

# MASTER OF THEOLOGICAL STUDIES (M.T.S.)

## Purpose Statement

The Association of Theological Schools has established that the purpose of this degree is to provide a basic understanding of theological disciplines for further graduate study or for general educational purposes.

The Master of Theological Studies (M.T.S.) degree at George W. Truett Theological Seminary provides a basic foundation in biblical and theological disciplines and a concentration in a particular area of study and practice. It is designed to provide students with both a general theological education and the opportunity to concentrate in subjects important to their interests or ministries. As a general theological studies degree rather than a professional degree, it is not designed for students seeking ordination or leadership positions within congregations. It consists of a minimum of 48 credit hours and normally requires at least two years of full-time study to complete. An M.Div. student who intends to change to the MTS degree can only transfer a total of 12 hours of coursework without an extra fee. If an M.Div. student has earned more than 12 hours of coursework and wishes to change to the MTS degree, a fee will be assessed (see Financial Information section).

All applicants must have completed a baccalaureate degree or its equivalent from an accredited college or university.

## Primary Goals of the Program

The George W. Truett Theological Seminary of Baylor University creates a learning environment that shapes scholar-ministers for the Church in the historic orthodox Christian tradition. The Seminary does so in the larger context of a major national research university with a confession rooted in the historic Baptist tradition.

As evidence of the Seminary's commitment to both its ecclesial and educative contexts, Truett Seminary creates an intentional learning environment that promotes formation, and deepens knowledge.

Graduates of the George W. Truett Theological Seminary should be:

- Persons with a developing sense of calling and a growing dedication to the mission of God in the world;
- Persons with a deepening commitment to the life of the church;
- Persons who are continually being formed as followers of Christ, committed to integrating the Christian practices into daily life (e.g., worship, prayers, study, service);
- Persons of high ethical standards regarding their relationship and responsibility to self, family, congregation, colleagues, community, and creation.

Graduates of the George W. Truett Theological Seminary should know

- The narrative of Scripture including the contours of the biblical stories of Israel, Jesus Christ, and the church, as well as the central themes of creation, fall, redemption, mission, and recreation that shape the narrative;
- The Great Tradition (and traditions) of Christian thought;
- Baptist history and doctrine, while developing an appreciation for the wider ecumenical community;

- Appropriate means for articulating the Christian faith in light of the context in which she or he ministers.

## Student Learning Outcomes

The M.T.S. program at Truett Seminary seeks to achieve holistic student development by equipping students through theological and biblical reflection, and spiritual formation. The outcomes for this degree include:

- Graduates of the George W. Truett Theological Seminary will possess foundational skills in the study of content, context, and interpretation of Christian Scripture.
- Graduates of the George W. Truett Theological Seminary will possess foundational skills in the study of both the content and context of the larger Christian tradition.
- Graduates of the George W. Truett Theological Seminary will engage in patterns of practice and belief that will inform and enrich the spiritual life of the minister.

## M.T.S. Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Requirements</b>		
	Minimum requirement	(48)
	Residence requirements - minimum	(33)
Grade Point average – minimum of 2.00 or “C” overall in required courses		
<b>Course Requirements</b>		
<i>Spiritual Formation</i>		
PRTH 7101	Spiritual Formation I	1
PRTH 7102	Spiritual Formation II	1
PRTH 7103	Spiritual Formation III	1
PRTH 7004	Spiritual Formation Retreat	0
<i>Introductory Courses</i> <sup>1</sup>		
THEO 7340	Introduction to Christian Scriptures	3
THEO 7341	Introduction to Christian History and Theology	3
<i>Christian Scriptures</i>		
THEO 7370	Christian Scriptures I	3
THEO 7372	Christian Scriptures II	3
THEO 7371	Christian Scriptures III	3
THEO 7373	Christian Scriptures IV	3
<i>Christian Theology</i>		
THEO 7360	Christian Texts and Traditions I	3
THEO 7361	Christian Texts and Traditions II	3
THEO 7362	Christian Texts and Traditions III	3
THEO 7396	The Baptist Identity <sup>2</sup>	3
<i>Electives</i>		
Select twelve hours from the following courses: <sup>3</sup>		12
THEO 7346	New Testament Greek I	
THEO 7347	New Testament Greek II	
THEO 7356	Hebrew 1	
THEO 7357	Hebrew 2	
THEO 7V48	Greek Language Readings	
THEO 7V54	Hebrew Language Readings	
THEO 7V74	Old Testament Readings	

THEO 7320	Studies in Systematic Theology	
THEO 7364	Studies in Historical Theology	
THEO 7375	New Testament Readings	
THEO 7380	Studies in Christian Ethics	
<i>Summative Evaluation</i>		
THEO 7382	Constructive Theology	3
<b>Additional Requirement</b>		
Satisfactory academic progress		
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>48</b>

<sup>1</sup> These are required courses; however, based upon previous academic experience, students may petition to waive or substitute these courses. Introductory courses are waived from the degree plan by passing an advanced standing exam (see the Advanced Standing Policy (<https://catalog.baylor.edu/truett-theological-seminary/academic-regulations/#advanced>)).

<sup>2</sup> This course is required for all students receiving a Baptist scholarship.

<sup>3</sup> Additional courses must be approved by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.