



# PACIFIC

THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

## **Academic Catalog 2025 – 2026**

**Revised November 25, 2025**

This is the Pacific Theological Seminary catalog for the academic year of Fall 2025 through Summer 2026 (September 2, 2025 – August 20, 2026).

For a downloadable copy of the catalog,  
see our website  
(<https://www.pacificseminary.org/academic-catalog>).

This catalog, produced by the Academic Affairs Office, compiles the seminary's general academic and administrative policies, other pertinent information, specific descriptions of the courses of study and degree requirements. All the information presented in this publication was deemed to be accurate and up to date at the time of its publication. Pacific Theological Seminary reserves the right to modify, delete, or supplement terms, provisions, or policies set forth or referred to in this Catalog. Publication and effective dates are September 2, 2025 through August 30, 2026 of the respective academic year represented in this catalog.

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# **Welcome to Pacific Theological Seminary!**

Welcome to Pacific Theological Seminary!

Picture this! An informal prayer gathering of students, faculty and staff prior to our opening of Fall 2025 classes. Inspired! In the first three years that Pacific offered courses, some 150 men and women have been mentored for service to our awesome God and precious neighbors.

I Peter 4:10 invites each of us to explore our giftings and see where we are called. I prayerfully urge you to discern how The Spirit may be leading you here at Pacific. May God's grace cover each of us as we seek to faithfully serve Jesus and one another.

As a San Diego native, and wide-ranging pastor-teacher for 35+ years, I'm praying Psalm 23 for us all.

Welcome!

Dr. James D. Smith, III  
President



## Contact Information

Pacific Theological Seminary  
8977 Activity Road Ste 100  
San Diego, CA 92126

Mailing Address:  
8977 Activity Road Ste 100, San Diego, CA 92126

Telephone: (858) 305-5580

Website: <https://www.pacificseminary.org>  
For corrections or clarification, please email [webmaster@pacificseminary.org](mailto:webmaster@pacificseminary.org)

Academic Catalog 2025-2026  
For corrections or clarifications, please email [registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)

All in person instruction will be provided at or through the main location which is  
8977 Activity Road Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92126

# General Information

## Academic Calendar: 2024-2025

<b>Terms</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>
Fall 2025 Term	Monday, Sep 1, 2025	Tuesday, Dec 16, 2025
Spring 2026 Term	Monday, Jan 12, 2026	Friday, May 15, 2026
Summer 2026 Term	Tuesday, May 26, 2026	Friday, Aug 14, 2026
<b>Reading Weeks</b>		
<b>Name</b>		
Fall Reading Week	Monday, Oct 20, 2025	Friday, Oct 24, 2025
Spring Reading Week	Monday, Mar 2, 2026	Friday, Mar 6, 2026
Holy Week Class Break	Monday, Mar 30, 2026	Monday, Apr 6, 2026

## Holiday Closures

<b>Name</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Labor Day	Monday, Sep 1, 2025
Thanksgiving Break	Wednesday, Nov 26, 2025 – Friday Nov 28, 2025
Christmas & New Year's Break	Friday, Dec 19, 2025 – Friday Jan 2, 2026
Student Interim Break	Friday, Dec 19, 2025 – Friday, Jan 9, 2026
Martin Luther King Day	Monday, Jan 19, 2026
Good Friday	Friday, Apr 3, 2026
Memorial Day	Monday, May 25, 2026
Juneteenth	Friday, Jun 19, 2026
Independence Day	Friday, Jul 3, 2026



## **History of Pacific Theological Seminary**

As a new institution, Pacific Theological Seminary finds its roots in the history of its predecessors. The movement to establish ministry training centers in the western United States can be traced back to 1866 when a group of clergy and laity gathered in Sacramento, CA to initiate the first Protestant Christian seminary west of the Mississippi. These pioneers selected San Francisco, CA as the site for the new institution, and chose Pacific Theological Seminary as the name for their new venture. When the seminary first opened its doors in 1869, it welcomed students and faculty from a variety of Christian backgrounds and traditions. The early footsteps of the seminary's founders were soon followed by others. As the movement to bring more ministry training opportunities to the region grew, an increasing number of Christian denominations began to establish similar works in the West. Many of the Christian colleges and seminaries that now exist throughout the western United States trace their origins back to this period.

The immediate predecessor of the new Pacific Theological Seminary was Bethel Seminary San Diego (BSSD), originally called "Bethel West," which was initiated in the late 1970's as a satellite campus of Bethel Seminary of St. Paul, MN. The seminary's San Diego instructional operations began in 1976 as a field study program when fifteen students from Bethel Seminary's main campus were selected to temporarily re-locate to San Diego for a five month course of study. That program combined classroom instruction with internships in local area churches. Classes were first held on the campus of San Diego's College Avenue Baptist Church. From that humble beginning, the San Diego work grew to include the development of a local campus facility and a number of thriving graduate degree programs, producing nearly 1,000 graduates by its closing in 2019. In the wake of Bethel's decision to conclude its operations in San Diego, a group of BSSD administrators, faculty and friends united around the commitment to continue the local work of preparing individuals for effective Christian service by offering quality graduate theological education that would be both affordable and accessible for its students. A new institution was subsequently incorporated and an instructional facility was opened in the Miramar area of San Diego. The new school, coincidentally named Pacific Theological Seminary, began offering classes in the Spring semester of 2022.

Although the new Pacific Theological Seminary is related to its original 1866 predecessor in name only, it does continue to honor and uphold many of the important values and attributes that were embodied in the original vision of that earlier pioneering work. Specifically, Pacific is a biblically-

based, non-denominational institution that aims at equipping individuals for effective Christian service through the highest quality education and mentoring. Its faculty, staff and students represent a wide spectrum of backgrounds, experiences, and Christian traditions, and its instructional model stresses the dual importance of both Christian scholarship and personal discipleship.

Pacific is pleased to take its place within the rich traditions of its institutional predecessors; honoring the past, serving the present and looking forward to the future.

Thanks and appreciation to Leslie Houston and Dr. James D. Smith, III for their contributions to this history.

# **Vision, Mission, and Values Statements**

## **Vision Statement**

Pacific Theological Seminary is a diverse and multi-denominational learning community dedicated to empowering pastors, church and community leaders to answer God's unique call on their lives. We develop ethical, compassionate, and humble leaders for churches and communities by offering graduate degrees and Connect Courses through partner churches. We are known in San Diego and beyond for our relational, biblically responsible, and practical approach to theological, spiritual and ministry formation.

## **Mission Statement**

Pacific Theological Seminary prepares Jesus followers through biblically grounded theological education to join God's Spirit in redeeming all creation.

## **Values**

### **High Quality Theological Education -**

As scholars and practitioners, our globally respected professors teach critical thinking and practical ministry skills to equip students for service to new generations in a rapidly changing world.

### **Highly Relational Instruction and Mentoring -**

We prioritize interpersonal relationships in spiritual formation and mentoring via face to face, hyflex and online instruction to shape whole and holy individuals for life and long-term ministry.

### **Diverse and Multi-Cultural Community -**

United by God's love for all and under the inspiration and authority of Scripture, we celebrate the diversity in Christ's Body.

### **Affordable Theological Education -**

With the help of partnerships, scholarships, and shared resources we seek to make theological education financially accessible, minimize student debt and ensure sustainability.

## **Affirmation of Faith**

**The Word of God.** We believe that the Bible is the infallible Word of God, is fully inspired by the Holy Spirit, and has supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.

**The Trinity.** We believe that there is one living and true God, eternally existing in three persons, that these are equal in every divine perfection, and that they execute distinct but harmonious offices in the work of creation, providence, and redemption.

**God the Father.** We believe in God the Father, an infinite personal spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power, and love. We believe that he concerns himself mercifully in the affairs of each person, that he hears and answers prayer, and that he saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ.

**Jesus Christ.** We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son. We believe in his virginal conception, sinless life, miracles, and teachings. We believe in his substitutionary atoning death, bodily resurrection, ascension into heaven, perpetual intercession for his people, and personal visible return to earth.

**The Holy Spirit.** We believe in the Holy Spirit who came forth from the Father and Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, and to regenerate, sanctify, and empower all who believe in Jesus Christ. We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells, and is meant to fill, every believer in Christ, and that he is an abiding helper, teacher, and guide.

**Regeneration.** We believe that all people are sinners by nature and by choice and are, therefore, under condemnation. We believe that those who repent of their sins and trust in Jesus Christ as Savior are regenerated by the Holy Spirit.

**The Church.** We believe in the universal church, a living spiritual body of which Christ is the head and all regenerated persons are members. We believe in the local church, consisting of a company of baptized believers in Jesus Christ, associated for worship, fellowship, ministry and mission. We believe that God has laid upon the members of the church the task of giving the gospel of Jesus Christ to a lost world.

**Christian Conduct.** We believe that Christians should live for the glory of God and the well-being of others; that their conduct should be blameless before the world; that they should be faithful stewards of their possessions and God's creation; and that they should seek to realize for themselves and others the full stature of maturity in Christ.

**The Ordinances.** We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has committed two ordinances to the church: baptism and the Lord's Supper. We believe that the church should practice water baptism in the name of the triune God. We believe that the Lord's Supper was instituted by Christ as an edifying remembrance of him and his death. We believe that these two ordinances should be observed and administered until the return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Religious Liberty.** We believe that every human being has a direct relationship with God and is responsible to God alone in all matters of faith; that the church is independent and must be free from interference by any ecclesiastical or political authority; that therefore, Church and State must be kept separate as having different functions, each fulfilling its duties free from dictation or patronage of the other.

**The Last Things.** We believe in the personal and visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ to earth and the establishment of His kingdom. We believe in the resurrection of the body, the final judgment, the eternal felicity of the righteous, and the lostness of the wicked.

Adapted from the Converge and Bethel University Affirmation of Faith (2019).

## **Covenant for Life Together**

Pacific Theological Seminary (Pacific) is an educational community committed to integrating Christian faith with learning and life. As people created in the image of the covenant-making God, we covenant together to discover the mind of Christ and to become like Christ. We pursue this mission as people called by Jesus to live holy lives according to the values, expectations, and goals of the Kingdom of God. A crucial part of our mission is to develop whole and holy persons who will go into the world to serve others.

To be whole and holy means to be dedicated to God with purity of thought and action. It means that we are to serve God using the gifts and abilities we have been given. Our community has a special calling to discover, teach, learn, and live what is true. We strive to understand the world in light of the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. This gives us a distinctive worldview, educational mission and calling.

Our calling includes a commitment to nurture one another. We strive to elevate Kingdom values over personal agendas. We attempt to measure every decision and priority in terms of our loving submission to the lordship of Christ and our commitment to one another. Christ's power within us and a clear sense of our calling give us a joyful freedom to do God's will.

Jesus taught us that right motives and loving relationships are at the core of whole and holy living. His two greatest commands are to love God with all of our heart, soul, and mind and to love our neighbors as ourselves (Matt. 22:37-40). These commands connect serving God with serving others. In grace, Scripture also gives us specific instructions to guide us in living. Jesus taught that keeping these commands is an expression of love for God (John 14:15, 21). The Bible condemns legalistic rule-keeping. It emphasizes loving relationships and pure motives in living out these guidelines (Micah 6:8; Matt. 23:23-24).

### **Living a Biblical Lifestyle**

The Bible frequently speaks about a holy lifestyle. Such passages are found throughout the Old and New Testaments (Exo. 20; Prov. 6:16-19; Matt. 5-7; Gal. 5:13-25; Eph. 4:22-5:21; Col. 3:1-17). The Bible describes character qualities and actions that should be present in the lives of believers. These include prayer, kindness, humility, compassion, forgiveness, hospitality, personal integrity, generosity to the poor, care for the oppressed, study of God's Word, accountability to one another, sharing our faith with others, recognition of the rights of others, commitment to justice, regular gathering for worship, and living in harmony.

*The Bible also identifies character qualities and actions that should not be present in the lives of believers.* For example: destructive anger, malice, rage, sexual immorality, impurity, adultery, evil desires, greed, idolatry, slander, profanity, lying, homosexual behavior, drunkenness, thievery, and dishonesty. Employees will not practice, advocate, or affirm these and other biblically proscribed behaviors (Col. 3:5-8; 1 Cor. 6:9-10).

### **Special Expectations for Our Community**

Because of Pacific's commitment to Christ, our unique calling as an educational community, and our understanding of what it means to live in today's world, we want to state clearly some of Pacific's rules and expectations. These are based on:

- our understanding of the Bible and its authority for our faith and life;
- our desire to promote wellness and health in all areas: social, emotional, mental, physical, and spiritual;
- our theological and cultural traditions;
- our understanding of our mission and calling.

We recognize that not all devout Christians share these rules and expectations. However, certain issues are important for our educational mission and our life together at Pacific. They are designed to facilitate our growth, development, and learning as a community.

### **We view learning and the pursuit of truth as a special calling.**

- We commit ourselves to integrity, excellence, consideration of different points of view, and collegiality in all of our academic work.
- We will not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty (Exo. 20:15; Rom. 13:9; 1 Cor. 13:5-6; 1 Peter 1:22).

### **We believe that life is sacred and people have worth because they are created in God's image (Gen 1:27; Eph. 4:1-7, 15-16; James 2:1-13).**

- We will value human life in all its diversity and fullness, recognizing that women and men of all ethnicities, ages, and ability levels reflect the creative genius of our Maker.
- We view racism and sexism as sinful and reflective of some of the most harmful aspects of our culture. We will abstain from discrimination based on race, ethnicity, gender, age, and disability. We will also abstain from gossip, deliberate divisiveness, and malicious humor.

### **We believe that our relationships should reflect our connection in the body of Christ (Rom. 12:3-21; 1 Cor. 12:12-31; Eph. 4).**

- We affirm mutual respect and promise keeping in relationships

- between students, colleagues, professors, spouses, and friends.
- We grieve the hurt and destructiveness of broken relationships, especially those involving divorce and abuse. We will strive to be a community where healing occurs.

