

# Graduate School of Theology Academic Catalog

Mount Angel Seminary's Graduate School of Theology offers two degrees: the Master of Divinity, open to students seeking ordination in the Roman Catholic Church; and the Master of Arts, with a concentration either in Theology or Sacred Scripture, open to seminarians and qualified lay men and women interested in pursuing a theological education.

Communion Ecclesiology is the foundation and unifying factor of the graduate theological curriculum at Mount Angel Seminary. This ecclesiology also provides a vision—a vision of Trinitarian and personal communion—which informs and pervades the entire formational program of the seminary.

At Mount Angel Seminary, our vision of communion provides a model by which we are able to interpret and understand reality. It is grounded in the sacramental experience of our existence as members of the Church—that is, of the Trinitarian communion of God.

By holding before us the triune communion of God, the model informs our understanding of what it means to be created in God's image and likeness, and it helps us grow into the fullness of our stature as persons-in-communion. Our theology thus arises out of life in the Trinity, reflects on that experience, and returns to enrich our lives.

Having been initiated through Baptism and Confirmation into the communion of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we are deepened in that communion every time we celebrate the Eucharist.

The “shape” of the Eucharistic celebration images for us who God is and who we are: God is a communion of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and we are all together caught up into this communion. Our ongoing formation aims at ever more concretely embodying this image of communion in our way of being, loving, and working together.

Taking on the vision of communion ecclesiology will influence and inform all that we do. It does not simply give shape to our theological curriculum, but it also reshapes the way we approach liturgy, spiritual and personal formation, pastoral education, community life, and our interaction with each other in the world.



# Master of Divinity Degree: Goals of the Program

The Master of Divinity program assists students in integrating theological learning with pastoral skills, and their own continuing conversion to Jesus Christ, educating priesthood candidates in their search for “an ever deeper knowledge of the divine mysteries” (PPF 163). Intellectual formation for Master of Divinity candidates is to be “*fides quaerens intellectum*, faith seeking understanding.... The seminary study of theology begins in faith and ends in faith, as should all true theological inquiry and study.” (PPF, 163) To this end, the following goals should be met by the completion of the Master of Divinity degree:

## **The student can articulate the Catholic faith in a clear and appropriate manner:**

- Manifests understanding of Church as Eucharistic Communion and Trinitarian reality, created in the image of God who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- Recognizes the sacredness and dignity of the human person.
- Manifests understanding of and fidelity to the living tradition of the Church in light of the Second Vatican Council.
- Uses appropriate historical, philosophical and theological methodology and terminology.
- Analyzes and evaluates diverse authors and ideas critically and respectfully.

## **The student engages in prayerful integration as a means of integrating priestly formation with intellectual, spiritual, pastoral, and human dimensions:**

- Articulates the activity of God in experiences, both pastoral and personal.
- Demonstrates how the Tradition sheds light on pastoral situations.
- Shows a deepening understanding of priestly identity.
- Reflects on academic and pastoral experiences with openness and honesty.
- Arrives at new insights through reflection and study.
- Develops the habit of continued professional and theological formation.

## **The student manifests effective pastoral skills:**

- Demonstrates apostolic zeal.
- Shows awareness of his own strengths and limitations.
- Responds appropriately to men, women, and children from diverse backgrounds and situations.
- Knows the major needs of people in the (arch)diocese, parish, and other places of ministry.

- Shows ability in providing pastoral guidance.
- Is aware of professional ethical standards, applies them, and is accountable.
- Shows understanding of ecumenical guidelines and an ability to apply them appropriately.

**The student holds himself accountable to exhibit effective written and oral communication:**

Throughout the four years of theological studies, teachers assist students in attaining this goal through the “Preaching Project” which is designed to invite, to enable, and to evaluate students’ progress in the range of preaching skills across the various theological disciplines of the curriculum. As well as this, in the fourth year the MDiv project and seminar provide a comprehensive assessment of each student’s English communication skills.

**Individualized Education Plan (IEP)**

Students who require training in English language skills will be given individualized learning plans to help them meet seminary English language standards. Priority will be given to the development of oral skills, particularly pronunciation skills. The IEP will be tailored to each student’s needs based on test scores, background considerations, degree goals, formation level, and other relevant information. Although the IEPs outline a specific process by which students can meet seminary English standards and although the individualized plans will be monitored, students are primarily responsible for meeting the standards through their own hard work, motivation, and initiative.

**Master of Divinity Entrance Prerequisites**

Students applying for admission to the Master of Divinity Program must have a minimum G.P.A. of 2.50 from previous undergraduate or graduate work. Transfer students must show a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.50 for all transferable, credit-bearing graduate course work. Only those courses that are equivalent to courses in the graduate theology program at Mount Angel Seminary and for which the student has achieved a C grade or better may be applied towards a degree program. Decisions in this matter rest with the Academic Dean.

In addition to the general prerequisites for admission into the graduate school, the following items are required for entrance into the Master of Divinity program:

- A bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution recognized by Mount Angel Seminary, or its equivalent, at the discretion of the Admissions Board;
- Completion of 12 credits in Religious Studies;
- Completion of 30 credits in Philosophy;
- FE 412G, Ministry in a Multicultural Church (This course may be taken along with Master of Divinity courses.);
- Demonstration of written English competency.

## Master of Divinity Degree Requirements

With communion ecclesiology as its foundation, Mount Angel Seminary's Master of Divinity curriculum begins by showing how all the master themes of the Catholic theological tradition have their roots in the Eucharistic celebration. They unfold from there into specific disciplines, all under the force and direction of *faith seeking understanding*.

The first year lays the foundation methodologically, historically, and liturgically. In the second year, the curriculum moves to understanding the nature of the human person, created in the image and likeness of divine communion, with all the moral and spiritual implications of this. Students then explore Christology and Trinity: Christ reveals the Trinitarian communion as well as the divine intention of bringing us into that communion. In the third year students move to a synthesis of the entire theological exploration in courses called Communion Ecclesiology—a study of the Eucharist as it makes the Church and of the Church as it makes the Eucharist. In the fourth year the pastoral implications of this vision are explored.

### **Systematic Theology:** 45 credits

MDiv: 41 credits; Ordination: 4 credits  
ST 51 Introduction to Theology (2)  
ST 52 Theology of Liturgy (2)  
ST 53 Fundamental Theology (3)  
ST 54 Theological Anthropology (3)  
ST 55 Early Christian Classics (2)  
ST 61 Intro to Moral Theology I (2)  
\*ST 62 Intro to Moral Theology II (2)  
ST 63 Christian Initiation (2)  
ST 64 Christian Spirituality (3)  
ST 65 Christ and Trinity I (2)  
\*ST 66 Christ and Trinity II (2)  
ST 68 Ministry to the Sick and Dying (2)  
ST 72 Holy Orders (2)  
ST 73 Social Justice/Health Care (3)  
ST 74 Sexuality & Marriage (3)  
ST 75 Synthesis I (2)  
ST 76 Synthesis II (2)  
ST 81 Theo of Reconciliation (3)  
ST 83 Develop. of Liturgical Year (2)  
ST 84 Ecumenism in Practice (1)

### **Sacred Scripture:** 18 credits

MDiv: 15 credits; Ordination: 3 credits  
SS 51 Exegesis (3)  
SS 52 Synoptic Gospels (3)  
\*SS 61 Torah (3)  
SS 62 Psalms and Wisdom Lit (3)  
SS 71 Pauline Writings (2)  
SS 72 Prophets (2)  
SS 81 Johannine Writings (2)

