



ST. VINCENT de PAUL REGIONAL SEMINARY



BOYNTON BEACH, FLORIDA

2022 - 2023
SEMINARY CATALOG



ST. VINCENT de PAUL REGIONAL SEMINARY

Boynton Beach, Florida / 2022 - 2023

St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary opened in 1963 and serves the Catholic Church in North America, the Caribbean, and Central and South America. Due to its location, history, and mission, St. Vincent de Paul offers a significant number of classes in Spanish, as well as a bilingual liturgical life and pastoral experiences in English and Spanish.

Corporate Title: Regional Seminary of St. Vincent de Paul in Florida, Incorporated

Address: 10701 South Military Trail, Boynton Beach, Florida 33436-4899

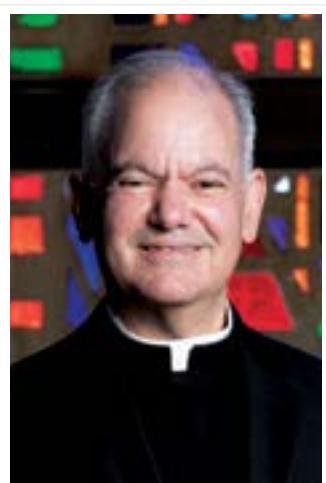
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This publication and its provisions are not in any way a contract between the student and St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary. The seminary reserves the right to revise any section or requirement herein at its discretion. Any information is available in Spanish upon request.

MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR



At St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary, we are proud of our 59-year history. Since our founding in 1963, we have been forming priests, permanent deacons, and laypersons for service to the Catholic Church. It is a privilege to be able to offer priestly formation for seminarians of the dioceses of the southeastern United States, as well as for religious communities and for other dioceses around the country.

Our degree programs for seminarians include the Master of Arts (Philosophical Studies for Missionary Discipleship) and the Master of Divinity. We also offer the Master of Arts (Theological Studies) for permanent deacon candidates and lay students, and lay students may enroll in the Master of Arts (Philosophical Studies for Missionary Discipleship) program.

Our formation program is deeply rooted in the *Program of Priestly Formation* (USCCB, 2006), *Pastores Dabo Vobis* (Pope Saint John Paul II, 1992), and the *Ratio Fundamental* (Congregation for Clergy, 2016). This program offers seminarians a solid foundation in the human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral dimensions of priestly formation. It also provides them the tools that missionary disciples of the twenty-first century will need to bring about the New Evangelization. We are currently working on the implementation of the sixth edition of the *Program of Priestly Formation* (USCCB 2022).

Our outstanding faculty not only possess the required ecclesiastical and academic degrees, but also have extensive pastoral experience, which is integrated into every aspect of formation. We seek to form shepherds after the Heart of Christ for service to the People of God. The *Ratio* gives us a clearer vision, enabling us to accompany seminarians on their journey of formation through the discipleship, configuration, and vocational synthesis stages. Furthermore, our bilingual formation program is the only one of its kind in the United States, helping our graduates to be truly able to go out to the peripheries. If you are a Diocesan Bishop, Vocation Director, or Director of Deacon Formation, or if you are an interested layperson, we are excited to present our seminary to you. Please feel free to contact me directly or the Academic Office if you have any further questions.

Father Alfredo I. Hernández
Rector/President
St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary

OUR MISSION

St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary shares in the mission of Jesus Christ "to bring the good news to the poor" (Luke 4:18) in the training of future leaders.

The seminary's primary mission is to foster the human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral formation of candidates for the Roman Catholic priesthood so that as ordained ministers they may share the joy of the Gospel with all.

Acknowledging the cultural makeup of Catholics in the United States, the seminary distinguishes itself in offering a comprehensive bilingual formation program, preparing future priests for ministry in both English and Spanish while cultivating a rich and diverse multicultural community.

The secondary mission of St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary is to provide graduate theological education for permanent deacon candidates, clergy, religious, and laity, as well as to offer ongoing clergy formation programs so that the evangelizing mission of the Church may continue and broaden its reach.