**We believe our minds and bodies should be used in God-honoring ways (Rom. 12:1-2; 1 Cor. 6:14-15; 1 Tim. 4:8).**

- We will promote the health of our bodies, minds, and emotions.
- We will abstain from illicit or nonmedical use of drugs, narcotics, and other substances.

**We view sexuality as one of God's good gifts (Gen. 1:27-28, 2:24-25; Exo. 20:14; Song of Songs; Matt. 5:27-30; 1 Cor. 6:15-20, 7:3-5).**

- We believe that sexual intercourse and other forms of intensely interpersonal sexual activity are reserved for monogamous, heterosexual marriage. We recognize that sexual purity involves right motives as well as right behaviors.
- We prohibit the possession and use of pornographic material. In addition, we condemn sexually exploitive or abusive behavior and sexual harassment in any form.

**We value the wise stewardship of resources (Gen. 1:28-31).**

- We believe all human and natural resources are a trust from God. We value work, creative expression, and wise use of time, ability, and money. We believe in wise use of natural resources. We will use them to do God's work and to benefit God's creation.
- We reject materialism and harmful exploitation of natural resources.

**We believe that maturity calls for us to exercise discretion in our behaviors.**

- We believe that God is honored by careful thinking and joyful use of our creativity and imagination. While the media and the arts can be valuable forms of recreation, our commitment to learning calls us to think critically about them and to see them as empowering and liberating ways to understand truth and beauty.
- We believe that certain forms of leisure, entertainment, and recreation are not congruent with holy living. We will make choices that are consistent with our pursuit of holiness in activities such as theater, dance, and music, or in the use of media and technology such as film, television, radio, the internet, social media and AI.

At times we will need to follow the biblical mandate to sacrifice our individual liberty for the good of the community (Rom. 14:1-23;



1 Cor. 6:12, 10:23-24). When differences arise, we will choose the course that demands greater personal restraint and self-discipline. We will strive to resolve those differences in a gracious and just manner.

### **Conclusions About Community Life**

Community life at Pacific should be marked by mutual encouragement, sensitivity, and consideration for others. This is particularly important when dealing with our differences. One of the special values of this community is the opportunity to learn from one another including those within other Christian faith traditions. We celebrate our diversity as well as what we hold in common.

Within committed Christian communities there are diverse views regarding the use of alcohol. Some choose a testimony of abstinence for a variety of legitimate and honorable reasons while others believe they can use alcohol moderately without harm to body, spirit, or relationships with others. As a community that honors Holy Spirit-led diversity among Christians, Pacific employees and students may use alcohol in moderation (Eph. 5:18).

Living out the call to whole and holy living is challenging. No one does it perfectly. Community members who struggle to follow Pacific's lifestyle expectations and who would like help in living within them are encouraged to talk with appropriate professional personnel to seek help in changing.

As a community we recognize that worship, fellowship, spiritual nurture, and Christian service are all essential to our growth in holiness. As members of the Pacific community, we are expected to participate in these types of activities regularly.

As we join the Pacific community, we accept these responsibilities and conditions of membership. We agree to live according to this document and other stated expectations as they are applied to us. If we find ourselves unable to honor these commitments, withdrawal may be in order. We recognize that we have an obligation to hold each other accountable to biblical standards and to the commitments we have made. Appropriate action will be taken to teach, influence, discipline, or even dismiss those who disregard these community expectations. We will strive to have all disciplinary procedures characterized by Christian love and a redemptive spirit.

As we celebrate this covenant calling to whole and holy living, we encourage and challenge each other with these three verses (Col. 3:15-17).

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in

you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

Because of its crucial role in influencing the ethos of the school, this statement of expectations is subject to change only by action of the Pacific Board of Directors in consultation with the faculty. The Board of Directors holds these standards to be binding for all who voluntarily choose to become a part of the Pacific community.

# **Index of Programs**

**See “Notice to Prospective Degree Program Students” on page 54.**

## **Master of Arts (Theological Studies) – Degree Program**

### **Program Details: Master of Arts (Theological Studies)**

Cumulative Semester Credits: 42

#### **Degree Description**

The Master of Arts (Theological Studies) or MA(TS) at Pacific Theological Seminary provides students a biblical and theological foundation, which empowers individuals to serve as leaders through a process of intellectual, spiritual and practical Christian formation. This degree additionally provides a versatile educational path, which allows students to shape their degree in response to their unique vocation, including training for various ministry settings such as chaplaincy, global outreach, parachurch organization, and roles in pastoral care. Students are equipped with vital critical thinking, research and writing skills necessary for versatility in God’s kingdom as well as additional work in academics.

See [“Master of Arts \(Theological Studies\)” on page 54 for](#) more information.

## **Master of Divinity – Degree Program**

### **Degree Details: Master of Divinity**

Cumulative Semester Credits: 78

#### **Degree Description**

The Master of Divinity (MDiv) degree at Pacific Theological Seminary is designed to equip those called to preaching, church planting, bible translating, and missional work in languages. The degree provides a biblical and theological foundation. Our diverse, multidenominational faculty and student body foster whole and holy persons who are committed to service in Christ’s kingdom as God’s agents of change.

See “Master of Divinity” on page 56 for more information.

## **Admissions**

Seminary education provides excellent training for the ministry, regardless of a student's prior undergraduate or graduate experience. Students who have not yet completed their undergraduate degree should pursue theological studies with a strong emphasis in liberal arts. A broad college education will be a real asset during the seminary experience and also with the responsibilities associated with a given ministry. All Pacific Theological Seminary's programs granting credit require an undergraduate degree for admission.

## **Christian Experience**

Pacific Theological Seminary (Pacific) invites applications from persons with Christian beliefs and moral convictions. Students are expected to be active participants in their local church by regularly attending worship and engaging in ministry. Students are to strive to live holy lives and be free from issues that are at odds with our "Covenant of Life Together" (pg 14).

## **Non-Discrimination**

Pacific does not discriminate against any worthy student on grounds of age, gender, race, color, ethnic or national origin, or on the basis of physical disability. Pacific values such diversity in our seminary community.

## **International Students**

We are committed to providing quality support services to all students. At this time Pacific Theological Seminary is not yet certified with the Department of Homeland Security's Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) so we cannot issue Form I-20s to prospective international students for their F-1 visas.

## **Language of Instruction**

Instruction will occur in English for all degree programs and in all courses for which academic credit is offered. If English is not your primary language and you need help, please contact the Registrar's office via email for assistance: registrar@pacificseminary.org.

## **Accreditation**

Neither Pacific nor any of its degree programs are currently accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education. Pacific is currently an Associate Member of the Association of Theological Schools. Pacific is pursuing full accreditation through the Association of Theological Schools.

- There is no applicable licensure exam in California or other states for

the MDiv and MA(TS) degrees. Students must contact their private organization (e.g., churches) to determine and satisfy any requirements, including those for private certification or registration for licensure.

- A degree program that is unaccredited or a degree from an unaccredited institution is not recognized for some employment positions, including, but not limited to, positions with the State of California.
- A student enrolled in an unaccredited institution is not eligible for federal financial aid programs.

## **Application Process for Master's Degree Students**

Complete and submit an application for your desired degree program at <https://www.pacificseminary.org/apply-now>.

1. The application requires 3 references. References should come from individuals who know the applicant well, but may not include any relatives:
  - One reference will come from the applicant's pastor or another ministry leader at their church.
  - Two additional references will come from academic or professional sources.
2. The applicant will complete a personal statement that details their Christian experience, including conversion and significant stages of their spiritual development.
3. The applicant must submit official transcripts from all post-secondary U.S. schools attended showing a bachelor's degree earned from an accredited institution, with a cumulative undergraduate GPA of 2.7 or above on a four-point scale. Students applying to all master's degree programs must hold a bachelor's degree. [5 CCR 71770(a)2]
4. Any degrees earned outside North America will need to be verified by NACES.
5. Official transcripts must be sent to:  
Office of Admissions  
Pacific Theological Seminary  
8977 Activity Road Ste 100  
San Diego, CA 92126

Or to: [admissions@pacificseminary.org](mailto:admissions@pacificseminary.org)

6. Pacific does not award credit for prior experiential learning.
7. An interview or additional materials may be required upon the request of the Admissions Committee.
8. Students whose primary language is not English, who also did not receive a bachelor's degree or higher degree at a regionally accredited college or university within the United States, must submit a Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic) examination score report.
  - TOEFL minimum score of 550 is required on the paper-based test, or 80 on the Internet- based test.
  - IELTS minimum score of 6.5.
  - PTE Academic minimum score of 55.
9. Pacific does not give credit for course requirements through taking an exam or achievement test.

Applicants will be notified of acceptance to the seminary by letter or email.

Former students not enrolled within the last year (three consecutive terms including the summer term) must contact the Office of the Registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)) to request reinstatement to the Seminary.

Students who have not been enrolled within the last three years must reapply through the Office of Admissions and abide by the catalog requirements at the time of their readmission, unless written permission was obtained from the Office of the Registrar prior to the extended leave (for example, in cases of military deployment). If prior permission was obtained, the student may follow the catalog requirements under which they last enrolled and must contact the Office of Admission ([admissions@pacificseminary.org](mailto:admissions@pacificseminary.org)) to request readmission to the Seminary.

## **Transfer Student Applications**

Students wishing to continue their studies with Pacific will complete the regular application process as detailed above (<https://www.pacificseminary.org/apply-now>). Transcripts must be provided for all previous graduate-level work completed. Formal transfer evaluations will be completed after successful matriculation at Pacific. Please refer to "Transfer of Credit to Pacific" on page 23.

## **Application Process for Auditors**

Auditors are welcome in most of Pacific's master's level courses at the discretion of the course instructor. Registration is always on an "as-available" basis with priority given to degree-seeking students. As with degree-seeking students, auditors are expected to satisfy all course prerequisites, unless written permission is granted from the instructor. The Registrar will connect the auditor with the instructor if needed.

Prospective auditors should typically hold an undergraduate degree (bachelor's or associate's) with a cumulative GPA of 2.7. An application to audit must be submitted along with a reference from the applicant's current pastor or other ministry leader. Transcripts are not required unless requested by the Office of Admissions.

## **Transfer of Credit to Pacific**

Pacific, upon review, will accept most credits from accredited institutions, subject to licensing limits. Contact the Registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)) for schools with which Pacific has articulation or transfer agreements.

Transfer credit is normally given for coursework completed at public or private institutions of higher learning accredited by an accrediting association recognized by the U. S. Department of Education. Upon receipt of an official transcript from another graduate institution, the transcript will be evaluated in terms of required courses and standards of Pacific. Credits for courses graded below C (2.0), S/U, or P/F will not be accepted.

All credits applied toward degree requirements at Pacific must be earned within 10 years of the awarding of the Pacific degree, unless waived by the Academic Affairs Committee. Additionally, the request must be accompanied by evidence that demonstrates the academic rigor of the program (syllabi, course descriptions, textbooks, qualifications of instructors, etc.). Approval is not automatically granted.

Hermeneutics courses taken at an institution accredited by the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) will be accepted in transfer to fulfill the Hermeneutics requirement. Students who have taken Hermeneutics at an institution not accredited by ATS may seek transfer approval from the Pacific faculty member who teaches Hermeneutics.

Students are expected to complete their courses at Pacific to the greatest extent possible. Until such time as Pacific is fully accredited, licensing rules dictate that no more than 20% of the degree requirements of graduate

semester credits or the equivalent in other credits awarded by another institution may be transferred for credit toward a Master's degree. Transfer students are required to complete at least one course in each core discipline at Pacific. The core disciplines include Bible, Theology and Spiritual Formation.

## **Notice Concerning Transferability of Credits and Credentials Earned at Our Institution**

The transferability of master's level credits the student earns at Pacific is at the complete discretion of an institution to which the student may seek to transfer. Acceptance of the MA(TS) or MDiv degree the student earns in the educational program is also at the complete discretion of the institution to which the student may seek to transfer. If the MA(TS) or MDiv degree that the student earns at this institution is not accepted at the institution to which they seek to transfer, the student may be required to repeat some or all of their coursework at that institution. For this reason, the student should make certain that their attendance at this institution will meet their educational goals. This may include contacting an institution to which they may seek to transfer after attending Pacific to determine if their MA(TS) or MDiv degree will transfer.

## **Transferability - Current Agreements**

Pacific currently has articulation agreements with Bethel Seminary St. Paul and Western Seminary in Portland, Oregon. Contact the Chief Academic Officer for those schools with which Pacific has an articulation or transfer agreement, if the student desires to attend classes at either one.

## **Registering for classes**

Following admission, students will self-enroll through Populi using the online registration process. If the student runs into difficulties using Populi, email the registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)) to register for courses.

A student newly accepted in the MA(TS) or MDiv degree program will be required to sign an Enrollment Agreement that covers expectations for the period during which they earn their degree. This will occur before the student starts the first class of their first term.

All students taking courses will need to sign Registration Contracts at the beginning of each term after completing online enrollment. This document needs to be signed prior to the second class session. Communication regarding enrollment will rely on a credit student's Pacific email address.



## Tuition, Fees and Financial Aid

The following sections break down the cost of education for the academic year of this catalog. Financial aid may be available to students with limited resources; any student desiring such assistance must complete the Needs Based Application by the first class of a new term. See the Registrar for the application.

### Tuition and Fees

Contact the Office of Admissions ([admissions@pacificseminary.org](mailto:admissions@pacificseminary.org)) for current tuition costs. Published information includes tuition for each academic program, course audit fees, and other costs. Pacific reserves the right to change any financial charges listed in this catalog.

Course tuition and fees are due following enrollment when the student has been invoiced. This will appear in the student's Populi account. No more than four months of tuition can be invoiced at commencement of a credit student's degree. After the initial four-month period, the full amount of tuition and fees can be paid at the student's discretion.