### **Historical Theology:** 9 credits

MDiv: 4 credits; Ordination: 5 credits  
HI 53 Historical Foundations (2)  
\*HI 54 Middle Ages (2)  
HI 63 Reformation/Trent (2)  
\*HI 64 Modern Church History (3)

### **Canon Law:** MDiv: 5 credits

CL 71 Introduction to Canon Law (3)  
CL 72 Canon Law of Marriage (2)

### **Pastoral Theology:** 25 credits

PT 51 Intro to Pastoral Ministry (2)  
PT 52 Proclamation (3)  
PT 61 Intro to Preaching (3)  
PT 71 Liturgy Documents (2)  
PT 74 Adv. Preaching/Presiding I (3)  
PT 82 Presiding II (3)  
PT 83 Parish Administration (3)  
PT 84 Advanced Preaching II (3)  
PT 86 Pastoral Counseling (2)  
PT 88 Spiritual Direction (1)

### **Field Education:** 6 credits

FE 51 Field Ed Placement I (1)  
FE 52 Field Ed Placement II (1)  
FE 81 Field Ed Placement III (2)

### FE 82 Field Ed Placement IV (2)

### **Comprehensive Exam:** 2 credits

MDiv 81 (1)  
MDiv 82 (1)

### **Electives:** 6 credits

Choice from any disciplines

Priesthood candidates complete both the MDiv degree and additional ordination courses (noted with an \*).

MDiv: 104 credits  
 Ordination: 12 credits  
**Total: 116 Credits**

The Master of Divinity Degree may be awarded “With Honors” provided that:

- The student has achieved a 3.6 cumulative grade point average for courses taken at Mount Angel Seminary, and
- The student’s MDiv Comprehensive Examination is recommended for Honors distinction. The specific degree requirements, listed according to discipline, provide a theological education that is comprehensive and extensive, covering the range of Christian doctrine. All courses, both required and elective, are more completely explained in the course descriptions of this catalog.

***A Pastoral Internship year (FE 505–FE 506) taken after Theology II is recommended for all MDiv candidates. Those who do not participate in the Pastoral Internship year have an additional Field Education placement in Theology II, and take a summer Clinical Pastoral Education program. For a complete overview of the Pastoral/Field Education requirements, see section entitled “Pastoral Formation Field Education Options.”***

## Master of Divinity Degree: Curriculum by Year

### First year

Foundational courses in Theology, Biblical Studies, Historical Theology, Liturgy and Sacraments introduce students to a systematic approach to Theology, to the history and methodology of Biblical interpretation, and to the origins and development of the early Church. Students work with primary Patristic texts, Church documents and relevant scholarly writings. In this first year, they are also introduced to pastoral skills, which they use in field education and preaching.

| <b>Fall</b>                      |           | <b>Spring</b>                  |           |
|----------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| ST51 Intro to Theology           | 2         | ST 52 Theology of Liturgy      | 2         |
| ST53 Fundamental Theology        | 3         | ST 54 Theological Anthropology | 3         |
| ST55 Christian Classics          | 2         | PT 52 Proclamation             | 3         |
| HI 53 Historical Foundations     | 2         | SS 52 Synoptic Gospels         | 3         |
| SS 51 Exegesis                   | 3         | *HI 54 Middle Ages             | 2         |
| FE51 Field Ed I                  | 1         | FE 52 Field Education II       | 1         |
| PT 51 Intro to Pastoral Ministry | 2         | <b>Credit Hours/MDiv</b>       | <b>12</b> |
| <b>Credit Hours/MDiv</b>         | <b>15</b> | <b>*Ordination</b>             | <b>2</b>  |

## Second Year

Having been introduced to the theological disciplines, students are prepared for the study of Christ and the Trinity in which they examine who Christ is, in his humanity and divinity, in relationship to the Trinity. They expand their study of Theology along with the study of Scripture and the History of the Church. They continue development of pastoral skills through classes in preaching and ministry to the sick and dying.

| <b>Fall</b>                  |           | <b>Spring</b>                  |          |
|------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|----------|
| ST 61 Intro Moral Theology I | 2         | *ST 62 Intro Moral Theology II | 2        |
| ST 63 Christian Initiation   | 2         | ST 64 Christian Spirituality   | 3        |
| ST 65 Christ & Trinity I     | 2         | *ST 66 Christ & Trinity II     | 2        |
| *SS 61 Torah                 | 3         | ST 68 Ministry/Sick/Dying      | 2        |
| HI 63 Reformation/Trent      | 2         | SS 62 Psalms & Wisdom Lit      | 3        |
| PT 61 Intro to Preaching     | 3         | *HI 64 Modern Ch. History      | 3        |
| <b>Credit Hours/MDiv</b>     | <b>11</b> | <b>Credit Hours/MDiv</b>       | <b>8</b> |
| <b>*Ordination</b>           | <b>3</b>  | <b>*Ordination</b>             | <b>7</b> |

## Third Year

In the third year synthesis course, students review and integrate major theological themes, focusing on the Eucharist as it “makes the Church.” They continue with Biblical studies and Moral Theology and are introduced to Canon Law. Moving closer to ordination, they study liturgy, sacraments of vocation and further develop preaching skills. An integrated seminar at the end of the first semester centers on a case study in which students apply what they are learning in Scripture and Theology to a pastoral situation. Analysis should demonstrate not only that students are attaining the goals of the Master of Divinity degree but also show internalization of seminary formation by demonstrating sound prudential judgment, capacity for courageous and decisive leadership, and an ability to work in a collaborative, professional manner.

| <b>Fall</b>                      |           | <b>Spring</b>                   |           |
|----------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| ST 73 Social Justice/Health Care | 3         | ST 72 Holy Orders               | 2         |
| ST 75 Synthesis: Com. Eccl I     | 2         | ST 74 Sexuality & Marriage      | 3         |
| SS 71 Pauline Writings           | 2         | ST 76 Synthesis: Com. Eccl II   | 2         |
| CL 71 Intro Canon Law            | 3         | SS 72 Prophets                  | 2         |
| PT 71 Liturgy Documents          | 2         | CL 72 Canon Law/Marriage        | 2         |
| Elective                         | 2         | PT 74 Adv. Preach I/Presiding I | 3         |
| <b>Credit Hours/MDiv</b>         | <b>14</b> | Elective                        | 2         |
|                                  |           | <b>Credit Hours/MDiv</b>        | <b>16</b> |

## Fourth Year

While the pastoral dimensions of theology are integrated throughout the curriculum, the final year addresses more concretely the sacramental, liturgical, and pastoral dimensions of the Church's ministry. In the integrative assessment of fourth year theologians, students take a multi-faceted comprehensive examination which assesses their ability to articulate the Catholic faith in a clear and appropriate manner; show how well they engage in theological reflection as a means of integrating formation and of communicating effectively; and provide evidence of how they are developing skills for pastoral ministry.

| <b>Fall</b>                 |           | <b>Spring</b>                    |           |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| PT 84 Advanced Preaching II | 3         | *ST 84 Ecumenism in Practice     | 1         |
| ST 83 Devel/Liturgical Year | 2         | PT 82 Presiding II               | 3         |
| SS 81 Johannine Writings    | 2         | ST 81 Theology of Reconciliation | 3         |
| PT 83 Parish Administration | 3         | PT 86 Pastoral Counseling        | 2         |
| FE 81 Field Education III   | 2         | *PT 88 Spiritual Direction       | 1         |
| Elective                    | 2         | FE 82 Field Education IV         | 2         |
| MDiv 81 Comprehensive Exam  | 1         | MDiv 82 Comprehensive Exam       | 1         |
| <b>Credit Hours/MDiv</b>    | <b>15</b> | <b>Credit Hours/MDiv</b>         | <b>13</b> |