OUR HISTORY

At the invitation of the first Bishop of Miami, Most Rev. Coleman Carroll, the Congregation of the Missions (the Vincentian Fathers) opened St. Vincent de Paul Seminary in 1963. On July 1, 1971, when the Vincentian Fathers were no longer able to support the mission in Boynton Beach, the Archdiocese of Miami took over the operation of the seminary. In September of 1981, the Holy See granted the seminary regional status, with ownership and operation under the auspices of the Archdiocese of Miami and the Dioceses of Pensacola-Tallahassee, St. Augustine, and St. Petersburg. As of this date, the name of the seminary became St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary.

In October of 1984, when the Dioceses of Palm Beach and Venice were established, they immediately joined the corporation which owns the seminary. The Diocese of Orlando became a non-owning member of the Seminary Corporation in 1991 and became an owning member in 1998. Since that time, the entire Province of Miami has been united in the formation of its future priests, and with the addition of bishops and priests from dioceses in Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina to the Board of Trustees, the seminary is truly a regional institution.

The majority of the seminary's buildings were completed at the time of the opening in 1963, and St. Vincent's Chapel was dedicated 1966. The seminary's library and administration building were completed in 1995. During the seminary's Golden Jubilee year in 2013, with expanding numbers of vocations and a fifty-year-old infrastructure, the Board of Trustees launched a \$25 million capital campaign. The Board dedicated half of the funds to the renovation and expansion of the seminary and the other half to increase the endowment to ensure future sustainability. Completed in 2015, the new and renovated residence halls (each with a private bathroom) have 110 student rooms, with an additional 38 guest rooms available for the ongoing formation of the clergy, the formation of candidates for the permanent diaconate, and various other workshops and retreats.

St. Vincent de Paul has over 600 priest alumni serving in parishes throughout Florida and Georgia and all over the United States and Caribbean. Since 1972, the professional degree offered to seminarians preparing for the priesthood has been the Master of Divinity (M.Div.). Currently SVDP enrollment includes resident seminarians from the seven Dioceses of Florida (Miami, St. Augustine, Orlando, St. Petersburg, Pensacola-Tallahassee, Palm Beach, and Venice), the two Dioceses of Georgia (Atlanta and Savannah), as well as, Beaumont, Charleston, Raleigh, the St. Thomas SyroMalabar Catholic Diocese of Chicago, Las Cruces, NM, and the US Virgin Islands. Nonresident seminarians from the Redemptoris Mater Seminary of the Archdiocese of Miami are also enrolled in the M.Div. program.

In addition to preparing seminarians for the priesthood, the seminary has also provided theological education for deacons, religious, and laity in a variety of ways during its history. From 1980–2009, the seminary offered an M.A. in Theology, and since 2009, it has offered a Master of Arts (Theological Studies) (MATS). Candidates for the permanent diaconate of the Archdiocese of Miami and the Diocese of Palm Beach receive their academic formation and may pursue the MATS degree at the seminary. A number of lay and religious students are currently enrolled in the MATS program as well.

Since 2017, the seminary has offered a third degree program, the Master of Arts (Philosophical Studies for Missionary Discipleship) (MAPS). This degree program is primarily designed for seminarians fulfilling their pre-theology requirements and is also available to nonresident students seeking graduate education in philosophical studies. With the introduction of the MAPS and pre-theology programs, St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary is able to offer a fully-integrated program of formation for qualified candidates for the priesthood, covering all of their postbaccalaureate studies.

The seminary also offers a variety of programs of continuing formation for clergy, including the Priest Winter Institute and the Deacon Summer Institute. Since 2017, the seminary has served as the host for the Seminary Formation Council's Certificate in Seminary Formation program.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CALENDAR	4
<hr/>	
GENERAL INFORMATION	6
<hr/>	
ADMISSIONS	9
<hr/>	
PROGRAMS	
MASTER OF DIVINITY	11
<hr/>	
MASTER OF ARTS (PHILOSOPHICAL STUDIES FOR MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP)	24
<hr/>	
MASTER OF ARTS (THEOLOGICAL STUDIES)	30
<hr/>	
GENERAL ACADEMIC INFORMATION	34
<hr/>	
FINANCIAL INFORMATION	44
<hr/>	
OTHER POLICIES	49
<hr/>	
COURSE OFFERINGS	
MASTER OF DIVINITY	52
<hr/>	
MASTER OF ARTS (PHILOSOPHICAL STUDIES FOR MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP)	66
<hr/>	
MASTER OF ARTS (THEOLOGICAL STUDIES)	69
<hr/>	
SPECIAL ANNUAL PROGRAMS	74
<hr/>	
BOARD OF TRUSTEES	75
<hr/>	
FACULTY	76