**At this time Pacific is not able to accept VA benefits or participate in federal or state financial aid programs.**

### Degree Tuition

Master's Level Programs	\$450/credit
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### Additional Degree Fees

Returned Checks Fee - this fee is non-refundable	\$25
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Penalty Fee for Late Payment	0.5% of amount due per month
Assessed on any charges more than 60 days past due. This fee is non-refundable.	

STRF Fee	\$0
Currently \$ 0.00 per thousand dollars of institutional charges. This fee is included in the tuition for each program, and may change in the future. This fee is Non-Refundable.	

Textbooks charges are estimated at \$100 - \$250 per term and may vary by class

## Audit Rates and Fees

General Audit Rate	\$450 for a 3 unit class \$225 for a 1.5 unit class
Pacific and Bethel Seminary San Diego Alumni, Pastors and spouses, Full-time Employees of Christian Ministry Agencies and spouses, Senior Citizens (60+)	\$300 for 3 unit class \$150 for 1.5 unit class
Current Master's Degree Students and Spouses (when the student is taking an equal number of courses for credit)	\$0 per audit hour
Annual Library Fee for Pacific students and Pacific or Bethel Seminary San Diego Alumni	\$0 per year
Annual Library Fee for others	\$20 per year

## Clinical Pastoral Education Fee

There is a site supervisory fee for the Master of Divinity program with a Chaplaincy Concentration or Master of Divinity students choosing to take Chaplaincy Internship A and B instead of Professional Internship A and B. Students who take Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) and are registered in Chaplaincy Internship A and B will pay site supervisory fees directly to the CPE center. These fees are reimbursed by Pacific to students at the completion of the CPE unit. Contact the Registrar for details. In the past this fee has been between \$500 and \$700.

## Total Tuition Charges for the Current Period of Attendance

The charges below are based on a full-time student load of 16.5 to 22.5 credits taken in an academic year. For purposes of calculating these total charges, the academic year includes Fall Semester, Spring Semester and Summer Term. These charges may differ depending on how students customize their curriculum to meet their individual needs.

Description	Cost
Master of Divinity	\$8,775
Master of Arts (Theological Studies)	\$6,300
Based on full-time attendance for one year for each program	

## Estimated Total Charges for the Entire Education Program

The following are the estimated total charges for the entire education programs that are offered at Pacific. These estimates are based on current tuition rates and includes books.

Description	Cost
Master of Divinity	\$35,100
Master of Arts (Theological Studies)	\$18,900
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This increases by approximately \$500 to \$700 if a student takes Chaplaincy Internship A and B depending on the site supervisory fees. The site supervisory fees will be reimbursed to students by Pacific at the completion of the CPE unit.</li> <li>Based on four years for the MDiv and three years for the MA(TS).</li> </ul>	

## Payment Options

Full payment for the term is required within one week after the first class date of that term once the student's account is invoiced in Populi.

Students are responsible for payment reaching the Business Office when due, regardless of the source of payment. Payment must be received in U.S. dollars. A late fee of .5% per month will be assessed on any charges more than 60 days past due. Enrollment for subsequent terms is dependent on full payment of the previous term's expenses.

Students needing extra time to pay may request an extension with the Business Office without penalty. If an extension is granted, a minimum initial payment of \$50 will be required by the Friday of the first week of classes. Students will not be allowed to register for future terms with an outstanding balance.

## How to Make a Payment:

- **Online:** By credit card in the student's account in Populi: Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or Discover with a non-refundable fee of 3%, charged by Stripe (processing service). Students will need to add this amount to their payment.
- **In person:** Pay by cash, check or money order at the Business Office (Credit cards are accepted online only.)
- **Zelle:** Send payments via Zelle to: [finance@pacificseminary.org](mailto:finance@pacificseminary.org) (Pacific Theological Seminary)
- **U.S. Mail:** Please include your student ID number in the memo portion of the check. Mail the check to:  
Pacific Theological Seminary, 8977 Activity Rd Ste 100,  
San Diego, CA 92126

## Registration Hold

Registration for classes in future terms is dependent on full payment of the previous term's expenses. Students whose accounts are in arrears will

have a registration hold on their accounts and will not be permitted to register for the subsequent term.

Any student who pays an outstanding balance by check will have their registration dropped if the check is returned from the bank due to non-sufficient funds. The student will not be permitted to re-register until full payment is received by cash, money order or cashier's check.

## **Additional Fees and Policies**

Be advised that students whose registrations have been dropped have no guarantee the same course(s) will be available when they re-register.

## **Transcripts**

Graduates receive one official transcript at no charge. Additional transcripts will be \$8 each.

## **Financial Suspension**

Pacific reserves the right to suspend a student from a program or course(s) if there is failure to provide full payment on the student account when due. Students who are financially suspended during a semester will be withdrawn from their classes.

## **Late Fee**

A late fee of 0.5% per month will be assessed on any charges more than 60 days past due unless an extension is approved.

## **Past Due Accounts**

The following paragraphs apply to all students:

I will be in default if: I fail to pay the total amount payable when due (including my failure to pay because of insufficient funds in an account on which my payment was drawn or other similar circumstances); I fail to pay any scheduled payment without notifying Pacific in writing; I fail to pay any assessment (which is a charge such as a library fee or other charge for violations of Pacific policies) by the 15th day of the month following the month in which I am sent the notice of assessment; I, at any time, provide Pacific with any false or misleading information; I die; or a case under U.S. Bankruptcy Code is started by or against me or any guarantor or consignor.

If I am in default, Pacific may require immediate payment of my Obligation in full and any unpaid assessments. Pacific demands

immediate payment and if I fail to comply, I agree that Pacific may add my unpaid assessments to my Obligation. If any payment is not paid in full by the 15th day of the month following the month in which it was due, I agree to pay Pacific a default charge of six percent (6%) of the unpaid and past due amount of my Obligation. In addition, Pacific may: prohibit me from scheduling courses for the current or following semester; remove me from current courses; withhold course credits, without providing me prior notice thereof until the obligation is paid in full. Pacific may also exercise any other legal rights it may have, including engaging a collection agency to enforce its rights hereunder or taking legal actions to collect amounts due to it. In the event Pacific incurs any expenses collecting my Obligation, I agree to pay all reasonable attorneys' fees, legal expenses and any collections fees that result from my default (unless prohibited by law) at the rate of twenty-two percent (22%) of the unpaid principal balance. Even if I am in default Pacific may or may not require immediate payment, and may delay enforcing any of its rights without waiving them.

### **Non-Sufficient Funds Fee**

If payment is returned from the bank for non-sufficient funds, a \$25 returned check fee will be assessed on the student's account. Any student who has two checks returned due to non-sufficient funds will not be allowed to make future payments by personal check.

### **Refund Policy for All Students**

This policy applies to all students who cancel their Enrollment Agreement in writing, drop or withdraw from one or more Pacific courses in a term, or who are administratively withdrawn or expelled. Students dropping or withdrawing from all courses in a term are considered withdrawn for refund purposes.

**Institutional Charges.** They are the charges for tuition and fees, and other educational expenses that are paid to the school directly. Noninstitutional charges are excluded from the refund calculations and include any enrollment deposit or application fee not to exceed two hundred fifty dollars (\$250).

**Full Refund Period.** The full refund period is the later of (a) the seventh day after submitting a signed Enrollment Agreement, or (b) the seventh day after the beginning of the term, or (c) the seventh day after the first class meeting for courses that begin mid-term.

**Full Refund.** Seminary students are entitled to a 100 percent

refund of 100 percent of the amount paid for institutional charges, less a reasonable deposit or application fee not to exceed two hundred fifty dollars (\$250), if notice of cancellation is made through attendance at the first class session, or the seventh day after enrollment, whichever is later. The Enrollment Agreement must be cancelled in writing.

**Pro-Rata Refund.** Students who withdraw after the Full Refund Period receive a pro-rata refund of institutional charges up to and including 60% of the enrollment period. The percentage of institutional charges and financial aid retained on the student's account is equal to the percentage of the period of enrollment that was completed.

**No Refund.** Students who withdraw after the end of the pro-rata refund period are not eligible for a refund. There shall be no refund available to the student if the student withdraws after completing more than sixty (60) percent of the enrollment period.

**Financial Aid Refunds.** Pacific controlled financial aid and other non-federal financial aid funds are applied at the same rate as the tuition refund percentage. The institution will return all necessary monies as outlined in the refund distribution.

## Refund Calculation

Refunds are calculated as follows for students who have completed less than 60% of the total instruction hours: The institution's refund policy for students who have completed 60% or less of the course of instruction shall be a pro rata refund calculated by hour of instruction minus any non-refundable fee.

FORMULA: (1) deduct the non-refundable application/registration fee or any other non-refundable fee from the total tuition charge; (2) divide this figure by the number of hours in the program; (3) the quotient is the hourly charge for the program; (4) the amount owed by the student for the purposes of calculating a refund is derived by multiplying the total hours attended by the hourly charge for instruction calculated in [3], plus the amount of the application/registration or other non-refundable fee specified in [1]; and (5) the refund shall be any amount in excess of the figure derived from [4] that was paid by the student to the institution.

HYPOTHETICAL EXAMPLE: The following is a simple hypothetical example of how a refund is calculated. A student registers for a 36-

hour course at a cost of \$800. Upon the student notifying the school in writing of a withdrawal after attending 12 hours, a refund is calculated as follows: Total tuition of \$800 minus \$100 in non-refundable fees equals \$700. \$700 divided by 36 hours of instruction equals \$19.44/hr. The student owes 12 hours completed x \$19.44 = \$233.28 + \$100 in non-refundable fees, totaling \$333.28. The \$800 tuition fee minus \$333.28 = a refund of \$466.72.

Students will be billed for any outstanding balance on their account. If the student has a refund or credit balance, a refund is expected to be made within forty-five (45) calendar days of the student's completion of, or withdrawal from, the course(s) in which the student was enrolled. Students considering a withdrawal should contact the Registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)). The Director of Operations at the Business Office ([operations@pacificseminary.org](mailto:operations@pacificseminary.org)) at 8977 Activity Road, Ste 100, San Diego, CA 92126 should be contacted with questions about a refund of institutional charges, or with questions about refunds of financial aid.

If a student obtains a loan to pay for an educational program, the student will have the responsibility to repay the full amount of the loan plus interest, less the amount of any refund. Reminder: students at Pacific do not qualify for federal student financial aid since Pacific is not fully accredited at this time.

## **Refund Petition Process**

A petition process exists for students who feel individual circumstances warrant an exception from the published Pacific refund policy. Students may submit a written petition with documentation of "special circumstances" to the Office of the Registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)). The Office of the Registrar ensures students are notified of the results of their petition.

## **Financial Aid**

### **Principles**

The goal of Pacific is to provide affordable theological education with competitive and transparent pricing. However, Pacific understands that attending seminary requires a significant financial commitment. While each student is ultimately responsible for their educational and living expenses, the seminary seeks to assist the student in meeting expenses through financial aid opportunities whenever possible.

The financial aid program at Pacific is based on the following principles,

which have been approved by the Association of Theological Schools:

- The student has the major responsibility for their educational and living expenses. The school's aid will augment the student's efforts.
- Students are encouraged to seek scholarships from third-party sources. (This includes church scholarships, employer reimbursement, etc.) Institutionally controlled gift aid is reduced if total gift aid from all sources exceeds the financial aid budget for tuition, fees, living expenses, books, and supplies.
- All financial aid, excluding job earnings, is first credited to a student's Pacific account. Only after all current term charges are satisfied will a credit balance be disbursed to students for use in meeting other expenses.

## Types of Aid

There are several types of aid available to seminarians. Pacific encourages students to explore all of the options available.

Pacific Financial Assistance: Incoming and continuing **degree-seeking** students are eligible to apply for financial assistance on a needs-based premise. Please contact the Registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)) for a Needs-Based Application to be submitted no later than the first class day of a new term.

External Scholarships and Grants: There are a number of sources of financial aid for seminarians. Many denominations offer grants and scholarships to prospective clergy from their tradition. Students may check with their denominational representatives to see what is available.

Additionally, many churches seek to provide support for aspiring leaders from their congregations. Students could speak with their church leadership to see about potential funding in the form of scholarships, internships, or employment. It is important to be in touch with the church leadership early in the discernment process to explore all opportunities available.

Loans: Pacific students do not have access to federal forms of aid, including federal student loans. However, private loans may be available to students wishing to finance their education. If a student obtains a private loan to pay for an educational program, the student will have to repay the full amount of the loan plus interest, less the amount of any refund.

Federal Student Aid: At this time Pacific is not able to accept VA benefits or



federal student loans. Once Pacific becomes able to accept VA benefits or federal student loans, the student is entitled to a refund of the monies not paid from federal financial aid funds.

Student borrowers should be very careful about taking on educational debt. While scholarships and grants are not required to be repaid, loans **must** be repaid to the lender. Students should not take on any debt they are not prepared to repay. Pacific encourages students to explore all other options before pursuing loan options.

# **Student Resources and Services**

## **Living in San Diego**

Pacific Theological Seminary (Pacific) is unable to provide housing opportunities for our students. Pacific does not have dormitories. The seminary is located near Interstate-15 and the Miramar Road exit and there is housing located reasonably near the seminary site. Estimated range of rental cost for students within the school site's 92126 zip code can be found at <https://www.zillow.com> or <https://www.apartments.com>, as examples. Pacific does not take responsibility to find or assist in locating housing for students.

## **Course Materials**

Textbook lists will be made available according to the syllabi found on Populi, so that students can purchase textbooks from their preferred source.

## **Classroom Facilities and Equipment**

Classrooms have a floor area of 200 square feet or more. Whiteboards are available for instruction, as well as projectors or TV screens. All instruction will be provided at or through the main location, which is 8977 Activity Road, Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92126.

There are three classrooms and a large event room on our floor. The lobby area is spacious with several areas where students can congregate or study. There is a student lounge with coffee and a refrigerator with filtered water. Pacific has high speed internet throughout and 2 computers and a printer/copier in the library that can be used by students. The library is located down the hall from our classroom/administrative area.