*\*ST 84 and PT 88 are taught consecutively, each for half of the semester.*

**Master of Divinity Credits: 104**  
**Ordination Credits 12**  
**TOTAL CREDIT HOURS 116**



# Master of Arts Degree: Goals of the Program

The Master of Arts degree at Mount Angel Seminary, like the Master of Divinity, is founded on communion ecclesiology, recognizing that the master themes of the Catholic theological tradition have their roots in the Eucharistic celebration. The program is designed to provide a solid theological foundation in the Roman Catholic tradition and the skills to communicate that knowledge effectively. To this end, the following goals should be met by the completion of the MA degree:

## **The student can articulate the Catholic faith in a clear and appropriate manner:**

- Manifests understanding of Church as Eucharistic Communion and Trinitarian reality, created in the image of God who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- Recognizes the sacredness and dignity of the human person.
- Manifests understanding of and fidelity to the living tradition of the Church in light of the Second Vatican Council.
- Uses appropriate historical, philosophical and theological methodology and terminology.
- Analyzes and evaluates diverse authors and ideas critically and respectfully.

## Master of Arts Entrance Requirements

Students applying for admission to the Mount Angel Seminary Graduate School of Theology must have a minimum G.P.A. of 2.5 from previous undergraduate or graduate work. In order to apply for the Master of Arts degree program within the graduate school, the student must have attained a minimum G.P.A. of 2.75. Furthermore all Master of Arts degree students must maintain a minimum G.P.A. of 2.75 to remain in the degree program. A review of each student's academic progress will be completed by the theology faculty to determine suitability for Master of Arts degree candidacy. Decisions in this matter rest with the Academic Dean.

In addition to the general prerequisites for admission into the graduate school, the following process is followed:

- Applicants whose admission documents are complete, and who meet the requirements (e.g. letters of recommendation; completion of a bachelor's degree) will provide a sample of writing according to the following guidelines:
- Without consulting any references, address the following questions, either as a unified essay or as discrete answers: Why do you want to study at Mount Angel Seminary? What is your understanding of Catholic tradition? What is the place of the Bible within the tradition? How familiar are you with the Documents of Vatican II and the Catechism of the Catholic Church? How familiar are you with the philosophy of Thomas Aquinas?

Do not spend more than an hour on answering these questions. Send them electronically or by mail to the Assistant Director of Lay Students.

- After representatives from the Graduate school have reviewed the writing sample, they will interview the candidate. Depending on the evaluation of the writing and interview, the student will either be admitted directly into the MA program, be required to take one or more prerequisite courses, do some directed/guided reading, or will be advised to look at another program.

*Ordinarily, all graduation requirements for the MA degree, whether in Theology or Sacred Scripture, must be successfully completed within five calendar years of entrance into the degree program.*

## **Master of Arts (Theology) Degree Requirements**

### **Systematic Theology** (21 credits)

ST 51 Introduction to Theology (2)  
ST 52 Theology of Liturgy (2)  
ST 53 Fundamental Theology (3)  
ST 61 Intro to Moral Theology I (2)  
\*ST 62 Intro to Moral Theology II (2)  
ST 63 Christian Initiation (2)  
ST 65 Christ and the Trinity I (2)  
\*ST 66 Christ and the Trinity II (2)  
ST 75 Synthesis: Com. Eccl I (2)  
ST 76 Synthesis: Com. Eccl II (2)

### **Sacred Scripture** (9 credits)

SS 51 Exegesis (3)  
SS 52 Synoptic Gospels (3)  
\*SS 61 Torah (3)

### **Historical Theology** (4 credits)

*Choice of any of the following courses:*

HI 53 Historical Foundations (2)  
\*HI 54 Middle Ages (2)  
HI 63 Reformation/Trent (2)  
\*HI 64 Modern Church History (3)

\***Free Elective** (2 credits)

### **\*MA Seminar**

2 credits (1 credit Fall semester/ 1 credit Spring semester)

Degree candidates work together under the direction of the seminar coordinator. Throughout the seminar, the students refine research skills and the ability to articulate topics in Theology and Sacred Scripture both in writing and orally.

### **\*MA Thesis**

4 credits (awarded on completion)

Degree candidates complete a 50-70 page research thesis under the supervision of a director, reader, and English standards reader. The thesis demonstrates the student's ability to do thorough theological research and to integrate pertinent theological material. Additionally, the student presents a seminar based on his/her thesis. Details regarding the MA thesis are available from the degrees committee chairperson.

### **\*MA Comprehensive Examination**

4 credits (awarded on completion)

Master of Arts degree candidates are examined orally on selected topics from the MA curriculum. The goals of the MA degree program are the criteria for assessment of the examinations. Details regarding the MA comprehensive examination are available from the degrees committee chairperson.

### **TOTAL: 46 Credits**

An \* indicates MA components that may not be applied toward an MDiv degree.

The Master of Arts Degree may be awarded "With Honors" provided that:

- The student has achieved a 3.6 cumulative grade point average for courses taken in the Mount Angel Seminary Graduate School Program, and

- The student's M.A. Thesis is recommended for Honors distinction. The specific degree requirements, listed according to discipline, provide a theological education that is "comprehensive and extensive, covering the range of Christian doctrine" (PPF 339). All courses, both required and elective, are more completely explained in the course descriptions of this catalog.



## Master of Arts (Scripture) Degree Requirements

### **Sacred Scripture** (16 credits)

SS 51 Exegesis (3)

SS 52 Synoptic Gospels (3)

\*SS 61 Torah (3)

*Choice of courses from Old Testament and New Testament (7)*

### **Historical Theology** (4 credits) Choice

of any of the following courses:

HI 53 Historical Foundations (2)

\*HI 54 Middle Ages (2)

HI 63 Reformation/Trent (2)

\*HI 64 Modern Church History (3)

### **\*MA Seminar**

2 credits (1 credit Fall semester/ 1 credit Spring semester)

Degree candidates work together under the direction of the seminar coordinator.

Throughout the seminar, the students refine research skills and the ability to articulate topics in Theology and Sacred Scripture both in writing and orally.

### **Systematic Theology** (12 credits)

ST 51 Introduction to Theology (2)

ST 52 Theology of Liturgy (2)

ST 61 Intro to Moral Theology I (2)

\*ST 62 Intro to Moral Theology II (2)

ST 65 Christ and the Trinity I (2)

\*ST 66 Christ and the Trinity II (2)

### **\*Biblical Hebrew or Greek**

(6 credits)

### **Free Electives** (2 credits)

### **\*MA Thesis**

4 credits (awarded on completion)

Degree candidates complete a 50-70 page research thesis under the supervision of a director, reader, and English standards reader. The thesis demonstrates the student's ability to do thorough theological research and to integrate pertinent theological material. Additionally, the student presents a seminar based on his/her thesis. Details regarding the MA thesis are available from the degrees committee chairperson.

### **\*MA Comprehensive Examination**

4 credits (awarded on completion)

Master of Arts degree candidates are examined orally on selected topics from the MA curriculum. The goals of the MA degree program are the criteria for assessment of the examinations. Details regarding the MA comprehensive examination are available from the degrees committee chairperson.