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

FALL SEMESTER 2022

August 12	Student Council Arrives
August 12 – 14	MATS Weekend Classes Begin
August 14	All New Seminarians Arrive
August 22	All Returning Seminarians Arrive
August 29	M.Div. & Pre-Theology Classes Begin
August 29	All Returning Seminarians Arrive
August 31	Opening Academic Exercises
August 30	MATS Wednesday Night Classes Begin
September 2	Labor Day Break Begins
September 5	Labor Day: Administrative Offices Closed, no Classes
September 6	Classes Resume
September 12	Add/Drop Period Ends
September 16 – 17	Day of Recollection
September 16 – 18	MATS Weekend
September 24 – 25	Family Weekend/Lector & Acolyte Installation
October 7	Quarter Break begins after last class
October 10	Columbus Day: Administrative Office Closed
October 12	Classes Resume
October 14 – 16	MATS Weekend
October 21	Board of Trustees: no classes, Study Day
October 25 – 31	Pastoral Year Workshop
October 29	Day of Recollection
November 11 – 13	MATS Weekend
November 17	Thanksgiving Mass/Lunch - Full Community
November 18	Inter-Seminary Day at SJVCS
November 19	Day of Recollection
November 22	Thanksgiving Break begins after last morning class
November 23 – 25	Administrative Offices Closed
November 23 – 28	Thanksgiving Break
November 29	Classes Resume
December 1	Last Day to Submit Papers
December 2 – 4	MATS Weekend
December 5 – 9	Course Evaluations
December 12	Last Day of Class
December 13 – 15	Final Exams
December 15	Christmas Vespers and Dinner – Full Community
December 16	Semester ends, Christmas Break Begins
December 16 – January 6	Christmas Break
December 23 – January 2	Administrative Offices Closed

SPRING SEMESTER 2023

January 7	Pre-Theology I, II, Theology I, II & Pastoral Year Arrive
January 8 – 14	Annual Retreat
January 15	III & IV Theology Arrive
January 16	Martin Luther King Day: Administrative Offices Closed; Student Workshop
January 17	M.Div. & Pre-Theology Classes Begin
January 18	MATS Wednesday Night Classes Begin
January 20 – 22	MATS Weekend
January 26	Pastoral Care Exam/No Classes, Study Day
January 27	Add/Drop Period Ends
February 10	Inter-Seminary Day at SVDP
February 10 – 12	MATS Weekend
February 11	Day of Recollection
February 17	Quarter Break begins after last class
February 20	President's Day/Administrative Offices Closed
February 22	Classes Resume/Monday Class Schedule
February 24	Board of Trustees: no Classes, Study Day
February 25	MATS Comprehensive Exam
March 10 – 12	MATS Weekend
March 20 – 26	Pastoral Year Workshop
March 25	Day of Recollection
March 31	Holy Week Break begins after last class
April 1 – 11	Holy Week Break
April 6 & 7	Holy Thursday/Good Friday: Administrative Offices Closed
April 12	Classes Resume
April 22	Diaconate Ordination
April 24 – 28	Course Evaluations
April 28	Last Day to Submit Papers
April 28 – 30	MATS Weekend
May 1 – 3	II Pre-Theology & IV Theology Examinations
May 4	Day of Recollection, Theology IV
May 5	Last Day of Classes
May 8 – 10	Final Examinations
May 11	Commencement Exercises
May 12	Semester Ends

GENERAL INFORMATION

CHARTER

St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary was incorporated in 1960 as a nonprofit educational institution with the power, conferred by the state of Florida, to grant degrees.