Pacific has been recently renovated with new restrooms and plenty of parking. Pacific is near to many small and large restaurant/fast food businesses. There are bus stops close by. See San Diego transit routes (<https://www.sdmts.com/transit-services/bus-routes>).

## **Email**

All students taking courses for credit will be assigned a Pacific email address once a Populi account has been created and they are registered for a course. The seminary uses the Pacific email account for all official correspondence. Therefore, it is essential for students to regularly check their seminary email for pertinent communication from faculty and administration, and to use their seminary email address for official correspondence. Pacific email may be forwarded by the student to a home or business email address, if preferred.

## **Price Memorial Library**

The Price Memorial Library is named after the Price family on account of their deep commitment to theological education in the Southern California area.

The mission of the library is to provide services, resources, support and instruction to meet the educational needs of the seminary community. The resources of the Price Memorial Library are an integral part of the entire educational program of the seminary. The print collection includes more than 54,000 books in English, a Spanish language collection of 1,000 books, and 250 journal titles. It is mostly dedicated to biblical and theological literature, but it also includes a variety of other subjects that support the curriculum. The seminary community, via the Digital Theological Library 2, has access to more than 500,000 books, 34,000 journals and 100 electronic databases.

The library also houses ancient artifacts from the Dr. Ronald Youngblood pottery collection. In addition, after his death and because of his strong ties with Pacific faculty, Dr. Youngblood's family donated some of his book collection to the seminary.

The library's webpage at <https://Pacific-ind.skathi.opalsinfo.net/bin/home> contains detailed information regarding hours, policies and links to the online catalog and electronic resources. Students have access to the library during our normal business hours. A staff member is available to help students navigate the catalog and electronic resources, as well as assist with locating and checking out materials. Students may also access the computers and/or the copier/printer. Students may also email the library staff for additional information – [library@pacificseminary.org](mailto:library@pacificseminary.org).

## **Distance Education and Remote Learning**

Pacific values highly relational instruction and mentoring and, as such, offers Hyflex synchronous online and in person instruction for each course via Zoom. If Pacific is not allowed to meet in person by the State of California due to health concerns or other unforeseen situations, all classes will move to synchronous online instruction. All such remote learning would be Hyflex synchronous, and the schedule for evaluation of student lessons, projects, or dissertations would be identical with the on-site teaching according to the course syllabus. Students would be responsible for providing their own computer and internet access for remote learning.

Following California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 71715 (7, 8): When employing distance education, the seminary will:

1. Employ a sufficient number of faculty to assure that (A) the institution's response to, or evaluation of, each student lesson is returned to the student within 10 days after the lesson is received by the institution; and (B) the institution's response to, or evaluation of, each student project or dissertation is returned to the student within the time disclosed in the catalog, which may be up to 15 days, provided that project due dates allow for completion of grading within 10 days after the end of the term; and
2. Shall maintain a record of the dates on which lessons, projects, and dissertations were received and responses were returned to each student.

Pacific will administer as part of its Admissions process a readiness for distance-learning questionnaire, responses to which will determine a student's readiness for distance learning. If a student seeking a determination of readiness is assessed as not ready for such an instructional methodology, either the student will be so notified or provided the opportunity to change their circumstances in order to permit such readiness.

#### Hardware Requirements:

- Computer purchased within the last 4 years (Windows or Macintosh) - Recommended
- Reliable high-speed internet connection ( $\geq 1$  Mbps)
- Webcam or other digital video recording device
- One of the following:
  - Microphone and speakers
  - Microphone and headphones
  - Headset with combined microphone and headphone

#### Software requirements:

- Assignments must be submitted in Microsoft Office Format (i.e., .doc, .docx, .ppt, .pptx, .xls, .xlsx), unless otherwise specified or approved by the instructor.
- Virus and Malware protection
- Updated web browser providing easy access to Populi
- Zoom software for Hyflex synchronous distance learning

## **Populi - Student Information System (SIS)**

General student information and course-related information will be accessible through the Populi Student Information System (SIS). Once a Pacific account is created for a student in Populi, Populi will send a link to the student via email so the student can set up and access their Populi account. The login link is

<https://pacificseminary.populiweb.com/router/logins/>. Contact [registrar@](mailto:registrar@)

[pacificseminary.org](http://pacificseminary.org) if a student does not know their user name. After a term's registration is opened, students may sign up through Populi's online enrollment. Once students complete and sign their Registration Contracts, they can then log into their accounts and make payments directly once their Populi accounts have been invoiced. The Populi account also provides access to information including course schedules and course final grades. There are no final grades given to student auditors. If students are having trouble accessing their Populi account, they should contact the Academic Dean or the Registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)) for assistance.

## **Placement**

Placement resources at Pacific will be available through the Supervised Ministry courses. Primary functions include provision of resources and assistance for students as they build the networks needed to explore and secure vocational ministry positions. Through the seminary formation and subsequent internship processes, Pacific's staff invests significant energy getting to know students, helping them construct developmental goals, discerning God's call on their lives, and moving effectively into vocational ministry or other professional roles.

Since most ministry placement is done through established national, district, and local networking, students are expected to take the initiative in seeking placement during their time in seminary. Pacific partners with students early and often in their programs, takes into consideration a wide range of vocational options and assists them in identifying what is at the culmination of their seminary journey and how best to get there. If the student is seeking ordination, licensing, or certification, it is especially important for the student to work with their denomination to meet with the appropriate governing bodies to comply with their specific requirements. Pacific networks with a community of churches and ministry organizations, particularly in the San Diego County area, and is willing to connect students with these contacts.

# Academics

## Academic Advising

Student academic advising is provided by the Office of the Registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)). Students will be provided with helpful materials to track their own academic progress and support in designing personal completion plans to accommodate individual schedule needs.

## Academic Integrity

Written material submitted must be the original work of the student. Academic dishonesty constitutes a serious violation of scholarship standards at Pacific Theological Seminary (Pacific) and can result in denial of credit and possible dismissal from the school. Academic dishonesty includes cheating on assignments or exams, plagiarism, fabrication of research, multiple submissions of work in different courses, misrepresentation of academic records, the facilitation of academic dishonesty, and depriving others of necessary academic resources.

## Academic Petitions and Grievances

Students who have concerns about any academic policy matter (e.g. grades, schedules, instruction etc.) should first confer with the instructor. If a satisfactory solution is not reached, the student may file an academic petition by contacting the Office of the Registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)).

Petitions may be made by students who believe they are not being treated fairly or in accordance with announced policies, or who have extenuating circumstances beyond their control that warrant an exception to a policy. In this case, a student may contact the Office of the Registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)) to initiate an Academic Petition.

Academic Petitions fall into two categories:

### Exception Request

- Completion of degree requirements from a prior catalog year
- Extension of time to complete a degree
- Extension of time on credit expiration
- Grade change for a course
- Registration changes – Late Adds, Late Drops (with or without a request for tuition refund)
- Withdrawal past deadline (with or without a request for tuition refunds)
- Required course or directed study substitution

- Residency requirement
- Exception to other academic policy

### **Appeal**

- Academic Dismissal
- Co-curricular Dismissal
- Denial of an Exception Request

Academic Petitions must be filed no later than 60 days after the student has reasonable notice of the circumstances (e.g. the faculty or administrative action affecting the student) that give rise to the issues presented in the petition and must be filed according to the process defined for Pacific. Students wanting to obtain and file an Academic Petition should contact the Office of the Registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)) for guidance on the process.

## **Academic Policy Familiarity**

Each student is responsible for knowing the academic regulations and other program requirements of the school. While the Chief Academic Officer and the Office of the Registrar may provide appropriate reminders, the primary responsibility for knowing and fulfilling all policies rests with the individual student.

## **Artificial Intelligence Statement**

Pacific Theological Seminary is committed to theological integrity, academic excellence and faithful witness in a changing world. We view teaching, learning and the pursuit of truth as a special calling rooted in trust, mutual accountability and the transformative work of God. We affirm that all human creativity and technological developments are ultimately accountable to God. In light of this, the seminary recognizes the growing presence and influence of Artificial Intelligence (AI) across society, including in education, ministry, and theological reflection. As followers of Jesus we believe that the use of AI must be guided by discernment, humility, and a robust theological ethic grounded in Scripture and the life and teachings of Jesus.

While AI tools may support research, learning, and administrative work, they are not substitutes for human wisdom, spiritual formation, or the guiding presence of the Holy Spirit. Students and faculty are encouraged to reflect critically and responsibly on the role of AI, ensuring its use enhances deep learning, personal reflection, and meaningful community dialogue. All use of AI in academic work must conform to Pacific Theological Seminary standards of academic integrity. Any assistance from AI tools -including language models, content generators, or automated research aids- must be transparently acknowledged and ethically employed.

As a seminary rooted in the embodied and relational practices of the church we welcome conversation among students, faculty, and church leaders as we discern together the role of AI in the mission of our Christian life.

## **Academic Probation & Dismissal Policies**

### **Community Life Violations**

By joining the Pacific community, students accept the responsibilities and conditions of Pacific's "Covenant for Life Together" on page 14. Appropriate action will be taken to teach, influence, discipline, or even dismiss those students who disregard these community expectations.

### **Academic Dishonesty**

Academic Dishonesty constitutes a serious violation of scholarship standards at Pacific and can result in denial of credit and possible dismissal from the school. See "Academic Integrity" on page 38 for further information.

### **Academic Probation**

Students who achieve less than a C (2.0) cumulative GPA are placed on academic probation for the following term. Failure to obtain a 2.0 cumulative GPA for the year may result in dismissal. The registrar will notify students via their Pacific emails if they are being placed on academic probation.

### **Course Credits**

All credits for a degree at Pacific are semester-credits.

### **Inadequate Student Progress**

Students who are failing to make adequate progress in areas of academic development or personal formation may be placed on probation and required to follow a supplemental plan designed by the Registrar in order to continue in their degree program. The Registrar will notify students via email if they are being placed on probation or if their continuance in a degree program is in question. See "Evaluation of Student Progress" page 43 for further information.

### **Financial Suspension**

Pacific reserves the right to suspend a student from a program or course(s) if there is failure to provide full payment on their student account when due. Any student who is financially suspended during a semester will be withdrawn from their classes.



## **Appeal Process**

Students who have concerns about any academic policy matter should follow the instructions set forth in the "Academic Petitions and Grievances" on page 38-39.

## **Accessibility**

It is the desire of Pacific to create equal opportunities for students, faculty, and staff with disabilities at Pacific by providing reasonable accommodations in order to be a community that welcomes people of all abilities.

Accommodations and services for students with disabilities are coordinated through the Office of the Registrar. This includes students with various types of disabilities, such as physical, sensory, learning, psychiatric, systemic, and some chronic illnesses. To receive services students must provide documentation of a disability. For further information or to schedule an appointment to discuss needs, students should contact the Registrar.

## **Attendance**

Students are required to attend at least 75% of class sessions (for example, 11-semester class sessions out of 15). Those who find themselves unable to do so should drop the course completely. If students miss any class sessions, their grade may be affected.

## **Auditing Courses**

An audit registration is simply permission to attend a class. For an audit to be recorded on the transcript, regular attendance at the class sessions and participation in the class, when feasible, are required. Individual instructors may also request some portion of class assignments for auditors.

Master's level students and their spouses may audit courses with the approval of the course instructor without charge during any semester the student enrolls in another course for credit. The number of audited courses taken without charge is not to exceed the number of courses taken for credit. To have the auditing fee waived, spouses must complete an "[Application to Audit](#)" form as well as a registration form for that particular class.

Pastors and their spouses, full-time employees of Christian ministry agencies and their spouses, senior citizens (60 years of age or older), Bethel Seminary San Diego alumni, and Pacific alumni may audit courses for the reduced fee. See "Audit Rates and Fees" on page 26. A complete "[Application to Audit](#)" form is required only for the first class audited.

Audit registration requests are considered once credit registration has taken place, and are done on a first-come, first-served basis while space permits.

Students seeking to enroll for credit in a course will be given priority over auditors when a class has reached its maximum enrollment. Students taking courses for credit are also allowed to audit courses.

Students who audit a course and then wish to receive credit after the term has ended must register and take the course again. If a student registers for a course as an auditor, the student may, prior to the end of the term, switch to taking the course for credit if the following conditions are satisfied:

1. The student must complete all the course requirements with a passing grade, and must have written approval of the instructor.
2. The student must complete the admissions process for a degree program if not already enrolled in such a program and complete an Enrollment Agreement.
3. The student must pay the tuition required of a credit student taking the course, with fees already paid for auditing the course counting toward that tuition.

Students who have taken Greek or Hebrew courses at the undergraduate level may audit the Elementary and/or Intermediate courses as a review before entering the Exegesis courses. These students must have the instructor's permission prior to auditing these courses.

## **Change in Degree Program**

Students at Pacific are admitted to the degree program for which they apply. A student who desires to pursue a second degree must apply to that degree program through the Office of Admissions ([admissions@pacificseminary.org](mailto:admissions@pacificseminary.org)).

Should a student's vocational interest change and they wish to change to another degree program after they have already begun their initial program, the student must give a formal application through the Office of the Registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)). Students who change from Master of Divinity to a Master of Arts, or vice versa, must meet the catalog requirements in effect at the time of change to the new program.

## **Commencement**

Commencement is held in the spring and winter of each year. All degrees are voted on by the Board of Directors upon the recommendation of the faculty.

Any student intent on graduation must contact the Office of the Registrar

within 28 weeks of graduation. Any questions concerning commencement or eligibility to commence should be directed to the Registrar. Commencement Information can be found by contacting the Office of the Registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)).

- Students shall coordinate their ceremony participation with the Registrar. Because participation in graduation ceremonies is strongly encouraged, students must receive permission to graduate in absentia 14 weeks prior to graduation. Students whose ceremony attendance changes after 14 weeks prior must contact the Office of the Registrar.
- The Office of the Registrar will complete a degree evaluation at the request of the student who has applied for graduation.