### **TOTAL: 50 credits**

An \* indicates MA components that may not be applied toward an MDiv degree.

The Master of Arts Degree may be awarded "With Honors" provided that

- The student has achieved a minimum 3.6 cumulative grade point average for courses taken at Mount Angel Seminary Graduate Program, and
- The student's M.A. Thesis is recommended for Honors distinction. The specific degree requirements, listed according to discipline, provide a theological education that is "comprehensive and extensive, covering the range of Christian doctrine" (PPF 339). All courses, both required and elective, are more completely explained in the course descriptions of this catalog.



# Baccalaureate in Sacred Theology

In order to provide an ecclesiastical degree which initiates students into the whole compass of Catholic Theology, seminary students at Mount Angel Seminary are able to earn the degree Baccalaureate in Sacred Theology (STB) in affiliation with the Pontifical Athenaeum of Sant' Anselmo in Rome. San Anselmo was established as an institute of theological studies for the Cassinese Congregation of the Order of Saint Benedict by Blessed Innocent XI in 1687. Pope Leo XIII reestablished it on 4 January 1887 for students from all of the Benedictine congregations, and granted Sant' Anselmo the right to confer academic degrees in 1891. In 1933, Pope Pius XI bestowed the title "Pontifical" upon the "Academic Institute of the International College of Sant' Anselmo in Rome."

The STB degree provides a firm academic foundation for further studies in pursuit of post-graduate ecclesiastical degrees of License and Doctorate in Sacred Theology. As taught at Mount Angel Seminary, as well as at San Anselmo, the STB curriculum follows the standard lines of theology programs as outlined in the Apostolic Constitution of Pope John Paul II, *Sapientia Christiana*. Both San Anselmo and Mount Angel Seminary teach theology in the context of the Benedictine tradition: "The monastic practices of the celebration of the Divine Mysteries in the liturgy and of lectio divina give the tone for both teaching and study. This is not a theology only for those who lead the monastic life, but a monastic gift to theology's wider dialogue" (*Sant' Anselmo. Benedictine Tradition of Theology*).

The program for the STB at Mount Angel Seminary is ordinarily completed in four years, and may be earned concurrently with the Master of Divinity (MDiv), with some distinctive requirements for the STB degree, as explained below.

## Admission to the STB Program

Candidates for the STB at Mount Angel Seminary are first admitted to Graduate School of Theology as outlined in this catalog. In order to be admitted also to the STB program, students must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.75 from graduate or undergraduate work. Admission to the STB degree is made through the coordinator of the STB program.

## STB Degree Requirements

Mount Angel Seminary's philosophy and religious studies prerequisites follow the norms of the Program of Priestly Formation: thirty semester hours in Philosophy and twelve semester hours in Religious Studies. In addition, students complete one year of Latin or Greek, which may be completed concurrently with STB courses.

The STB degree itself consists of a four-year curriculum of theological studies, totaling 116 semester credits. This curriculum is the same as required for ordination as explained in the Master of Divinity Degree in this catalog. Students must maintain a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.3 and normally at least a B grade in each core subject. In addition, STB candidates must successfully complete a thesis and participate in the thesis seminar, demonstrating a grasp of theological concepts. The candidate must also sit a Comprehensive Examination at the conclusion of the program. These requirements coincide with Normae Servandae III, 7-8.

The Baccalaureate in Sacred Theology Degree may be awarded "With Honors" provided that:

- The student has achieved a 3.6 cumulative grade point average for courses taken at Mount Angel Seminary, and
- The student's STB Thesis/Comprehensive Examination is recommended for Honors distinction. The specific degree requirements, listed according to discipline, provide a theological education that is "comprehensive and extensive, covering the range of Christian doctrine." (PPF, 339) All courses, both required and elective, are more completely explained in the course descriptions of this catalog.

## Graduate School of Theology Course Descriptions

### Systematic Theology

Each of Mount Angel Seminary's Systematic Theology courses focus upon some aspect of communion ecclesiology. First year courses investigate historically, methodologically and liturgically the revealed foundations of theology. Courses taken in the second year focus upon the nature of the human person, made in the image of God, and the moral and spiritual implications of life in Christ. Students and faculty also explore the nature of Christ and the Trinity in preparation for third year studies which move to a synthesis of the vision in Eucharistic Ecclesiology: Eucharist as it makes the Church. The final year examines most explicitly the skills necessary for pastoral ministry.

ST 51

#### Introduction to Theology

2 credits

This course introduces the theological vision that organizes the entire graduate curriculum. It presents the master themes of the theological tradition as they are treated in academic theology. Taking as primary theology the entire liturgical experience and centering on the Eucharistic celebration that expresses the mystery of the Church, the course imparts a method of deriving and developing theological insight rooted in the experience of the Church at prayer.



ST 52

### **Theology of Liturgy**

2 credits

This course serves as an introduction to the major themes in Liturgical and Sacramental Theology building on the curriculum's theological vision of the Eucharistic celebration presented in ST 51. These major themes include the biblical theology of covenant with its fulfillment in the incarnation-death- resurrection of Jesus Christ; an historical survey of Sacramental Theology with particular attention given to the Council of Trent and the modern liturgical movement; contemporary approaches to Sacramental Theology; liturgical principles of time and space; sacramentals and indulgences, and issues in inculturation. Topics classically treated in "Sacraments in General" are considered in this context.

ST 53

### **Fundamental Theology**

3 credits

This course introduces the discipline of Fundamental Theology within the curriculum's theological vision of the Eucharistic celebration. It explores and develops the major themes of Fundamental Theology in both its dogmatic arm, which provides a common framework for the other theological disciplines, and its apologetic arm, which gives the reasons for belief to the "other". These major themes focus on the nature of Revelation and faith; the dynamic relation between Scripture, Tradition and Magisterium; the transmission of Revelation through history and its credibility. Special attention is given to Vatican II's *Dei Verbum*, theological epistemology and method, the important figures in Fundamental Theology, the act of faith, the relation between faith and reason, the relation between theology and Scriptural exegesis, and the credibility of the Paschal Mystery and the Church.

ST 54

### **Theological Anthropology**

3 credits

This course is a study of the human person shaped by creation in the image of the Triune God, the Fall, the Incarnation, restoration in Christ, and the Eschaton. Special attention is given to appreciating the scriptural foundations for these realities; to the most important classical and contemporary theological treatments of these topics; the development of a Catholic theology of grace; and to grace experienced individually and in the Christian community, particularly at worship.

ST 55

### **Christian Classics: Early Church to the High Middle Ages**

2 credits

Students will learn to perform a close reading on a primary text from the great literature of the Church and discuss the material in small groups as well as larger classroom setting. Readings may include: *The Didache*, Ignatius of Antioch, Origin, Clement of Alexandria, Egeria, St. Augustine, Gregory the Great, Irenaeus, Boethius, St. Peter Damian, Aelred of Rievaulx, Bernard of Clairvaux, and Hildegard of Bingen.

ST 58

### **Mariology**

2 credits

This course focuses on the theological origin and development of Mariology in scripture and tradition, with particular emphasis on the theology of Mary in relation to Christology,

ecclesiology and the development of doctrine; the significance of Mary as the Theotokos, the ever-virgin, the immaculately conceived and in her Assumption; Mary and ecumenism; and guidelines for contemporary Marian devotion found especially in *Lumen Gentium and Marialis Cultus*.