ACCREDITATION

St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary is accredited by the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools. The Commission may be contacted at 10 Summit Park Drive, Pittsburg, PA 15275-1110, or call 412-788-6505. The following degree programs are approved by the Commission on Accrediting: Master of Divinity (M.Div.), Master of Arts (Philosophical Studies for Missionary Discipleship) (MAPS), and Master of Arts (Theological Studies) (MATS).

APPROBATION

The Florida Department of Veteran Affairs approves the seminary for enrollment of Veterans and War Orphans under section 1775 (a) (1) Chapter 36, Title 38, U.S. Code. Students taking a leave of absence must be terminated for VA pay purposes.

In accordance with Title 38 US Code § 3679 subsection (e), this school adopts the following additional provisions for any students using U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Post 9/11 G.I. Bill® (Ch. 33) or Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment (Ch. 31) benefits, while payment to the institution is pending from the VA. This school will not:

- Prevent the student's enrollment;
- Assess a late penalty fee to the student;
- Require the student to secure alternative or additional funding;
- Deny the student access to any resources (access to classes, libraries, or other institutional facilities) available to other students who have satisfied their tuition and fee bills to the institution.

However, to qualify for this provision, such students will be required to:

- Provide the enrolling institution with a copy of his/her VA Certification of Eligibility (COE)
 - A "certificate of eligibility" can also include a "Statement of Benefits" obtained from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) website; eBenefits; or a VAF 28-1905 form, for chapter 31 authorization purposes.

No Other Requirements Other Than COE Submission Required

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERSHIP

American Theological Library Association
Association for Institutional Research
Association for Theological Field Education
Association of Graduate Programs in Ministry
Association of Theological Schools
Association of Jewish Libraries
Catholic Association for Theological Field Education
Catholic Library Association

Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA)
 College & University Professional Association for Human Resources
 Council for Higher Education Accreditation
 Federation of Seminary Spiritual Directors
 Florida Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers
 In Trust Center for Theological Schools
 National Association of Catholic Theological Schools
 National Catholic Bioethics Center
 National Conference of Diocesan Vocation Directors
 National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA)
 National Organization for Continuing Education of Roman Catholic Clergy
 Southern Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

In compliance with state and federal laws, including (but not limited to) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Age Discrimination Act, and Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary does not engage in any unlawful discrimination on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, sex, age, disability, or veteran's status (or any other criteria protected by applicable law) in its access to educational programs and activities, treatment of Seminary Community members, admissions, or with regard to employment. Consistent with applicable laws, SVDP will maintain its Catholic character and implement programs, policies, and practices in furtherance of its religious identity and objectives as specifically allowed by state and federal law, including the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Inquiries may be directed to Title IX/EEO Coordinator, St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary, who has been designated by SVDP to coordinate its compliance efforts and carry out its responsibilities under Title IX as well as those under Section 504 and the Age Discrimination Act and other applicable nondiscrimination laws. The contact information for the Title IX/EEO Coordinator, Deputy Title IX/EEO Coordinators, and Independent Investigator can be found on the SVDP webpage: www.svdp.edu/nhsm. Inquiries may also be directed to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202-1100, Telephone number: 800-421-3481, Fax: 202-453-6012, TDD: 800-877-8339, Email: OCR@ed.gov.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students who have a documented disability for which they wish to receive academic accommodations should contact the office of the Academic Dean at (561) 732-4424 x161. Accommodations require documentation.

CAMPUS, EXTENSION SITE, AND ONLINE COURSES

The seminary is four miles from the city of Boynton Beach, and it is accessible from the Florida Turnpike and Interstate 95. It is within walking distance of banking facilities and shopping centers.

The campus itself comprises seventy acres. In the middle of the campus is the main seminary complex, which consists of sixteen buildings in a modernized Spanish-mission style. The heart of the seminary is St. Vincent Chapel because of its spiritual importance and architectural predominance. Broad outside corridors connect most of the buildings (resident wings housing the resident faculty and students, classrooms, refectory, auditorium, bookstore, student lounges, faculty meeting room, and faculty offices). A lake is located on the north side of the property, in front of the library/administration building.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The St. Joseph Community Center is a free standing facility located on the western side of the main complex. It contains the student recreation room, television room, laundry facilities, weight room, and a kitchen for the use of seminarians.