## **Course Papers**

All assigned course and term papers in all degree programs are to be submitted in thesis form in conformity with the most recent edition of Kate L. Turabian's *A Manual for Writers* or *The Chicago Manual of Style* as described in Pacific's most current Guide to Writing ([www.pacificseminary.org/library/writingguide](http://www.pacificseminary.org/library/writingguide)). In addition, students are expected to use inclusive language and images when speaking about or addressing human beings.

## **Directed Study**

A directed study course provides the student with an opportunity to pursue study outside of the normal course offerings. Approximately 130 hours of study (for a three-semester-hour class) will be involved in this type of course. The student must receive approval from the professor before the class will be approved by the Registrar.

Only three directed study courses may be taken in the student's degree program. Directed study courses may be substituted for a required course in extenuating circumstances and with the permission of the instructor of the required course.

## **Evaluation of Student Progress**

Because of the seriousness of seminary education, all incoming students, including transfer students, are accepted on a provisional basis. Students are evaluated in a variety of formal and informal ways, including interpersonal communications both inside and outside the classroom. Students are also given an opportunity to report on their thinking and experience in relation to seminary academic work, participation in community life, supervised ministry, growth in life as servants of God, and progress toward their ultimate ministry goals. Pacific takes seriously the goal to prepare whole and holy Christian leaders. Consequently, Pacific is

concerned with spiritual and personal formation, not only with academic preparation.

The Registrar acts upon recommendations from faculty and staff. Students who are failing to make adequate progress in areas of academic achievement or personal development and formation may be placed on probation and required to follow a supplemental plan designed by the Registrar in order to continue in their degree program. The Registrar will notify students if they are being placed on probation or if their continuance in a degree program is in question.

## Examinations

No week of final examinations is scheduled, but a professor may elect to give a final examination through a variety of means. Faculty members should seek to be sensitive to student needs in the scheduling of examinations.

## Grades

The faculty has adopted a four-point grading system with 12 levels as follows:

Grade	Points
A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7
D+	1.3
D	1.0
D-	0.7
F	0.0

Pacific strives to maintain a grading system that accurately reflects the quality of a student's work and capacity for advanced study. Students are expected to demonstrate graduate-level writing skills, including correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation in all coursework, and to fulfill course requirements as listed in the course syllabus. Professors are encouraged to define their grading criteria and policy on late work and incompletes in the course syllabus. Grades will be assigned using the full range of letter grades (A-F), representing the following levels of performance:

**A:** Excellent work submitted, evidence of outstanding ability to synthesize and use course knowledge, consistent evidence of

creativity and originality, insightful contributions in class, consistent demonstration of integrative and critical thinking skills, regular class attendance, and respectful interaction.

**B:** Good work submitted, evidence of substantial ability to analyze and use course knowledge, evidence of creativity and originality, thoughtful contributions in class, demonstration of integrative and critical thinking skills, regular class attendance, and respectful interaction.

**C:** Acceptable work submitted, evidence of adequate ability to analyze and use course knowledge, appropriate contributions in class, attempts at integration and critique, regular class attendance, and respectful interaction. A grade of C represents satisfactory performance.

Students are required to hold a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher (C average) to graduate with a degree from Pacific.

**D:** Poor work submitted, little evidence of ability to analyze and use course knowledge, inconsistent evidence of mastery of course content, few contributions in class, no attempts at integration and critique, inconsistent class attendance, and respectful interaction.

**F:** Inadequate work submitted, insufficient evidence of ability to analyze and use course knowledge, inappropriate and/or disrespectful contributions in class, poor class attendance, or failure to complete course requirements. The grade of F may be superseded by a second grade when the student retakes the course. The first F remains on the transcript but is removed from computation of the grade point average.

**I:** Incomplete. All required assignments not completed.

**P:** Pass. C work or above in a course without grade points. Students are allowed to take three advanced-level courses on a Pass/Fail basis. Such courses, however, may not be in the student's concentration in the Master of Arts or the Master of Divinity program if the student is pursuing a concentration. The work in a Pass/Fail course must be at least C level for a grade of Pass. The decision to take a course Pass/Fail must be made within the first two weeks of the term and the appropriate form completed for that purpose. The professor has the prerogative to require a letter grade if he or she feels that the material involved

demands such evaluation. No core courses may be taken on a Pass/Fail basis. Students may take more than three Pass/Fail courses only if they take more than the minimum number of courses required for graduation in that degree program.

**W:** Withdrawal is allowed during the third through the 11th week of the semester. From the 12th week, a grade of F is recorded for withdrawals.

**S/U:** Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory. The S/U grading option is used in designated courses.

**IP, and NR:** the grades of IP (In Progress), NR (Not Reported) are generated for administrative use only.

## Graduation Requirements

Students are responsible for meeting the graduation requirements set forth in the catalog at the time of their matriculation. Students who take extended leaves of absence of three or more consecutive terms are subject to the graduation requirements set forth in the catalog at the time of their reinstatement, unless written permission was obtained from the Office of the Registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)) before the extended leave. If prior permission was obtained, the student may follow the catalog requirements under which the student was initially admitted.

Students must complete all degree requirements in the academic year in which they plan to graduate.

In addition to fulfilling all academic requirements, all Pacific students must fulfill the following graduation requirements:

- Participate in formation experiences and assessments as indicated in the degree requirements;
- Complete Supervised Ministry requirements, if so indicated in the degree program requirements;
- Achieve a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or above.

## Honors

The following criteria are established by the faculty for the determination of graduation honors for students in the Master of Arts and Master of Divinity programs: minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.60 cum laude, 3.75 magna cum laude, and 3.90 summa cum laude. Honors are based on the cumulative average as of the end of the Fall Term (January 1st) prior to a spring graduation or the end of the Summer Term (September 1<sup>st</sup>) for a winter graduation. These will be adjusted at the close of the record on the student's transcript only, not on the graduation program. Students who

have committed acts of academic dishonesty are not eligible to receive honors.

## **Incomplete**

A grade of Incomplete is granted for emergency situations. Students are expected to submit all work by the dates set by the course instructors and complete all course requirements on or before the last day of the term. The grade "Incomplete" is temporary and will be granted only in unusual circumstances (such as serious illness or critical emergencies) and will not be considered for a student who is simply behind in the assignments.

No Incomplete will be granted automatically, except as noted below. The date for completion of the work will be determined by the instructor, but that date cannot extend beyond one semester. If the work is not completed by the specified date, the grade earned will be entered on the student's record. Special problems regarding a student's eligibility to receive the Incomplete will be referred to the Academic Petition process.

The grade of Incomplete may also be awarded for Professional Internship to allow one year maximum extension.

## **Leave of Absence/Withdrawal Policy**

### Leave of Absence

Students are expected to complete their program within a reasonable time for completion. This would be 8 years for a MA(TS) and 10 years for an MDiv. However, there may be special circumstances (such as a program change, illness, military deployment, etc.), which might prevent students from completing their programs of study within the normal time frame. Students needing an extension are required to obtain written approval from the Office of the Registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)).

Former students not enrolled within the last year (three consecutive terms including the summer term) must contact the Office of the Registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)) regarding reinstatement to the seminary, and may need to reapply. Students not enrolled within the last three years must reapply through the Office of Admissions ([admissions@pacificseminary.org](mailto:admissions@pacificseminary.org)). Those readmitted will need to abide by the catalog requirements at the time of their readmission, unless written permission was obtained from the Office of the Registrar prior to the extended leave (for example, in cases of military deployment). If prior permission was obtained, the student may follow the catalog requirements under which they last enrolled and must contact the Office of the Registrar to request reinstatement to the Seminary.



## Withdrawal

Students choosing to withdraw from the seminary must do so in writing. If a student withdraws and subsequently desires to re-enroll, they must submit a letter requesting reinstatement to the Office of the Registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)). This letter must indicate what the student has done since leaving the seminary, the student's current goals, and how the seminary fits into those goals.

In accordance with California law, the student has the right to cancel the enrollment agreement and obtain a refund of charges paid through attendance at the first class session or the seventh day after enrollment, whichever is later. The student must follow the procedures specified in the "Refund Policy for All Students" on page 30 to cancel his or her enrollment and to obtain a refund.

## **Military Service**

Upon involuntary military call-up, a student so affected will be granted a withdrawal from courses with a full refund. If 70% of the coursework has been completed, no refund will be granted and an incomplete will be activated and remain in force until one year after completion of active status. If the statute of limitations is exceeded, a grade of W will be assigned automatically.

## **Non-Harassment Policies**

Pacific is committed to providing a Christ-centered community where students, faculty, and staff can work together in an atmosphere free from all forms of harassment, exploitation, or intimidation, including racial and sexual harassment. All board, staff, and faculty members of the Pacific community are required to educate themselves about sexual and racial harassment. Online training every year is mandatory in the State of California. Students are encouraged to also learn about forms of harassment prevention. Copies of the Pacific Sexual Misconduct, Harassment and Title IX Compliance Policy are available in the Business Office, in the library and on our website <https://www.pacificseminary.org/policies-sexual-title-ix>. To file an informal or formal complaint, please contact the Director of Human Resources/Title IX Coordinator/Compliance Officer ([karen.mehren@pacificseminary.org](mailto:karen.mehren@pacificseminary.org)).

## **Registration**

The Office of the Registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)) can help plan and grant approval for course selections. Students will not be permitted to register for two classes that overlap meeting times. Students should consult the Office of the Registrar with questions and issues related to registration. Students must register for a class prior to the second class meeting unless



otherwise indicated. If a student wants to register for a course that has a prerequisite, permission from the instructor will be required by the Registrar who will connect the student with the professor.

## **Registration Changes**

Courses may be changed from audit to credit provided the student fulfills the designated steps (Page 42), but students may change from credit to audit, or withdraw from the course, through the 11th week of the semester or the 6th week of half semester courses.

For full semester and half semester courses, after the seventh day of the term, or the seventh day after the submission of the student enrollment agreement, a grade of W will be entered for each dropped course. From the 12th week for full semester courses and the 6th week for half semester classes, a grade of F will be recorded for any dropped course unless the student appeals to the Registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)) citing exceptional circumstances. Failure to submit a written petition form within 2 weeks after the last date of attendance will result in an automatic F.

For Summer term courses, after the second day of the term, or the seventh day after the submission of the student enrollment agreement, a grade of W will be entered for each dropped course. From the 13th day of class, a grade of F will be recorded for any dropped course unless the student appeals to the Registrar citing exceptional circumstances. Failure to submit a written petition form within 2 weeks after the last date of attendance will result in an automatic F.

Students needing to add, drop, or change course registration may do so through the Office of the Registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)). The student is responsible for all charges incurred see "Tuition, Fees and Financial Aid" on page 28. A new course may not be added when a registration hold has been placed by the Business Office. More information about tuition refunds is available under "Refund Policy for All Students" on page 30. No change of registration is complete until the request has been processed by the Registrar.

## **Retention of Student Records**

Pacific will retain and maintain records according to pertinent regulations, which will include the following:

- (1) Written records and transcripts of any formal education or training, testing, or experience that are relevant to the student's qualifications for admission to the institution or the institution's award of credit or acceptance of transfer credits including the following:

- (a) Verification of high school completion or equivalency or other documentation establishing the student's ability to do college level work, such as successful completion of an ability-to-benefit test;
  - (b) Records documenting units of credit earned at other institutions that have been accepted and applied by the institution as transfer credits toward the student's completion of an educational program;
  - (c) Grades or findings from any examination of academic ability or educational achievement used for admission or college placement purposes;
  - (d) All of the documents evidencing a student's prior experiential learning upon which the institution and the faculty base the award of any credit;
- (2) Personal information regarding a student's age, gender, and ethnicity if that information has been voluntarily supplied by the student;
- (3) Copies of all documents signed by the student, including contracts, instruments of indebtedness, and documents relating to financial aid;
- (4) Records of the dates of enrollment and, if applicable, withdrawal from the institution, leaves of absence, and graduation; and
- (5) In addition to the requirements of section 94900(b) of the Code, a transcript showing all of the following:
- (a) The courses or other educational programs that were completed, or were attempted but not completed, and the dates of completion or withdrawal;
  - (b) Credit awarded for prior experiential learning, including the course title for which credit was awarded and the amount of credit;
  - (c) Credit for courses earned at other institutions;
  - (d) Credit based on any examination of academic ability or educational achievement used for admission or college placement purposes;
  - (e) The name, address, website address, and telephone number of the institution.
- (6) For independent study courses, course outlines or learning contracts signed by the faculty and administrators who approved the course;
- (7) The dissertations, theses, and other student projects submitted by graduate students;
- (8) A copy of documents relating to student financial aid that are required to be maintained by law or by a loan guarantee agency;
- (9) A document showing the total amount of money received from or on behalf of the student and the date or dates on which the money was

received;

(10) A document specifying the amount of a refund, including the amount refunded for tuition and the amount for other itemized charges, the method of calculating the refund, the date the refund was made, and the name and address of the person or entity to which the refund was sent;

(11) Copies of any official advisory notices or warnings regarding the student's progress; and

(12) Complaints received from the student.

An institution shall maintain all records required by the Act and this chapter. The records shall be maintained in this state.

(a) In addition to permanently retaining a transcript as required by section 94900(b) of the Code, the institution shall maintain for a period of 5 years the pertinent student records described in Section 71920 from the student's date of completion or withdrawal.

(b) Notwithstanding (a) above, the institution shall maintain records relating to federal financial aid programs as provided by federal law.

(c) A record is considered current for three years following a student's completion or withdrawal. A record may be stored on microfilm, microfiche, computer disk, or any other method of record storage only if all of the following apply:

(i) The record may be stored without loss of information or legibility for the period within which the record is required to be maintained by the Act;

(ii) For a record that is current, the institution maintains functioning devices that can immediately reproduce exact, legible printed copies of stored records. The devices shall be maintained in reasonably close proximity to the stored records at the institution's primary administrative location in California. For a record that is no longer current, the institution shall be able to reproduce exact, legible printed copies within two (2) business days.