ST 61

ST 62

### **Introduction to Moral Theology I and II**

2 credits each

The prerequisite for all the other moral theology courses, ST 61 and 62 introduce the traditional principles and concepts of the discipline. In the first semester the basic principles, e.g., natural law, conscience, moral principles and methodology, as well as the magisterium's role in moral teaching—are introduced and discussed in an historical context, particularly as moral theology developed between Vatican Council II and the publication of Pope John Paul II's *Veritatis Splendor*. In the second semester the course develops a moral theology based on the virtues. Moral questions are placed in the context of magisterial teaching.



ST 63

### **Christian Initiation**

2 credits

While this course addresses the three sacraments of Christian Initiation, its emphasis is on the study of the sacrament of Baptism. It considers the various baptismal expressions and practices found in the New Testament, then provides a survey of the sacrament as found in the Church writings of the first three centuries. Greater emphasis is given to the fourth century mystagogical catechesis of Ambrose of Milan, Theodore of Mopsuestia, Cyril of Jerusalem, and John Chrysostom. The study of these Church Fathers provides the basis for a close examination of the present “Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults.”

ST 64

### **Christian Spirituality and Practicum**

3 credits

This class explores varying dimensions of Christian spirituality. Topics include biblical, historical, liturgical, doctrinal, and literary foundations of Christian spirituality. The course also includes an exploration of monastic and diocesan spirituality, as well as the spirituality of various religious communities. In the practicum, students are assigned to small groups in which various texts are analyzed and discussed.

ST 65

ST 66

### **Christ and the Trinity I and II**

2 credits each

Christology in the Christian scriptures: the person and mission of Jesus Christ is considered in the first semester. The course continues with the emergence of classic Christology and Trinitarian theology; the eclipse of Trinitarian doctrine and its 20th century reformulation; and lived Trinitarian faith, confessed in the creed and celebrated in the sacraments.

ST 67

### **Studies in Eastern Christianity**

2 credits

This course presents an introduction to the liturgy, liturgical arts, prayer and spirituality as important characteristics of the Christian East.

ST 68

### **Ministry to the Sick and Dying**

2 credits

This course examines the role of ministry in the context of acute, chronic, and terminal illness is studied, paying particular attention to the theological and practical dimensions. Special consideration is given to the Sacrament of Anointing and the rite of Funerals. The study of eschatology as it relates to these topics is included.

ST 69

### **Pastoral Apologetics**

2 credits

There is much interest in apologetics as a theological discipline today in a variety of media: radio, television, popular magazines and journals. This course taps into this interest in apologetics, but approaches it from a specific standpoint. That standpoint is shaped by the pastoral needs, questions and issues of an ordinary parish, for example: Why believe? How real is God? Why do bad things happen to people? Do we really need to worship? Why do young people not go to Mass? What is secularization? Do miracles happen? Is one religion as good as another? Are science and religion in opposition?

ST 72

### **Holy Orders**

2 credits

The course examines the sacrament of Priesthood/Holy Orders, studying both the historical development and theological understanding of this sacrament. A main consideration will be the relational connection of the one ordained to the person and ministry of Jesus the Lord and to His body, the Church, as articulated through such documents as *Presbyterorum Ordinis* and the *Directory on the Ministry and Life of the Priests*.

ST 73

### **Social Justice and Health Care Issues**

3 credits

This course is in the moral theology cycle. It presents an overview of principles and considers selected topics in the areas of social justice and health care ethics. Drawing from magisterial documents since Pope Leo XIII, the course concentrates on explaining

the rationale for the Church's involvement in social and political issues, studies some specific questions, and reflects on social justice in the light of a communion ecclesiology. In the second part of the course, some moral principles relevant to health care ethics are reviewed, and some specific areas and issues of health care ethics are studied.

*Prerequisites: ST 61 and ST 62.*

ST 74

### **Sexuality and Marriage**

3 credits

Another course in moral theology, ST 74 examines marriage and sexuality from a moral/pastoral perspective. Drawing from contemporary Church teaching, a Catholic approach to sexuality and marriage is established. Several pastoral and moral aspects of marriage-divorce and remarriage, birth control and Natural Family Planning, cohabitation, preparation for and spirituality of marriage, and family life are considered.

The course also deals with the questions generally covered in a course on sexual ethics.

*Prerequisites: ST 61 and ST 62.*

ST 75

ST 76

### **Theological Synthesis: Communion Ecclesiology I, II**

2 credits each

This course is designed to provide a synthesizing overview and integration of the curriculum. It takes place in two parts. Part I is given over in the main to ecclesiology, tracing historically the notion of the Church as "communion," from the New Testament to the present. Communion is seen as a leitmotif running through the history of the tradition, but with greater and lesser degrees of intensity at times. Ecumenism is understood to be a necessary dimension of communion ecclesiology, and particular attention is paid to the growth in ecumenical awareness from Vatican II's Decree on Ecumenism to Pope John Paul II's *That They May Be One*.

Part II of the course recognizes the Eucharist as the heart of communion, and so of the Church: "The Eucharist makes the Church." The ordinary of the Mass is treated as a classic text in which may be found not only all the traditional eucharistic doctrines (for example, sacrifice, real presence, eschatology, etc.), but also all the principal doctrines and themes of Christian faith.



ST 77A and B

ST 78A and B

### **Studies in Catholic Spirituality**

2 credits each

This is a seminar designed to help deepen our lived experience of faith, with daily encounters with the holy mystery of God. It includes careful, reflective reading and discussion of selected works and topics, for example: Hildegard's *Scivias*, Bonaventure's *Tree of Life*, Teresa of Avila's *Way of Perfection*, Newman's Sermons, stages in the spiritual journey, and Catholic devotional life.

ST 79

### **Theology with the Mystics**

2 credits

There has been a renaissance of interest in Christian mysticism, and "Theology with the Mystics" reflects that interest. The course sets out to describe mysticism in general terms, and proceeds to engage particular mystics in two ways: first, by providing a detailed introduction to the mystic's life, time and theological understanding; second, by a close reading, seminar-style, of selected mystical texts. The course builds on and builds up the knowledge of church history and historical theology which students are already developing. Both women and men are represented, and so are different perspectives in the Christian tradition. Thus, George Herbert is an Anglican, and there is a treatment of Simone Weil who never actually sought out baptism. This is an elective in Systematic Theology, and so the course aims not simply to provide access to the literature of the mystics in their historical context, but also to encourage a mutually critical and fruitful engagement between that literature, the Christian doctrinal tradition and the spiritual lives of the students.

ST 81

### **Theology of Reconciliation**

3 credits (2 credits coursework /1 credit practicum)

ST 81 examines the theology of sin and forgiveness. Special attention is given to the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation as the Church's means of reuniting sinners with the Body of Christ. A one-hour practicum reserved to seminarians prepares the students liturgically and pastorally for celebration of the sacrament.

ST 83

### **Development of the Liturgical Year**

2 credits

This course is a study of the Christian year as the basic expression of Christian spirituality. The course approaches the study historically, tracing the development of the Christian calendar from the original weekly Sunday worship to the present celebration of Christian time with the memorials, feasts, solemnities, seasons, and ordinary time, as they are experienced in the Eucharist and the Liturgy of the Hours.

ST 84

### **Ecumenism in Practice**

1 credit

This course examines "ecumenism at work" in the local Church, exploring in a practical way what may be done by the parish community with its pastor.