The outdoor athletic facilities include a basketball court, two tennis courts, a soccer/football field, a baseball/softball field, and a swimming pool.

Select courses in the Master of Arts (Theological Studies) Program are offered at St. John Vianney College Seminary in Miami.

All standards and policies in the *Seminary Catalog* apply equally to students on-campus, at the extension site, or in online classes.

THE LIBRARY

The library is located on the north side of the lake and is part of the building that also houses the administrative offices. It currently has 61,000 volumes and receives 186 periodicals.

Since the library serves the mission of the seminary, its collection is mainly comprised of works in philosophy and theology, with due regard to supportive disciplines.

Because of the bilingual and multicultural nature of the seminary, the library collection includes many titles in Spanish. Moreover, because of the seminary's unique geographical and cultural setting, the library also includes many Latin American resources.

Nearly all of the library's materials are in open stacks, readily available to users. There is also a Rare Books Room, which is kept locked, but is accessible during regular business hours. Resources in the library include a computer lab, internet and CD-ROMs/DVDs, and a photocopier. Professional staff is available for assistance to aid users in their research endeavors.

The library uses the Library of Congress Classification Outline to catalog new materials more efficiently. Interlibrary loan services are available through the Library Director. The library has nineteen study carrels, which students may reserve.

STANDING COMMITTEES

To assist in the process of formation, the seminary has standing committees made up of members of the administration, faculty, and/or student body. These committees help the Rector and Deans of Formation in the daily activities of the seminary community. They are:

I. Administrative Council

II. Faculty Council

- Academic Committee
- Ecumenical/Interreligious Dialogue Committee
- Information and Educational Technology Committee
- Library Advisory Committee
- Liturgical Life Committee
- Pastoral Life Committee

- Social Justice Committee
- Spiritual Life Committee

III. Student Council

IV. Formation Team

V. Admissions Committee

VI. Seminary Policy Committee

VII. Institutional Review Board



SEMINARY POLICIES

St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary maintains policies regarding student life and decorum. Many of these policies are summarized in the *Seminarian Handbook*, the *Nonresident Student Handbook*, or the *Seminary Catalog*. SVDP's policies are published in the Seminary Policy Compendium and are available to all SVDP constituents; they are also available to the public with approval of the Director of Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness or the Rector. Contact the Seminary Policy Compendium Manager at spcm@svdp.edu if you would like a copy of an SVDP Policy. SVDP policies include the following:

1. Academic Integrity
2. Work for Evaluation
3. Human Subjects Research and Scholarly Activities
4. Growth Counseling
5. Nondiscrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct
6. Hazing
7. Seminary Attendance
8. Timely Performance
9. Firearms
10. Smoking
11. Student Alcohol and Drug Use
12. Minors as Seminary Guests
13. Information Technology
14. Intellectual Property Rights
15. Formal Student Complaint Policy
16. Social Media Policy



ADMISSIONS

GENERAL NORMS FOR ADMISSIONS AT SVDP

SVDP, wishing to fulfill its mission of preparing "future leaders" for the Church, carefully considers applications for admission, determining whether the applicant is prepared for the academic program and, in the case of seminarians, for the program of priestly formation at SVDP. The Rector admits applicants, relying on the recommendation of the Admissions Committee, which is composed of the four Deans (Academic, Human Formation, Pastoral Formation, and Spiritual Formation) and the Rector. The requirements for admission to the seminary are described in this section. Specific requirements for the M.Div., the MAPS, and the MATS programs are presented together with the description of each. Transfer students are subject to the same admissions requirements as any potential applicant to SVDP. All applicants to SVDP are subject to the requirements below, regardless of whether they may take some courses via distance education or off campus.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION TO ANY ACADEMIC PROGRAM AT SVDP

SVDP admits qualified students prepared for graduate-level study in their program. All candidates for admission at SVDP are required to meet the following requirements and/or provide the following documents:

1. completed application form;
2. bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university or the equivalent of that level of academic achievement (to be demonstrated by an official transcript from each college, university, or seminary that the candidate attended, sent directly to the Registrar, and/or additional documentation to demonstrate equivalency and competence to complete a graduate-level program as indicated below; exceptions for admissions to the M.Div. program are noted below);
3. copies of immigration documents (visa, passport, etc.), if applicable;
4. if required in an individual case, scores for the Graduate Record Examination and/or the Miller Analogy Test;
5. for applicants whose undergraduate degree is from a non-English speaking country, the TOEFL-iBT score may be required as described in the degree program sections below;
6. an interview with faculty members representing the Admissions Committee, or in the case of the permanent diaconate candidate for the MATS program, with the (arch)diocesan admissions committee;
7. a cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a four-point scale*.