(iii) The institution has personnel scheduled to be present at all times during normal business hours who know how to operate the devices and can explain the operation of the devices to any person authorized by the Act to inspect and copy records; and

(iv) Any person authorized by the Act or this chapter to inspect and copy records shall be given immediate access to the document reproduction devices for the purpose of inspecting and copying stored records and shall, upon request, reimburse the material institution for the reasonable cost of using the institution's equipment and to make copies at a rate not to exceed ten cents (\$0.10) per page.

(d) The institution shall maintain a second set of all academic and financial records required by the Act and this chapter at a different location unless the original records, including records stored pursuant to subdivision (b) of this section, are maintained in a manner secure from damage or loss. An acceptable manner of storage under this subsection would include fire resistant cabinets.

(e) All records that the institution is required to maintain by the Act or this chapter shall be made immediately available by the institution for inspection and copying during normal business hours by the Bureau and any entity authorized to conduct investigations.

(f) If an institution closes, the institution and its owners are jointly and severally responsible to arrange at their expense for the storage and safekeeping in California of all records required to be maintained by the Act and this chapter for as long as those records must be maintained. The repository of the records shall make these records immediately available for inspection and copying, without charge except as allowed under subdivision (c)(4) of this section, during normal business hours by any entity authorized by law to inspect and copy records.

## **Student FERPA Rights**

See <https://www.pacificseminary.org/ferpa>

## **Technology Requirements**

### **General Requirements**

- Basic competency in Microsoft Office, Google Suite or similar platforms
- Consistent access to a reliable computer

### **Hardware Requirements:**

- Computer purchased within the last 4 years (Windows or Macintosh)
- Reliable high-speed internet connection ( $\geq 1$  Mbps)
- Webcam or other digital video recording device
- One of the following:
  - Microphone and speakers
  - Microphone and headphones
  - Headset with combined microphone and headphone

### **Software Requirements:**

- Assignments must be submitted in Microsoft Office Format (i.e., .doc, .docx, .ppt, .pptx, .xls, .xlsx), unless other specified or approved by the instructor.
- Virus and Malware protection
- Updated web browser
- Zoom software for Hyflex synchronous distance learning

## **Time Limits for Degrees**

All requirements for the Master of Divinity degree are to be met within ten years of the time of the student's initial enrollment at Pacific. All requirements for the Master of Arts degree are to be met within eight years of the time of the student's initial enrollment at Pacific. Students are encouraged to consider all other commitments, including family, ministry, and work, when planning their course schedules. Extensions of the time limit in master's programs require special approval through "Academic Petitions and Grievances" on page 38.

## **Transcripts and Student Records**

Pacific maintains for each student granted a degree permanent transcript records of all of the following:

- The degree granted and the date on which that degree was granted;
- The courses and credits on which the degree was based; and
- The grades earned by the student in each of those courses.

For students/alumni to review their records (which may or may not involve receiving copies) students may contact the Office of the Registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)).

Official transcripts are available showing all academic work completed to date at Pacific. Paper versions of official transcripts are available for a fee and will be mailed within five business days. Some exceptions apply. To order an official transcript, please contact the Office of the Registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)). All transcripts from other schools in the student's file remain the property of Pacific and cannot be released to the student or other parties. The Pacific transcript includes coursework transferred from other schools and coursework completed at Pacific.

For further questions concerning how to obtain student records or official transcripts, please contact the Office of the Registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)).

## **Verification of Student Status**

Verification of student status for insurance and other matters is made through the Office of the Registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)).

# **Master's Degree Programs**

## **Notice to Prospective Degree Program Students**

This institution is provisionally approved by the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education to offer degree programs. To continue to offer degree programs, this institution must meet the following requirements:

- Become institutionally accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education, with the scope of the accreditation covering at least one degree program.
- Achieve full accreditation by June 15, 2026.

If this institution stops pursuing accreditation, it must:

- Stop all enrollment in its degree programs, and
- Provide a teach-out to finish the educational program or provide a refund.

An institution that fails to comply with accreditation requirements by the required dates shall have its approval to offer degree programs automatically suspended.

The Bureau's website can be found at [www.bppe.ca.gov](http://www.bppe.ca.gov).

## **Master of Arts (Theological Studies)**

### **Degree Details: Master of Arts (Theological Studies)**

Cumulative Credits: 42

#### **Degree Description**

The Master of Arts (Theological Studies) or MA(TS) at Pacific Theological Seminary provides students a biblical and theological foundation, which empowers individuals to serve as leaders through a process of intellectual, spiritual and practical Christian formation. This degree additionally provides a versatile educational path, which allows students to shape their degree in response to their unique vocation, including training for various ministry settings such as chaplaincy, global outreach, parachurch organization, and roles in pastoral care. Students are equipped with vital critical thinking, research and writing skills necessary for versatility in God's kingdom as well as additional work in academics.

## Objectives of the MA(TS) Program

1. Apply an informed hermeneutical approach to a comprehensive biblical foundation.
2. Relate historically rooted theological understanding with cultural and ministerial concerns.
3. Establish ongoing Christian formational practices manifested by authentic love for God and others and the fruit of the Spirit.
4. Demonstrate critical thinking, research and writing skills vital for effective work in academia and ministry settings.
5. Practice an intercultural competence while engaged in bringing God's kingdom to global and local issues.

MA(TS) students are not required to declare a concentration.

The MA(TS) requires 42 units to complete. Students may complete the program in three years, but may need to take longer to finish all requirements for the program depending on the number of courses taken each term. All credits earned at Pacific are semester-credits.

All requirements for graduation are included in course requirements. No cumulative final test or examination is required. All credits for a degree at Pacific are semester-credits.

## Courses

## Credits

### Core Requirements (30 credits)

BT 510 Hermeneutics	3
GS 001 Graduate Research Seminar	0
HS 510 Church History Survey	3
OT 516 Old Testament Survey	3
OT 518 Old Testament Exegetical Explorations	3
NT 516 New Testament Survey	3
NT 518 New Testament Exegetical Explorations	3
TS 512 Systematic Theology I	3
TS 513 Systematic Theology II	3
TS 516 Christian Social Ethics	3
SP 510 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation	3

### Electives (12 credits)

Free Electives	12
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### Total Credits

**42**

# Master of Divinity

## Single Language and Dual Language Tracks

### Degree Description

The Master of Divinity (MDiv) degree at Pacific Theological Seminary is designed to equip those called to preaching, church planting, bible translating, and missional work in languages. Our diverse, multid denominational faculty and student body foster whole and holy persons who are committed to service in Christ's kingdom as God's agents of change.

### Objectives of the MDiv Program

1. Demonstrate proficiency in biblical content while integrating a conversant and discerning approach to biblical interpretation.
2. Engage in well-rounded theological reflection rooted in historical traditions in response to ministerial needs.
3. Cultivate lifelong Christian formational practices evidenced by the fruit of the Spirit and authentic love for God and others.
4. Develop a missional worldview that empowers a global and local witness to the kingdom of God.
5. Learn and apply servant-leadership skills for preaching, teaching and guiding others within ministerial contexts.

The MDiv requires 78 units to complete. Students may complete the program in 4 years, but may take up to 10 years to finish all requirements for the program. All credits earned at Pacific are semester-credits.

**Concentrations:** Anglican Studies, Chaplaincy, or Pastoral Care and Counseling. For descriptions and credit requirements, see "Master of Divinity Concentrations" on pages 57 & 58.

All requirements for graduation, including an internship, are covered in course requirements. No cumulative final test or examination is required. All credits for a degree at Pacific are semester-credits.

Courses	Credits
<b>Core Requirements</b> (27 credits)	
BT 510 Hermeneutics	3
HS 510 Church History Survey	3
NT 516 New Testament Survey	3
NT 518 New Testament: Exegetical Explorations	3
OT 516 Old Testament Survey	3
OT 518 Old Testament: Exegetical Explorations	3
TS 512 Systematic Theology I	3



TS 513 Systematic Theology II	3
TS 516 Christian Social Ethics	3
<b>Degree Specific Requirements (21 credits)</b>	
CP 510 Introduction to Preaching	3
GC 512 Global, Cultural and Contextual Ministry	3
HS 512 American Christianity	1.5
ML 506 Discipleship in Community	1.5
ML 507 Missional Outreach and Evangelism	1.5
ML 523 Introduction to Transformational Leadership	3
ML 527 Leading Worship in the Christian Life Cycle	1.5
ML 615 Organizational Leadership and Church Government	3
PC 512 Introduction to Pastoral Care and Counseling	3
<b>Biblical Languages (7.5 credits)</b>	
OT 541 Hebrew I OR NT 541 Greek I	3
OT 542 Hebrew II OR NT 542 Greek II	3
OT 652 Hebrew Exegesis OR NT 652 Greek Exegesis	1.5
<b>Internship (3 credits)</b>	
TL 566A Professional Internship A	1.5
TL 566B Professional Internship B	1.5
<b>Formation Course Requirements (7.5 credits)</b>	
GS 780 Senior Integrative Seminar	3
SP 510 Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation	3
SP 610 Spiritual and Personal Formation II	1.5
GS 001 Graduate Research Seminar	0
<b>Concentration Courses and Electives (12 credits)</b>	
Specialized Courses / Electives	12
<b>Total Credits.</b>	<b>78</b>

## Master of Divinity Concentrations

### Anglican Studies

The Anglican Studies courses are intended primarily for Master of Divinity students seeking ordination in the Anglican Church of North America; however, these courses can be used as an Anglican Studies concentration.

Concentration courses include:

Code	Title	Credits
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HS689	The Anglican Way in History	3
ML679	The Anglican Way in Liturgy	3
TS690	The Anglican Way in Theology	3
ML674	The Anglican Way in Ministry	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>12</b>

## Chaplaincy

This program will enable chaplains and those preparing for chaplaincy to train for ministry in contexts such as healthcare services, educational institutions, businesses and corporations, correctional facilities, and the military. In addition to theological and ethical training, graduates of the program will be knowledgeable of the ways in which pastoral care is put into practice in nonchurch/ parish settings.

Concentration courses include:

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
PC512	Introduction to Pastoral Care and Counseling	3
MH635	Lifespan Development and Aging	3
MH656	Crisis Intervention and Trauma Response	3
PC729	Chaplaincy in Contemporary Society	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>12</b>

## Pastoral Care and Counseling

This concentration enables students to prepare for the counseling tasks common in ministry settings as well as for preventive educational efforts in the church. The curriculum provides preparation in pastoral care and counseling. These would enable those involved in local churches, as well as agency ministries, to enhance health and wholeness in the variety of organizational and social contexts serve. **This concentration does not lead to state licensure.**

Concentration courses include:

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
PC512	Introduction to Pastoral Care and Counseling	3
MH635	Lifespan Development and Aging	3
MH656	Crisis Intervention and Trauma Response	3
MF629	Community Mental Health	3
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>12</b>

# Course Descriptions

## Departmental Abbreviations

- BT Biblical Theology
- CP Communication and Preaching
- GC Global and Contextual Studies
- GS General or Interdisciplinary Studies
- HS Historical Studies
- MF Marital & Family
- MH Mental Health
- ML Ministry Leadership
- NT New Testament
- OT Old Testament
- PC Pastoral Care & Chaplaincy
- SP Spiritual and Personal Formation
- TL Transformational Leadership
- TS Theological Studies

### **BT 510 – Hermeneutics** (3 Credits)

An introduction to biblical interpretation, examining the nature of the Bible as divine revelation, relationship of author, text, and reader in the interpretation of Scripture, with the goal of hearing God's speak to his people today through his historically-situated Word. The course will focus on the philosophy of meaning, genre analysis, the exegetical method, and the recontextualization of texts to apply in diverse cultural contexts.

### **CP 510 – Introduction to Preaching** (1.5 or 3 Credits)

A basic course on biblical preaching to prepare students for a preaching and teaching ministry. This course assumes that students already have an understanding of biblical interpretation and exegetical methods. The course will employ experiential learning to discover the principles of biblical preaching and sermon construction and to introduce students to the purpose, types and techniques of preaching God's Word, and how to relate with relevancy to contemporary audiences.

*Prerequisite: BT 510.*

**CP510 HY – Introduction to Preaching--Hybrid Version (3 credits)**

A hybrid course on biblical preaching to prepare students for a preaching and teaching ministry. This course assumes that students already have an understanding of biblical interpretation and exegetical methods. The course will employ a variety of experiential learning methods including face-to-face lectures, online distance teaching modules, and cluster discussion groups for interaction with the content of the course.

This course is equivalent to CP510 and meets the preaching course requirement in the MDiv degree program. Students cannot take both CP510 and CP510HY for program credit, but may audit one or the other if desired.

*Prerequisite: BT510*

**GC 512 – Global, Cultural and Contextual Ministry (3 Credits)**

A biblically grounded examination of culture as the context of all ministry. This course provides opportunity for acquisition of skills for understanding other cultures and how that applies to an understanding of culture to the global mission mandate of the church. It also examines how one's cultural identity influences how mission is done and perceived in order for spiritual and personal growth as well as leadership potential for all involved. It explores cultural perspectives that influence how the church's mission can best proceed.

**GS 001 – Graduate Research Seminar (0 Credit)**

The Graduate Research Seminar is a requirement for all students in a degree program. The seminar teaches students to design their research methodologies to most effectively complete course assignments. By learning how to efficiently use library tools and services, a student will save time and effort when completing assignments. The class will also focus on evaluating, citing, and using source material properly.

This seminar is taken concurrently with BT 510

**GS 780 – Senior Integrative Seminar (3 Credits)**

This senior-level seminar invites summative work integrating the student's learning in Bible, theology and history, spiritual/personal formation, ministry leadership and intercultural sensitivity and competence. The student will review key moments and insights from their seminary experience, generate a case study inviting application of principles to practice, and benefit from shared reflections of class colleagues.