ST 85 A and B

ST 86 A and B

### **Systematic Theology Seminar I, II, III, IV**

2 credits each

These seminars provide opportunities for systematic engagement with persons, topics and themes in the Christian tradition, both historical and contemporary. Through careful reading and research, interpretation and analytic discussion, the seminar participants will experience "Faith seeking understanding." Examples: *The Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Gregory of Nyssa, the Theology of Karl Rahner, John Macquarrie, Hans Urs von Balthasar.

## **Sacred Scripture**

The words of the Bible "have been entrusted to the community of believers, to the Church of Christ, in order to nourish faith and guide the life of charity" (*The Interpretation of the Bible in the Church*, Pontifical Biblical Commission, 1993, #10). Accordingly, each of the courses in Sacred Scripture utilizes a variety of contemporary methods of interpretation to open the meaning of the Bible both intellectually and spiritually. The entire Scripture Curriculum contributes to effective preaching so that the community of believers may be nourished more fully at the Table of the Word as well as the Table of the Eucharist.

SS 51

### **Exegesis**

3 credits

In this course students are introduced to the exegetical methods of biblical criticism. To this end there will be exegetical applications to both Testaments with a view to preaching, pastoral work, moral decision-making and the spiritual life. Part of the methodology will be group work and the oral sharing of students' exegetical research to learn from each other. The Church's interpretation of the Bible is an important part of the course. *Prerequisite: RS 114 or equivalent.*

SS 52

### **Synoptic Gospels**

3 credits

Each Synoptic Gospel is studied separately to discover its theological richness and literary emphases. Highlighting each Gospel will be the major themes of discipleship, faith, the Galilean ministry, Eucharist, journey to Jerusalem, passion, death and resurrection of Jesus and the community situations of the primitive churches for whom each Gospel was written. *Prerequisite: SS 51.*

SS 61

### **Torah**

3 credits

This course will have a strong emphasis on the relationship of covenant as seen in the stories of the books of Torah. A second emphasis will be placed on Israel's religious consciousness in relationship to the social, religious, political and literary history of the ancient Near East. *Prerequisite: SS 51.*

SS 62

### **Psalms and Wisdom Literature**

3 credits

The entire corpus of wisdom literature in the Hebrew Bible, including the Psalter, will be studied in light of ancient Near Eastern wisdom traditions and how Israel saw herself in her covenantal relationship with her God. The Psalms will be seen in the light of Israel's liturgical celebrations, theological themes, literary types and their historical background. The other wisdom books will be studied in the Hellenistic background from which they were formed, in light of the way this literature helped the Jews to cope while living with a Greek diaspora. *Prerequisite: SS 51.*

SS 64

### **Historical Books of the Old Testament**

2 credits

The political life of the Israelite people is told in two major historical sections: the Deuteronomistic and Chronicles histories. Emphasis in this course is placed on the Deuteronomistic history with references to 1 and 2 Chronicles, Ezra and Nehemiah and 1 and 2 Maccabees. Themes that will be covered are Israel as a chosen people of God, covenant kinship, prophetic influence, obedience and land. Threaded throughout these books is the idea of how God fed the people with the divine word, with mighty deeds within a land "flowing with milk and honey." *Prerequisite: SS 51.*

SS 65

### **Women in the Bible**

2 credits

This course studies the legacy of women in the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures within the patriarchal structure of the Bible in order to appreciate the spiritual model they represent. The course provides a basis for understanding the relationship of Jesus to women (and vice versa) and how that relationship was drastically different from the acceptable established norms of the time. The cultural context of the Mediterranean world is studied in order to understand women in the context of Pauline, Pseudo-Pauline and Pastoral epistles. Part of the methodology of this course is to read material written by women about biblical women. *Prerequisite: SS 51.*

SS 71

### **Pauline Writings**

2 credits

The seven undisputed letters of Paul are studied in this course with exegesis of selected texts and consideration of recurring Pauline themes. Also included are the study of the person of Paul, his Jewish and Hellenistic background and his experience of the risen Lord; make-up of the communities to which Paul wrote, the challenges that faced them and Paul's method of addressing them; and issues in Paul's letters of concern for the Church and world today. Paul's understanding of the Church, particularly as expressed in 1 Corinthians, is analyzed as a foundational expression of communion ecclesiology. *Prerequisite: SS 51.*

SS 72

### **Prophets**

2 credits

This course will examine the historical development of prophecy, including both the former prophets and the more familiar classical prophets, the characteristics of prophecy, and the contributions of Israel's prophets to the life of individuals and the

communities to whom they preached. It will also cover themes relevant to all prophets: covenant, repentance, punishment for disobedience, courtroom speeches, rewards for faithfulness, exile, hope, and the eschatological banquet. The relevance of prophecy and its message will be seen in light of the New Testament and the life of the believer today.

*Prerequisite: SS 51.*

SS 73

### **Apocalyptic Literature**

2 credits

The major aim of this course is to help the student understand the literary form of apocalyptic, the historical milieu in which it had its genesis, and the Jewish and Christian use of this genre in its literature for a persecuted people. Not only the canonical books of Daniel and the book of Revelation are studied, but also the extra-biblical texts of the same genre written between 200 BCE to 200 CE. Theological and pastoral concerns are emphasized. *Prerequisite: SS 51.*

SS 74

### **Pastoral Letters**

2 credits

This course examines 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy and Titus, with consideration of their theological messages in light of the historical milieu of their communities and their relationship with the undisputed letters of Paul and other early Christian writings. Attention is given to the picture of Church ministry, Church leadership and the pastoral concerns of the letters. *Prerequisite: SS 51.*

SS 75

### **Hebrews and the Catholic Letters**

2 credits

These New Testament books provide a look at the Church as it is seen at the beginning of the second century after emerging into the structures of a Roman political environment. Seen also is the religious conflict within the communities. In addition to Hebrews, the Letters of James, Jude, 1 Peter and 2 Peter are studied. *Prerequisite: SS 51.*

SS 81

### **Johannine Writings**

2 credits

The goals of this course reflect the importance and influence of the Fourth Gospel on the Christian community from the Fathers of the Church to the present day. The uniqueness of John's Gospel, as well as its similarities to the Synoptic Gospels, is viewed in light of the high Christology of the Johannine community. Focus on the Christology, Ecclesiology, Sacramental theology, especially Eucharist and Baptism, and faith choices of the community members will be highlights of this study. *Prerequisite: SS 51.*

SS 83

### **Literature of the Intertestamental Period**

2 credits

The intertestamental period includes roughly the years 200 BCE to 100 CE. The writings of this period include Jewish literature contained in their apocrypha and pseudepigrapha books. The focus of the class is to see the relationship of the theology of these books to that of the canonical Jewish writings, especially in the wisdom, apocalyptic, patriarchal and liturgical traditions. Sections from the Qumran collections will be included. A thread

running throughout the course will be the influence of these books on Christian theology and literature. *Prerequisite: SS 51.*

SS 85

### **Biblical Seminar**

2 credits

This biblical seminar is an attempt to build a bridge between Scripture classes and Homiletics. Basic materials for building such a bridge will be taken from selected biblical readings used in the Sunday liturgy. *Prerequisite: SS 51.*

## **Historical Studies**

Historical Studies provides a narrative with which to understand the institutional history of the Church and its mission, as well as an opportunity for deeper understanding of its life through theological reflection. Following the PPF (#210), special emphasis is given to the lives of the saints, popes, and Church Fathers. Other lectures and presentations focus on the Catholic Church in the United States and are reflective of “her multicultural origins and ecumenical context.”