DEGREE EQUIVALENCY

In accord with its mission, which indicates that "the seminary distinguishes itself in offering a comprehensive bilingual formation program, preparing future priests for ministry in both English and Spanish while cultivating a rich and diverse multicultural community," SVDP recognizes the need to evaluate carefully the applications of students who have studied outside the United States.

To evaluate whether a prospective student who has earned credits abroad has the equivalency of a US bachelor's degree, for acceptance into the M.Div., MAPS, or MATS programs, an evaluation by a recognized agency, such as World Education Service, is used.

The Bachelor of Philosophy from Pontifical institutions is recognized as equivalent to a bachelor's degree from an accredited US institution. In the case of other degrees or studies taken at Roman Catholic seminaries outside of the US, the Academic Dean may examine the course of study, and if it materially matches the course of study at a US college seminary, the requisite undergraduate (or graduate) philosophy and theology credits are included in the program, and the total credits are the equivalent of a total of 120 or more semester hours of study, SVDP may recognize its equivalency to an earned bachelor's degree.

*ADMISSION ON PROBATION

The Admissions Committee reserves the right to require an academic entrance examination of a student, and/or admit him/her on probation, when the institution from which he/she transfers is not accredited or when his/her scholastic record is below a 3.0 cumulative GPA. A student must achieve good academic standing, a 2.7 cumulative GPA, in the first semester of studies to end such probation. In the event that a student does not achieve a 2.7 cumulative GPA by the end of the first semester, then the student will be considered to be in the second semester of academic probation status, subject to the process and procedures of the academic probation policy. In the interest of either the student or the seminary, St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary reserves the right to refuse to admit or readmit any student at any time.

PROGRAMS

PROGRAM ORIENTED TOWARD PRIESTLY ORDINATION MASTER OF DIVINITY (M.DIV.) DEGREE PROGRAM

A.1 - PURPOSE OF THE DEGREE

The seminary's primary purpose is the preparation of candidates for the Roman Catholic priesthood. The priesthood ordination program is a process of formation, which entails the proper preparation of candidates as ministers of Word and Sacrament for today's complex world. The *Code of Canon Law* states: "The Christian Faithful have the right to receive assistance from priests out of the spiritual goods of the Church, especially the word of God and the Sacraments" (can. 213). It is in light of this right of the Christian Faithful to worthy ministers of Word and Sacrament that St. Vincent de Paul fashions its Master of Divinity (M.Div.) and ordination programs.

The seminary fosters the formation of future priests by attending specifically to their human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral formation—the four dimensions of priestly formation developed in Pope St. John Paul II's 1992 Apostolic Exhortation *Pastores Dabo Vobis* (PDV):

These pillars of formation and their finality give specificity to formation in seminaries as well as a sense of the integrated wholeness of the different dimensions of formation. "Although this formation [in seminaries] has many aspects in common with the human and Christian formation of all the members of the Church, it has, nevertheless, contents, modalities, and characteristics which relate specifically to the aim of preparation for the priesthood... the Seminary should have a precise *program*, a program of life characterized by its being organized and unified... with one aim which justifies the existence of the Seminary: preparation of future priests" (*Program of Priestly Formation* [PPF], 5th ed., 2006, #70; internal quotation from PDV #61).

The *Ratio Fundamentalis* (Congregation for Clergy, 2016, #68) describes configuration to Christ as the most important task of the period of theological studies: "This configuration demands that the seminarian enter profoundly into the contemplation of the person of Jesus Christ, the beloved Son of the Father, sent as Shepherd of the People of God. It will make the relationship with Christ more intimate and, at the same time, will lead to an awareness and an assumption of priestly identity."