**Special Notes:** This course must be taken in the student's final year.

**HS 510 – Church History Survey (3 Credits)**

This course invites the student to explore developments in the Christian story. People, ideas, movements, events, networks, texts and objects

(PIMENTO elements) offer rich insights. Formative biblical principles include Matt 13:52, Psalm 101:6, and 1 Thess 5:21. The overall goal is for the faith-practice of earlier Christians to enlighten and inspire our own.

### **HS 512 – American Christianity (1.5 Credits)**

This course introduces major aspects of American Christian history, within a global context, from the 15th century through today. European churches were transplanted, and “American originals” sprang up, across five centuries of challenges and opportunities. Mark Noll cites space, race, pluralism and absence of confessional conservatism as key elements. While focal attention will be on this story in the United States, both Latin American and Canadian developments will receive notable attention. The student will identify personal PIMENTO (people, ideas, movements, events, networks, texts, objects) roots within these traditions.

### **HS 611 – Women in the Christian Tradition (1.5 credits)**

This course invites the student to explore the life, thought and context of selected Christian women across the centuries. Issues of public values, personal identity, and group affiliations have long been important to this discussion – reflecting history’s storied people, ideas, movements, events, networks, texts and objects (PIMENTO). Since the mid 19th century, and particularly in the dramatic changes in the roles and experience of women since World War II, interpretive voices (e.g. in the literature) have notably both reflected and shaped the realities.

### **HS 640 – Christian Lives and Spirituality in History (1.5 credits)**

This course tells the story of Christianity through the life experiences of selected women and men in their historical/cultural/literary contexts. Our objectives are to value these “living human documents” (Anton Boisen) as insightful mentors and as unique persons needing God’s grace and human care in community – while engaging historic approaches to counsel and support. The PIMENTO (people, ideas, movements, events, networks, texts, objects) dimensions of their stories offer rich insights. Everyone has a history, and better understanding such realities is a major ministry asset (Matt. 13:52, Ps. 101:6, I Thess. 5:21) - inviting reflection on the student’s own spiritual journey and vocation.

### **HS 689 – The Anglican Way in History (3 Credits)**

Anglican Christians have a distinct way of understanding church history going back to their ancient roots in Britain. Beginning in the late first or early second century of the Christian Era, Anglican Christianity was a missionary movement which spread the Gospel to Ireland, Scotland, northern Europe, North America, and in modern times to the whole world. How did Christianity in England relate to the Church of Rome? Why did it become the third largest family of churches in the world, after Roman Catholicism

and Orthodoxy? This class will explore the people and events throughout church history that have played a major role in the development of the church in England and the worldwide Anglican Communion.

**Special Notes:** No prerequisite courses are required, but a Church History Survey course is recommended.

**MF 629 – Community Mental Health (3 credits)**

The history of community mental healthcare provides a context for introducing students to contemporary mental health issues and services, especially in Southern California. The course emphasizes strengths-based systemic recovery-oriented treatment with consumers, their families, and communities who struggle with severe mental illness, chronic medical conditions, poverty, joblessness, violence, and other challenges. Direct contact with public and private agencies and their clients is a core part of this course.

**MH 635 – Life Span Development and Aging (3 credits)**

This course explores the grand theories and the more recent theories of individual development of persons over their life span. Students examine the nature-nurture debate; how heredity and socio-cultural environment interact in all domains of human development from conception through childhood, adolescence, adulthood, and late adulthood. Special focus will be given to the challenges and vulnerabilities of aging, including non-normative medical and mental health issues, long term care, caregiving, counseling, and pastoral care approaches.

**MH 656 – Crisis Intervention and Trauma Response (1.5 or 3 Credits)**

This introductory course examines definitions, theories, legal, and ethical issues related to crisis intervention practiced in psychotherapy, chaplaincy, and church-based systems. Brief assessments and intervention in crisis events such as domestic violence, child abuse, suicide, substance abuse, and elder and dependent abuse will be discussed. Normal transitional and non-normative crises such as loss, grief, illness, accident, and death will be examined. Students will explore the biopsychosocial and theological frameworks for crisis intervention and develop an integrative synthesis for ministry and selfcare.

**ML 506 – Discipleship in Community (1.5 Credits)**

This course introduces the student to the biblical and theological foundations for discipleship in the faith community. The course will investigate and develop a biblical theology of discipleship, especially within the context of the Church as community. Concrete concepts will be developed using the various metaphors concerning the Church as community found in Scripture. Attention will also be given to contemporary, cultural forces that have resulted in current individualistic approaches to discipleship.

**ML 507 – Missional Outreach and Evangelism (1.5 Credits)**

This course introduces the biblical constructs, cultural contexts, and contemporary models for making outreach, evangelism, and discipleship strong and productive ministries in the church. The process of spiritual movement which people make toward a faith in Jesus Christ will be explored in its distinct stages of development. Students will begin formulating a working theology to guide and shape their methodologies in this area of ministry. Field and classroom exercises will be provided to aid students in the practice of evangelism.

**ML 523 – Introduction to Transformational Leadership (3 Credits)**

This course presents, examines, and seeks to apply a broad range of information crucial to leadership effectiveness. Leadership theory will be explored from diverse theoretical traditions, and a model of transformational leadership will be presented and applied to a variety of ministry leadership roles and diverse cultural settings.

**ML 527 - Leading Worship in the Christian Life (1.5 credits)**

This course offers biblical-theological foundations and practical skills for leading weekly worship and marking special celebration moments in Christian life and community. Ceremonies such as dedication, baptism, communion, weddings, memorials/funerals, and holy days will be explored. Students will be equipped to plan and lead in Spirit-led and resourceful ways, connecting and integrating theological insight with pastoral practice.

**ML 615 – Organizational Leadership and Church Governance (3 Credits)**

This course is designed to address the roles of organizational leaders in congregational and ministry settings. Attention is given to both the pastoral and governance dimensions of leadership, with special focus on relevant strategies and approaches for guiding congregations and ministry communities.

**ML 674 – The Anglican Way in Ministry (3 Credits)**

Anglican Christians have a distinctive way of doing ministry based on the English pastoral care, thoughtful holiness, and missionary expansion. What are the historic orders of ministry in the Anglican tradition? What are the essential tasks and personal characteristics of these ministers? How do they operate best in our present post-Christian and post-modern cultural context? This course will explore the following topics: the spiritual life of ministers and their families, pastoral care and the cure of souls, preaching and teaching in an Anglican Church, leadership for change, personal discipleship, and cultural engagement. While this course is particularly designed for those in the ordination process, it is also valuable for lay leadership in the church.



**Special Notes:** No prerequisite courses are required.

**ML 679 – The Anglican Way in Liturgy** (3 Credits)

Anglican Christians have a distinctive way of public worship using the Book of Common Prayer, first published in 1547 during the English Reformation and updated several times since. Where did this English Prayer Book come from? How is it used today for conducting public worship in Anglican churches throughout the world? This course begins with the origin and usage of the historic Prayer Books, and then proceeds through an analysis of the various services in the new Book of Common Prayer 2019, including the Daily Office, Holy Eucharist, Baptism and Confirmation, Pastoral Rites, Episcopal Services, and Special Liturgies for Lent and Holy Week. In this course students will learn both what Prayer Book liturgy is and how to conduct it.

**Special Notes:** No prerequisite courses are required.

**NT 516 – New Testament Survey** (3 Credits)

An introduction to the New Testament, focused on the genre of NT books, their first century historical and literary contexts, and their theological purposes, with the goal of recontextualizing their messages in ministry contexts today.

*BT 510 may be concurrent*

**NT 518 – New Testament: Exegetical Explorations** (3 Credits)

Analysis of selected New Testament books as wholes within their original contexts. Development of exegetical skills including genre analysis, contextual study, and theological reflection and engagement. Discernment of key theological themes that span various New Testament books, with attention to both their unity and diversity.

**NT 541 – Greek I: Beginning Greek** (3 Credits)

A study of the fundamentals of New Testament Greek with respect to forms (morphology) and simple relationships (syntax). Special emphasis will be placed on preparing the student for the subsequent exegesis of the New Testament. The course will also introduce students to basics of linguistic theory with respect to the potentialities and the limitations of human language to convey meaning.

**NT 542 – Greek II: Intermediate Greek** (3 Credits)

Continuing study and review of the fundamentals of New Testament Greek with respect to forms and syntax. Expansion of syntactical categories, further translation, and vocabulary building.

*Prerequisites: NT 541 or passing of Greek Qualifying Exam.*



**NT 604 - The Gospel of John** (1.5 credits)

A concentrated study in the interpretation of the book of John. The meaning and message of the author will be examined, as well as various critical questions relating to the study of the Gospel.

**NT 652 – Greek Exegesis** (1.5 Credits)

Exegesis of select texts from the Greek New Testament. Translation and syntactical work will be the backbone of the course, with a goal toward the preparation to teach or preach the text. Attention will also be provided to text-critical, lexical and grammatical issues.

*Prerequisite: NT 542*

**OT 516 – Old Testament Survey** (3 Credits)

An introduction to and survey of Old Testament books. The course will examine their contents and theological themes as well as their genres and ancient Near Eastern historical and literary contexts, with the goal of recontextualizing their message for ministry contexts today.

*BT 510 may be concurrent*

**OT 518 – Old Testament: Exegetical Explorations** (3 Credits)

A study of selected texts, themes, and theology of the Old Testament with the goal of developing greater skills in genre analysis, contextual study, and theological reflection and engagement.

**OT 541 – Hebrew I: Beginning Hebrew** (3 Credits)

A study of the fundamentals of biblical Hebrew with respect to forms (morphology) and simple relationships (syntax). Special emphasis will be placed on preparing the student for the subsequent exegesis of the Old Testament.

**OT 542 – Hebrew II: Intermediate Hebrew** (3 Credits)

A review and expansion of Beginning Hebrew, including morphology, syntax, vocabulary building, and translation, with a goal toward developing a proper exegetical methodology. The course will also include an introduction to textual criticism.

*Prerequisite: OT 541*

**OT 611 - Exposition of the Book of Psalms** (1.5 credits)

A study of the prayers for God's help in times of trouble, hymns of praise to worship God the King, and the nation's hopes for the coming of the Messianic Son of David.

**OT 602 - Exposition of Exodus** (1.5 credits)

An investigation into Israel's literary traditions of the nation's exodus from Egypt. The focus is on the nature and theology of the deliverance narratives

and on the Sinaitic revelation. Emphasis is also placed on the significance of this revelation in Israelite history and theology, as well as its relevance for today.

**OT 615 – The Bible and Justice (1.5 Credits)**

This seminar-style course examines the biblical foundation of justice, exploring key biblical passages that address both individual and systemic issues. Students will engage with Scripture on topics like the dignity of the human body, the Kingdom of God's relevance to both personal and societal life and the call to counter empire and injustice. The course will highlight how justice is central to the Gospel, involving both spiritual and embodied expressions of faith. By the end, the student will gain a deeper understanding of justice as both a personal and societal imperative, rooted in the heart of Scripture and God's redemptive work in the world.

**OT 616 – Old Testament Ethics (3 Credits)**

This course introduces the student to the biblical and theological foundations for doing Old Testament ethics. The course will survey the contents of OT ethics, the breadth of literature, and introduce historical considerations. It will focus on method in the study of OT ethics and the issues raised by setting the OT literature in the context of Christian faith.

**OT 652 – Hebrew Exegesis (1.5 Credits)**

Exegesis of select texts from the Hebrew Bible. The primary emphasis will be on translation and syntactical work, with some attention given to text-critical, lexical, and grammatical review.

*Prerequisite: OT 542*

**PC 500 – Principles of Counseling (1.5 or 3 Credits)**

This course is designed to provide an introduction to essential interviewing and counseling skills, applied through the lens of Solution-Focused pastoral counseling. It combines theoretical understanding and hands-on practice of essential counseling micro-skills, while also encouraging self-reflection, ethical practice, and integration with faith principles.

**PC 512 – Introduction to Pastoral Care and Counseling (3 Credits)**

This course is designed to introduce the student to the shepherding function with emphasis on pastoral care and pastoral counseling and the biblical roots of the ministry of care. Basic care and counseling methods will be discussed in relation to typical situations faced in the pastoral ministry. 10 hours of caring conversations are included in the requirements of this course.

**PC 566A – Chaplaincy Internship (1.5 Credits)**

This course provides students opportunity to intern in the work of

chaplaincy. Students complete a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (a total of 400-440 hours of ministry and reflection by the end of the second semester) in a CPE center accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE). Students contract with a CPE site for a supervised experience in a hospital, hospice site, elder care facility, homeless shelter, or other accredited CPE site. **This should be taken in place of TL 566A for MDiv students with a Chaplaincy concentration.**

**Special Notes:** Registration by permission of the course instructor.

### **PC 566B – Chaplaincy Internship (1.5 Credits)**

This is a continuation of the work begun in PC566A. This course provides students opportunity to intern in the work of chaplaincy. Students complete a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (a total of 400-440 hours of ministry and reflection by the end of the second semester) in a CPE center accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE). Students contract with a CPE site for a supervised experience in a hospital, hospice site, elder care facility, homeless shelter, or other accredited CPE site.

**This is a continuation of the work begun in PC 566A. It should be taken in place of TL 566B for MDiv students with a Chaplaincy concentration.**

**Special Notes:** Internship should be taken in the student's final year.

### **PC 601 - Enhancing the Psychological Wellbeing of the Minister (1.5 credits)**

The effectiveness of the minister to empower others to become whole and holy in Christ is directly related to their own spiritual biopsychosocial well-being. This course will focus on the ability of the minister to maintain a healthy sense of intrapersonal and interpersonal wellbeing in the demanding context of the pastorate and the mission field. Attention will be given to aspects of the minister's personal and family life, ministry roles, and expectations as understood from a systems perspective. Coping skills in facing the emotional hazards of ministry such as anger, anxiety, non-assertiveness in conflict, guilt, sexuality, will be explored and practiced in class.