HI 53

### **Historical Foundations of Christianity**

2 credits

Students will study the foundation of the Church as faith community, its early forms of worship, organization, and discipline. Its growth and development as seen through the seven great councils and the writings of the Church Fathers will be presented along with due consideration of the rise of Christian culture in the realms of the arts and government.

HI 54

### **The Middle Ages**

2 credits

Beginning with the end of the patristic era and the seven great ecumenical councils, this course follows the increasing estrangement of east and west, the expansion of Byzantine Christianity to the Slavs, the barbarian invasion in the west and the development of the national states. It also investigates the development of religious orders, the relations of Church and state, the Turkish expansion and the Crusades, medieval reform and renewal, and concludes with a survey of the Renaissance on the eve of the Reformation.

HI 61

### **History of Medieval Devotion**

2 credits

This seminar will discuss devotional readings from the Middle Ages through the close of the 16th century in order to understand the rise and development of popular Christian devotion. Texts and authors may include Aelred’s *Spiritual Friendship*, William of Thierry’s *Golden Epistle*, the *Cloud of Unknowing*, Walter Hilton’s “Mixed Life,” Kempis’ *Imitation of Christ*, and More’s *Sadness of Christ*.

HI 62

### **History of Modern Devotion**

2 credits

This seminar will discuss selected devotional texts from the post-Reformation era to the present. Authors may include Gueranger, Newman, Guardini, etc.

HI 63

### **The Reformation and the Council of Trent**

2 credits

This class investigates the main theological and historical issues surrounding the Reformation with a tighter focus on the Eucharist/Liturgy and Sacred Scripture. The class alternates between lecture and seminar: lectures will provide overviews and analyses while seminars will discuss close readings of a variety of original sources (e.g. bishops' registers, popular and learned theological tracts, polemic). Students will write a research paper demonstrating an understanding of the Reformation's impact on a designated sacrament or sacramental.

HI 64

### **Modern Church History**

3 credits

Students will investigate the most profound challenges to the Church from the end of the 16th century to the present: the evangelization of new lands and peoples, the confrontation with 18th century science and the Enlightenment, and the accommodation to the modern secular state. We will pay particular attention to the history of the Church in the United States. Students will write one research paper demonstrating an understanding of the Church's position in one of the above areas.

HI 71

### **Studies in Patristic Exegesis**

2 credits

This seminar is designed to deepen the habitus of reading the scriptures within the interpretive tradition of the Church, familiarizing the student with various ways in which Fathers of the Church used and understood scripture.

## **Canon Law, Pastoral Theology, and Field Education**

Within the context of a curriculum based in communion ecclesiology, pastoral theology, canon law, and field education courses and practica center on service to the community of faith brought together in the celebration of the Eucharist.

## **Canon Law**

CL 71

### **Introduction to Canon Law**

3 credits

Canon Law structures the communion of the Church, guides its faithful in their mutual relations, and establishes an order that facilitates the development of faith, love, and charisms. This introductory course begins with an overview of law in the Church's history and theological tradition. It proceeds to a study of general norms (Book I); the Christian faithful and clerics, and pastors and parishes (Book II); and the legal aspects of Baptism, Eucharist, and Penance (Book IV). Practical application of the law for ministry is

emphasized through case studies.

CL 72

### **Canon Law of Marriage**

2 credits

Interpersonal and institutional dimensions of marriage. Its purposes, properties, sacramentality; prenuptial instruction, proof of freedom to marry, the right to marry, impediments; the nature of consent, knowledge, intention, freedom, solemnization, recording, effects, convalidation, dissolution, annulment, and jurisprudence. *Prerequisite: CL 71.*

CL 73

### **Seminar in Canon Law**

2 credits

Selected topics in Canon law, determined by professor and students, are discussed in a seminar format.

## **Pastoral Theology**

Pastoral formation “needs to be studied as the true and genuine theological discipline that it is; pastoral or active theology” (*Pastores Dabo Vobis, 1992, #57*). Thus, courses in pastoral theology contribute to the process of integrating the elements of intellectual, spiritual and human formation in order to minister effectively to the community. The seminarian becomes familiar with pastoral situations and an effective theology of ministry. Further, he is able to acquire demonstrable knowledge and skills in preparing for and celebrating liturgies, preaching the Word of God, counseling, spiritual direction and sensitivity to those who are suffering and marginalized.

PT 51

### **Introduction to Pastoral Ministry**

2 credits

This course introduces the student to basic considerations of pastoral ministry, as students become acquainted with the nature and language of applied theology. Pastoral skills are explored in the context of the source of ministry, the compassionate mission of Jesus Christ and his Church with emphasis on theological reflection.

PT 52

### **Proclamation**

3 credits

Effective proclamation necessitates first of all effective hearing, an openness to listen to the Word of God as well as the words and sounds of creation. In order to proclaim the Word of God effectively, it is also necessary to understand what words are in themselves; how the spoken word and other sounds communicate beauty, emotion, and meaning; what “Word of God” signifies; what the Bible says about words, the voice of God and listening; the meaning of “the Word made flesh;’ how the Word is communicated in the ongoing life of the Church. With this foundation, students will use prose and poetry from sacred and secular sources for developing skills in listening and proclaiming the word in an effective and appropriate manner. In addition, students will develop a collection of written resources on a variety of topics that they can use in preaching and teaching.

PT 61

### **Introduction to Preaching**

3 credits

This course introduces the student to the theology, science, and art of preaching. Using the "Introduction to the Lectionary," students will understand the Sunday homily to be a unique liturgical and revelatory event. Emphasis is placed on the methodology of preparing, writing, and the delivery of the Sunday homily. Students are also introduced to the "Preaching Project" portfolio as an important means of demonstrating their homiletic competence.

PT 71

### **Liturgy Documents**

2 credits

This course focuses on the liturgical documents that are a manifestation of the Church's "faith, experience and reflection." Whether at the Eucharistic table, celebrating the Liturgy of the Hours, a liturgy for children, preparing music for a gathered assembly or dealing with the art and environment for worship, these documents guide and direct how the Christian faith is celebrated, liturgically, by the Church.

PT 74

### **Advanced Preaching I/Presiding**

3 credits

Students will learn how to write and deliver homilies associated with a number of special occasions including baptisms, weddings, and funerals. Students will also learn how to preside as deacons at various liturgical celebrations. Continued development of the "Preaching Portfolio" gives evidence of the student's growing competence. *Prerequisite: PT 61*

PT 82

### **Presiding II**

3 credits

The Eucharist is the "source and summit" (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*) and the "highest expression and realization of the Church." It is imperative that the Eucharist and all the sacraments be celebrated by competent and professional leaders. This celebration practicum assists those who will serve the Church as presbyters to preside at the Eucharist as well as to celebrate the sacraments of Baptism and Marriage with reverence and confidence.

PT 83

### **Parish Administration**

3 credits

This course takes up various important aspects of parish administration with emphasis on the pastor as leader and an understanding of administration as ministry. Specific attention is given to general business matters for parishes, property matters, insurance issues, risk management, personnel, financial and budgetary matters. Students also gain familiarity with their own diocesan curia and its offices and systems. *Open to Theology IV seminarians only.*

PT 84

## **Advanced Preaching II**

3 credits

In conjunction with deaconate placements, this course is designed to refine and enhance the student's homiletic abilities. Special attention will be given to the use of stories, narrative, and metaphor. Additionally, students will learn how to preach a weekday homily as well as devise spontaneous prayers and the Prayers of the Faithful. By the end of this course, the student's "Preaching Portfolio" should give ample evidence of his homiletic competence and describe where the student recognizes areas for further development after ordination.