A.2 - PRINCIPAL GOAL OF THE MASTER OF DIVINITY PROGRAM

The M.Div. degree program at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary offers a graduate, professional degree to candidates for the Catholic priesthood. Its principal aim is to provide preparation for ordained priestly ministry, integrating the academic (intellectual), human, spiritual, and pastoral dimensions of formation.

A.3 - ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIC TO THE M.DIV. PROGRAM

In addition to the general requirements listed in "Requirements for Admission to Any Academic Program at SVDP" above, candidates for admission to the M.Div. program as resident seminarians are

also required to meet the following requirements and/or provide the following documents:

1. sponsorship by a diocese or religious community;
2. autobiography;
3. evidence of at least two years of philosophical studies in an official transcript sent directly to the Registrar;
4. psychological testing (report sent directly to the Rector's office);
5. physical exam report, including tuberculosis and HIV test results (report sent to the Rector's office);
6. certificates for Baptism, Confirmation, and First Eucharist (issued within the last six months and sent to the Rector's office);
7. for a candidate with previous seminary or religious community experience, a final evaluation or letter of recommendation from the previous seminaries or religious communities (sent to the Rector's office) and signed permission for the Rector to make inquiry concerning any previous seminary enrollment;
8. three references, together with signed permission for the seminary to follow up on them;
9. a current picture of the applicant;
10. copy of driver's license (if applicant does not have a driver's license, he will be required to apply for one in a timely manner after acceptance), with release authorizing SVDP to run the driver's license to check driving record;
11. VECHS Federal Background Check, including a fingerprint check;
12. participation in an accepted program for Protection of Children and Young People, such as VIRTUS;
13. if applicable, discharge papers from the armed services;
14. records of any Church ministry (candidacy, lector, or acolyte) previously received.

Nonresident seminarians applying to SVDP for the M.Div. complete the application form for nonresident students and only need to provide the documents indicated in #1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, and 14 above.

A.3.1. LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS FOR NON-NATIVE SPEAKERS IN THE M.DIV. PROGRAM

For applicants whose undergraduate degree is from a non-English-speaking country, the TOEFL-iBT may be required. The TOEFL iBT score required for graduate-level theology in English is 75 or higher. If a student's score falls below this requirement, the following policies apply:

1. If the TOEFL iBT score is between 65 and 75,
 - the student is admitted on probation;
 - the student must take a language placement assessment upon admission;
 - the student must take pastoral language courses;
 - the student's course load will be determined by scores on the TOEFL plus the required SVDP language placement assessment.
2. If the TOEFL iBT score is below 65,
 - the student is admitted on probation;
 - the student must take a language placement assessment upon admission;
 - the student must take pastoral language courses;
 - the student must take the English LTI-WPT (writing proficiency test) and English OPIc (oral proficiency interview) upon completion of Pastoral English IV;

- the student must obtain an Intermediate-High on the English LTI-WPT before taking graduate level theology courses in English;
- the student is allowed to take theology courses in Spanish while strengthening his English.

A.3.2. - ADMISSION BY EXCEPTION TO THE M.DIV. PROGRAM

A seminarian who has completed the requisite philosophy and theology studies for pre-theology, but does not have a bachelor's degree, may be admitted by exception to the M.Div. program, upon recommendation of the Admissions Committee. In the case of seminarians being considered for admission by exception, there will be a careful review of the transcripts from previous academic institutions, and of the recommendations of faculty and superiors from these institutions, in order to determine the prospective student's likelihood of success in the M.Div. program. This review will consider evidence of content knowledge, academic skills, capacity for graduate study, and life experience that has prepared the seminarian for graduate theological study. No more than 15% of an incoming M.Div. class may be admitted by exception.

