biblical studies and theological studies courses may be offered in 4-credit or 2-credit formats, depending on the campus location.

BL501 -or-	Interpreting Genesis to Song of Solomon	4
BL501X and	Interpreting Old Testament I: Genesis to 2 Samuel	2
BL501Y	Interpreting the Old Testament II: 1 Kings to Song of Solomon	2
BL502 -or-	Interpreting the Prophets and Gospels	4
BL502X and	Interpreting Old Testament III: The Prophets	2
BL502Y	Interpreting the New Testament I: Gospels	2
BL503 -or-	Interpreting Acts to Revelation	4
BL503X and	Interpreting the New Testament II: Epistles 1	2
BL503Y	Interpreting the New Testament III: Epistles 2	2

Theological Studies: 12 credits

TH501 -or-	Knowing the Triune God: Theology I	4
TH501X and	Knowing the Triune God: Theology I, Part 1	2
TH501Y	Knowing the Triune God: Theology I, Part 2	2
TH502 -or-	Glorifying the God of Our Salvation: Theology II	4
TH502X and	Glorifying the God of Our Salvation: Theology II, Part 1	2
TH502Y	Glorifying the God of Our Salvation: Theology II, Part 2	2
TH503 -or-	Living as the Community of the Spirit: Theology III	4
TH503X and	Living as the Community of the Spirit: Theology II, Part 1	2
TH503Y	Living as the Community of the Spirit: Theology II, Part 2	2

Global Leadership Studies: 12 credits

GL501	Spiritual Formation and Discipleship in the Global Context	2
GL502	Theology in the Global Context	2
GL503	Leadership in the Global Context	2
GL504	Self-Directed Learning for Global Leadership	2
GL531	Field Leadership Mentorship I	1
GL532	Field Leadership Mentorship II	1
GL533	Field Leadership Mentorship III	1
GL534	Field Leadership Mentorship IV	1

Note: Check with your program advisor for GL531-534 details.

Ministry Specialization Studies: 8 credits

Restricted ministry electives focusing on one area of ministry specialization with program director approval.