PT 86

## **Pastoral Counseling**

2 credits

Students will learn pastoring skills and the theological foundation for engagement in a variety of pastoral counseling situations. Topics include an overview of counseling theories, ethical issues, interviewing skills, crisis and marital counseling issues, and skills for appropriate referral. *Prerequisite: PT 51 or equivalent.*

PT 87

## **Homiletics in Spanish**

2 credits

The objective of this course is to provide methods and remove any obstacles to delivering the Word of God, most clearly in Spanish from Biblical texts. Both technical aspects (such as reading with clarity and intonation, delivering homilies with priestly presentation, and using tools like microphones effectively) and practical aspects will be covered. Practical aspects included are homiletic elaboration from the Old and the New Testaments and the Gospels, and for specific occasions like Sacraments, graduations, Quinceañeras, etc.

PT 88

## **Spiritual Direction**

1 credit

Reading and reflection on key aspects of the ministry of spiritual direction, followed by a supervised practicum and by classroom presentations and evaluation of student-prepared videos dealing with typical cases in spiritual direction.

## **Field Education**

Field education experience enhances and integrates the other dimensions of formation "so that the seminarian has opportunities to experience pastoral life firsthand" (PPF 239). On-site assignments in a variety of ministerial situations allow the seminarian to acquire collaborative skills and to reach a level of personal development fitting for a priest who acts in the person of Jesus Christ, Head and Shepherd of the Church.

FE 51

FE 52

1 credit each

Required of all seminarians

FE 61

FE 62

1 credit each

Required of seminarians tracking under Option B of the Master of Divinity requirements.

FE 71

FE 72

1 credit each

### **FIELD EDUCATION PLACEMENT**

Each seminarian is given a pastoral placement in a supervised situation where he can develop appropriate relational skills and develop his understanding of the mission of the Church. In this placement he is accountable to his on-site supervisor and to a self-designed learning agreement. Visits to the site by the seminary supervisor, as well as evaluations by the on-site supervisor and the seminarian himself provide assessment that encourages continued personal transformation.

FE 81

FE 82

### **Field Education Practicum III, IV**

2 credits each

This two-semester placement is for students who are in their fourth year of theology. The student is placed in a parish setting under the direct supervision of a pastor-supervisor. The student is expected to participate in a wide variety of parish experiences including, where possible, preaching at the Sunday Eucharist. This practicum is governed by a learning agreement drawn up between the student and the pastor-supervisor and with the approval of the Director of Pastoral Formation. A one-day workshop for pastor-supervisors and students is required before the placement starts. *Prerequisites: FE 51, FE 52, and PT 51 or equivalent education and/or experience.*

FE 505

FE 506

### **Pastoral Internship**

9 credits each semester/18 credits total

The internship is a nine-month placement in an appropriate parish within the (arch)diocese under the direction of a pastor-supervisor; it follows a learning agreement that calls forth an integration of all aspects of formation and clarity of vocation and priestly identity. Pastoral internship fosters a better knowledge of and identification with clergy and (arch)diocese. *Prerequisites: FE 51, FE 52, and PT 51 or equivalent education and/or experience.*

FE 507

FE 508

### **Pastoral Internship**

9 credits each semester/18 credits total

In certain cases, Pastoral Internship is extended so that the student can further develop and perfect those skills essential for parish leadership. The student's academic program is automatically extended by one year.

## Pastoral Formation Field Education Options

The Pastoral Formation program includes Field Education courses earning academic credit, supervised placements in pastoral settings, and guided theological reflection. The Director of Pastoral Formation oversees the program and is assisted by the seminary pastoral formation faculty and volunteer site supervisors. A complete description of the Pastoral Formation program is available from the Director of Pastoral Formation.

The standard pastoral formation program (A) is recommended for all seminarians. Those who do not complete the standard program, follow the alternative plan (B). Either A or B must be completed to earn a Master of Divinity degree.

### A. Standard Pastoral Formation Program

#### Theology I

**FE 51, FE 52 Field Education Placement** (1 credit each)

Pastoral Placement both semesters

4 to 6 hours per week

See course description under Field Education.

#### Theology II

No placement

**FE 505, FE 506 Pastoral Internship** (9 credits each semester - 18 credits total)

See course descriptions under Field Education.

#### Theology III

No Placement

#### Theology IV

**FE 81, FE 82 Field Education** (2 credits each)

Pastoral placement both semesters

8 to 10 hours each week

Theological reflections

See course description under Field Education.

### B. Alternative Pastoral Formation Program

#### Theology I

**FE 51, FE 52 Field Education Placement** (1 credit each)

Pastoral Placement both semesters

4 to 6 hours per week

See course description under Field Education.

## **Theology II**

### **FE 61, FE 62 Field Education Placement** (1 credit each)

Pastoral Placement both semesters

4 to 6 hours per week

See course description under Field Education

### **Clinical Pastoral Education** (no credit)

Completed during the summer after Theology II or III, this 12 week intensive course of clinical pastoral work involves individual supervision and group dynamics in an ecumenical setting in a Catholic institution.

## **Theology III**

No Placement

## **Theology IV**

### **FE 81, FE 82 Field Education Practicum III, IV** (2 credits each)

Pastoral placement both semesters

8 to 10 hours each week

Theological reflections

See course description under Field Education.

## **Degree Projects**

MA 70

### **MA Seminar**

2 credits (1 credit Fall semester/ 1 credit Spring semester)

Degree candidates work together under the direction of the seminar coordinator.

Throughout the seminar, the students refine research skills and ability to articulate topics in Theology and Sacred Scripture both in writing and orally.

MA 71/ 72

### **MA Thesis**

4 credits (awarded on completion)

Degree candidates complete a 50-70 page research thesis under the supervision of a director, reader, and English standards reader. The thesis demonstrates the student's ability to do thorough theological research and to integrate pertinent theological material. Additionally, the student presents a seminar based on his/her thesis. Details regarding the MA thesis are available from the degrees committee chairperson.

MA 74

### **MA Comprehensive Examination**

4 credits (awarded on completion)

Master of Arts degree candidates are examined orally on selected topics from the MA curriculum. The goals of the MA degree program are the criteria for assessment of the examinations. Details regarding the MA comprehensive examination are available from the degrees committee chairperson.

MDiv 81 / 82

### **MDiv Comprehensive Examinations**

2 credits (1 credit in Fall semester/ 1 credit Spring semester)

The Master of Divinity Comprehensive examinations involve both oral and written components that examine candidates on their attainment of the goals of the MDiv Degree. In the first semester, students are examined on the first goal: The student can articulate the Catholic faith in a clear and appropriate manner. In the second semester attainment of two other goals of the degree program are assessed:

- The student engages in prayerful integration as a means of integrating priestly formation with intellectual, spiritual, pastoral, and human dimensions.
- The student manifests effective pastoral skills.

Details of the examination preparation and format are available with the Degrees Committee chairperson.

### **STB Thesis/Seminar**

2 hours no credit/2 hours no credit

Students studying for the STB attend the same class sessions as those students completing MA 70.



A view of the Willamette Valley from Mount Angel Seminary