### **PC 729 – Chaplaincy in Contemporary Society (3 Credits)**

This course is designed to introduce the student to the roles and responsibilities of the Professional Chaplain. The professional chaplain offers spiritual care in a multi-cultural and multi-faith context and is called upon to work with individuals as well as family, friends and staff to bring the healing, sustaining, guiding and reconciling power of faith.

### **SP 510 – Introduction to Spiritual and Personal Formation (3 Credits)**

Demonstration of ability to develop and monitor both individual and communal formation strategies using various biblical, theological, and

theoretical perspectives. Consideration of the implications of one's own personal formation journey in contrast with those on differing formation trajectories, while expressing a non-anxious, reflective, and dialogue-centered approach.

**SP 610 – Spiritual and Personal Formation II: Relational Spirituality (1.5 Credits)**

This course explores the relational – not merely individual or transactional – nature of Christian life in the Spirit. Students will integrate key biblical insights, theological frameworks and concepts from the social sciences to examine ways their beliefs/experiences interact with environments. Students will be encouraged to reflect on their imagery of God and humankind, viewing others in light of Creation and not as “it’s” to be managed. Spiritual disciplines will nurture a biblical worldview, cultural connectedness and personal wholeness.

**TL 566A – Professional Internship A (1.5 Credits)**

This course supports the student in spiritual, personal and vocational formation through service in a context that considers the individual's design for ministry and vocational direction. Students participate in 400 hours of ministry over two consecutive academic terms in an approved vocational setting.

Student-developed learning goals, ordered around degree program outcomes, shape the formation process. Through the action-reflection method of learning, students develop core capacities for spiritual leadership by engaging in cycles of vocational service, theological reflection with supervisors, mentors and peers, accountability and evaluation. MDiv students with a Chaplaincy concentration should take PC 566A in place of TL 566A.

**TL 566B – Professional Internship B (1.5 Credits)**

This course is a continuation of the work begun in TL 566A and supports the student in spiritual, personal and vocational formation through service in a context that considers the individual's design for ministry and vocational direction. Students participate in a total of 400 hours (combined TL 566A and TL566B) of ministry over two consecutive academic terms in an approved vocational setting.

Student-developed learning goals, ordered around degree program outcomes, shape the formation process. Through the action-reflection method of learning, students develop core capacities for spiritual leadership by engaging in cycles of vocational service, theological reflection with supervisors, mentors and peers, accountability and evaluation. MDiv students with a Chaplaincy concentration should take PC 566B in place of TL 566B.

**TS 512 – Systematic Theology I (3 Credits)**

This course introduces systematic theology as the quest for an integrated

grasp of biblical truth and its application to life. It encompasses study of God's self-revelation, the nature and works of the Triune God, and human nature as originally designed by the Creator and in its current condition.

**TS 513 – Systematic Theology II** (3 Credits)

This course continues the quest for an integrated grasp of biblical truth and its application to life. It encompasses study of the identity and mission of Jesus Christ, the saving application of Christ's work to believers' lives, the ministries of the Holy Spirit, God's design for the church, and his purposes for human history and the created order.

**TS 516 – Christian Social Ethics** (3 Credits)

This course is a study of the character and conduct God requires, Jesus taught and modeled, and the Holy Spirit makes possible. A biblically-grounded and theoretically-informed ethics methodology is applied to important contemporary moral issues.

**TS 690 – The Anglican Way in Theology** (3 Credits)

Anglican Christians have a distinctive way of doing theology founded on Holy Scripture as understood by human reason and informed by church tradition. What are the core doctrines in the Anglican Tradition? Why are they important for the flourishing of Christian life? This course begins with an exploration of the three historic Creeds (Apostles', Nicene, and Athanasian Creeds). It continues with an in-depth analysis of the Church of England Articles of Religion (often called The Thirty-Nine Articles) and their contemporary applications. Finally, we will pay special attention to the Chicago- Lambeth Quadrilateral (a proposal for initiating churches adopted in 1888), the Jerusalem Declaration (2008) and the Fundamental Declarations of the Anglican Church in North America (2009).

**TS 739 – Theology in a Global Context** (3 Credits)

Christian Theology has since the very beginning been inherently global. Within the first century, the Christian message had gone far beyond the borders of Palestine. This class will listen to the varied voices of African, Latin American and Asian theologies. To understand the deep inner dynamics of global theologies, we will first examine the message and mission histories of the early church that set the foundational stages for later theological development. These foundational theological dynamics will allow us to better understand, examine and critique the rich multiplicity of global theologies today. On a parallel track, we will also look at how global voices enrich the different categories of systematic theology. Lastly, we will examine selected theologies from Africa, Latin America and Asia.

# Seminary Administration, Academics, Faculty, Board of Directors

## Administration

**James D. Smith, III, PhD** – President (Church History)  
ThD Harvard University, 1986. ThM Harvard Divinity School, 1977.  
MDiv Bethel Seminary, 1976. BA, San Diego State University, 1972.

**Andy Johnson** – Director of Information Technology, MA Bethel Seminary San Diego, 2010, BA Magdalen College, 2002.

**Alyssa Joel-Edwards** – Administrative Assistant and Acting Director of Admissions

**Karen Mehren** – Director of Operations and Human Resources and Payroll and Marketing

**Arthur Benjamin** – Chief Business Officer and Chief Advancement Officer

## Academics

**Johanna Kirsten Knutson** – Associate Dean of Student Learning ([johanna.knutson@pacificseminary.org](mailto:johanna.knutson@pacificseminary.org)) and Registrar ([registrar@pacificseminary.org](mailto:registrar@pacificseminary.org)) MA Bethel Seminary San Diego, 2013. BA Point Loma Nazarene University, 1989.

**Mariel Deluca Voth, EDD** – Academic Dean and Library Director ([library@pacificseminary.org](mailto:library@pacificseminary.org)) EDD Bethel University, 2019. MA University of Minnesota, 1977, BA Bethel College, 1974.

## Seminary Faculty

**Norah Caudill, PhD** – Adjunct Faculty (Biblical Studies – Old Testament) PhD Fuller Theological Seminary, 2006. MA Western Conservative Baptist Seminary, 1988. BS (Biblical Education) Multnomah Bible College, 1985. AA (Biblical Studies) Multnomah Bible College, 1984.

**Minoa Chang, PhD** - Adjunct Faculty (Pastoral Care and Chaplaincy) PhD California School of Professional Psychology (CSPP) at Alliant International University AIU), 1999. MD Sch of Medicine, Federal Univ. of the State of Pernambuco, in Brazil (South America), 1986.

**Kirsten Gardner, PhD** - Adjunct Faculty (Biblical and Theological Studies)

PhD Fuller Theological Seminary, 2017. MA Fuller Theological Seminary, 2011. MS Chatham University, 2002. BA UC Berkley, 1991.

**Gregory T Gorham, PhD** - Adjunct Faculty (Biblical Studies - New Testament) PhD Claremont School of Theology, 2024. MA Claremont School of Theology, 2014. BA Gustavus Adolphus College, 2005.

**Rev. Brian Hughes, PhD** – Adjunct Faculty (Anglican Studies) PhD University of Durham. MDiv Trinity School for Ministry, 2012. BA Cal State University San Marcos, 2007.

**Mason Lancaster, PhD** – Adjunct Faculty (Biblical Studies – Old Testament) PhD Wheaton College, 2020. ThM Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, 2015. MDiv Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, 2014. BS UC San Diego, 2007.

**Ben K. Lim, PhD** – Adjunct Faculty (Pastoral Care and Chaplaincy) PhD Texas Tech University, 2000. MA Fuller Theological Seminary, 1989. Bachelor of Agricultural Science, University of Malaya, 1975.

**Bob Mentze, DMin** – Adjunct Faculty (Reformed Studies, Worship) DMin Westminster Theological Seminary, 1997. MDiv San Francisco Theological Seminary, 1977. BA San Diego State University, 1974.

**Rev. Canon David Montzingo, DMin** – Adjunct Faculty (Anglican Studies; Formation; Ministry Leadership) DMin Trinity Episcopal School for Ministry, 2011. Certificate in Anglican Studies, Episcopal Theological School at Claremont, CA (Bloy House), 1989. MDiv Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary, 1975. AB Harvard University, 1971.

**Andre Ong, PhD** - Adjunct Faculty (Theological Studies) PhD Claremont Graduate University, 2007. MA Bethel Seminary San Diego, 1996.

**Assad Saif, DMin** - Adjunct Faculty (Global and Contextual Studies) DMin Bethel University St. Paul, 2020. MDiv Bethel Seminary San Diego, 2011. BS Biola University, 2005.

**Mickey Stonier, PhD** – Adjunct Faculty (Chaplaincy) PhD Fuller Theological Seminary, 1997. MDiv Azusa Pacific University, 1991. BS San Diego State University, 1976.



**Mariel Deluca Voth, EDD** – Library Director and Adjunct Faculty  
(Global and Contextual Studies)  
EDD Bethel University, 2019. MA University of Minnesota, 1977, BA Bethel  
College, 1974.

## **Seminary Board Members**

**Brian Bernados** – Senior Engineer, Division of Drinking Water,  
California State Water Board MS San Diego State University, 1993. BS  
University of Pittsburgh, 1978.

**Edward Chiu** - Executive & Church Planting Pastor, Chinese Bible  
Church of San Diego MDiv Bethel Seminary San Diego, 2015. BA  
University of Nevada, 1993.

**Roberta Morgan** – President Bay Air Systems  
MA(TS) Bethel Seminary San Diego, 2011. BA San Francisco State, 1977.

**Andre Ong, PhD** (Board Chairman) – Pastor, International  
Christian Church of San Diego PhD Claremont Graduate University,  
2007. MA Bethel Seminary San Diego, 1996.



# State of California BPPE Disclosures

Pacific Theological Seminary (Pacific) is a private institution and is approved to operate by the California Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education (BPPE). Approval to operate means compliance with state standards as set forth in the California Private Postsecondary Education Act of 2009.

Any questions a student may have regarding this catalog that have not been satisfactorily answered by the institution may be directed to the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education at (1747 North Market Blvd., Suite 225, Sacramento, CA 95834), (<https://www.bppe.ca.gov>), (Phone: (916) 574-8900, Main Fax: (916) 263-1897).

Prospective students are encouraged to review this catalog prior to signing an enrollment agreement and to also review the School Performance Fact Sheet, which must be provided to students prior to signing an enrollment agreement.

A student or any member of the public may file a complaint about this institution with the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education by calling (916) 574-8900 or by completing a complaint form, which can be obtained on the bureau's Internet Web site (<https://www.bppe.ca.gov>).

Pacific has no pending petition in bankruptcy, is not operating as a debtor in possession, and has not filed a petition within the preceding five years, nor had petition in bankruptcy filed against it within the preceding five years that resulted in reorganization under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code (11 U.S.C. Sec. 1101 et seq.).

The Office of Student Assistance and Relief is available to support prospective students, current students, or past students of private postsecondary educational institutions in making informed decisions, understanding their rights, and navigating available services and relief options. The office may be reached by calling (888) 370-7589, option #5, or by visiting [osar.bppe.ca.gov](https://osar.bppe.ca.gov).

## **Student Tuition Recovery Fund for California Residents' Disclosures (5 CCR 76215)**

The State of California established the Student Tuition Recovery Fund (STRF) to relieve or mitigate economic loss suffered by a student in an educational program at a qualifying institution, who is or was a California resident while enrolled, or was enrolled in a residency program, if the student enrolled in the institution, prepaid tuition, and suffered economic loss. Unless relieved of the obligation to do so, you must pay the state-imposed assessment for the STRF, or it must be paid on your behalf, if you are a student in an educational program, who is a California resident, or are enrolled in a residency program, and prepay all or part of your tuition.

You are not eligible for protection from the STRF and you are not required to pay the STRF assessment, if you are not a California resident, or are not enrolled in a residency program. It is important that you keep copies of your enrollment agreement, financial aid documents, receipts, or any other information that documents the amount paid to the school. Questions regarding the STRF may be directed to the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education, 1747 North Market Blvd., Suite 225, Sacramento, CA 95834, phone (916) 574-8900.

To be eligible for STRF, you must be a California resident or are enrolled in a residency program, prepaid tuition, paid or deemed to have paid the STRF assessment, and suffered an economic loss as a result of any of the following:

1. The institution, a location of the institution, or an educational program offered by the institution was closed or discontinued, and you did not choose to participate in a teach-out plan approved by the Bureau or did not complete a chosen teach-out plan approved by the Bureau.
2. You were enrolled at an institution or a location of the institution within the 120 day period before the closure of the institution or location of the institution, or were enrolled in an educational program within the 120-day period before the program was discontinued.
3. You were enrolled at an institution or a location of the institution more than 120 days before the closure of the institution or location of the institution, in an educational program offered by the institution as to which the Bureau determined there was a significant decline in the quality or value of the program more than 120 days before closure.
4. The institution has been ordered to pay a refund by the Bureau but has failed to do so.

5. The institution has failed to pay or reimburse loan proceeds under a federal student loan program as required by law, or has failed to pay or reimburse proceeds received by the institution in excess of tuition and other costs.
6. You have been awarded restitution, a refund, or other monetary award by an arbitrator or court, based on a violation of this chapter by an institution or representative of an institution, but have been unable to collect the award from the institution.
7. You sought legal counsel that resulted in the cancellation of one or more of your student loans and have an invoice for services rendered and evidence of the cancellation of the student loan or loans.

To qualify for STRF reimbursement, the application must be received within four (4) years from the date of the action or event that made the student eligible for recovery from STRF.

A student whose loan is revived by a loan holder or debt collector after a period of non-collection may, at any time, file a written application for recovery from STRF for the debt that would have otherwise been eligible for recovery. If it has been more than four (4) years since the action or event that made the student eligible, the student must have filed a written application for recovery within the original four (4) year period, unless the period has been extended by another act of law.

However, no claim can be paid to any student without a social security number or taxpayer identification number.

## **U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics OCC (Occupational Classification Codes)**

Clergy: 21-2011

Religious Workers: 21-2099