A.4 - ACADEMIC DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

By vote of the faculty, the seminary will confer the M.Div. degree upon the candidate who has successfully met the following requirements::

1. the M.Div. plan of studies of 122 semester credit hours with a minimum of a 2.7 cumulative GPA.
2. a minimum of 61 semester credit hours as degree candidate with at least two full years of residency at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary (cf. A.5.3 Duration)
3. a minimum grade of B (83.5%) on the Pastoral Care Exam (*Cura Animarum*), which is the capstone requirement.
4. proficiency in English at an advanced (A) or superior (S) level according to the American Council on Teaching Foreign Languages (ACTFL) standards. Students whose pastoral language is English must complete language assessments to determine their standing. In addition, seminarians who are native English speakers are expected to be functionally proficient in Spanish at an intermediate-mid (IM) or higher level, have accomplished an increase of two sublevels on the OPIc/ACTFL scale, and be prepared to celebrate the Mass in Spanish competently by their IV theology class year. See below, p. 62, for further details.
5. the formation program requirements as outlined in the various seminary handbooks and in this *Catalog*.

At the request of a sponsoring diocese or religious community, and after consultation with the Formation Team, the Academic Dean may ask the faculty to approve a plan of studies for a candidate and to approve the conferral of the M.Div. degree, with some courses being waived, provided that the purpose of these courses has been met by other means.

A.4.1. PASTORAL CARE (*CURA ANIMARUM*) EXAMINATION

In this examination, the candidate must manifest an adequate understanding of theology and sufficient knowledge of pastoral practice. This examination serves as the capstone requirement for the M.Div. degree.

With regards to ordination, the examination also satisfies the requirements of the *Code of Canon Law*, can. 1051, before ordination to the priesthood.

If a student receives below a 3.0 average for the examination, he must retake the sections in which he scored below a B. The time and manner of this retake will be determined by the Academic Dean. A second failure disqualifies the student from receiving the M.Div. degree. Even if a student has a passing grade on the exam overall, students who score below a B in any particular area may be required to work with a faculty member to remedy the deficiency, if the concerns are judged to be significant by the examiners and/or the Academic Dean. Failure to correct the deficiency would also disqualify the student from receiving the M.Div. degree.

A.5 - DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM

A.5.1. CONTENT

The M.Div. program comprises four areas of formation: intellectual, human, spiritual, and pastoral.

The formation program for ordination is a five-year process for those who meet requirements determined for Catholic seminaries by the *Decree on Priestly Formation* of Vatican II and the fifth edition of the *PPF* issued by the USCCB. For those candidates transferring from other formation programs, the seminary requires a minimum of two years in residence before a recommendation for ordination to the diaconate or priesthood can be given.

TERMINOLOGY

I Theology	First academic year of theological studies
II Theology	Second academic year of theological studies
III Theology	Third academic year of theological studies
IV Theology	Fourth academic year of theological studies
Pastoral Year:	9-month internship in a diocese

As a holistic program, this process of formation requires the following of each candidate:

1. continuing sponsorship by a diocese or religious community
2. good physical and psychological health
3. an attitude of openness and depth, reflecting a priestly vocation
4. the establishment of good habits, attitudes, and practices in the spiritual life that will continue after ordination
5. the liturgical/sacramental formation that reflects the tradition and the public prayer life of the Church
6. the intellectual appropriation of the Church's teaching and tradition
7. pastoral attitudes and experiences that witness to the seminarian's preparedness for ministry
8. community participation that reflects the commitment which the seminarian aspires to make as a priest
9. openness to this seminary's bilingual and multicultural charism, and the desire to serve all of God's people

Within the four dimensions of formation, the M.Div. program provides a breadth of exposure to, and deeper understanding of, the theological disciplines throughout the configuration stage.

A.5.1.1. INTELLECTUAL FORMATION

The area of intellectual formation provides structured opportunities to develop a comprehensive and discriminating understanding of Roman Catholic theology. The Student Learning Outcome for Intellectual Formation indicates that the graduate will

demonstrate a competent understanding of Catholic theology (including Scripture, systematic theology, moral theology, canon law, and historical theology) and the ability to research and develop well-grounded theological arguments (including the ability to conduct research using appropriate resources, synthesize and logically organize information, evaluate nuanced perspectives, and connect to one's own spiritual life and to pastoral practice).

(Intellectual Formation: M.Div. SLO-3)

The commitment to study, which takes up no small part of the time of those preparing for the priesthood, is not in fact an external and secondary dimension of their human, Christian, spiritual and vocational growth. In reality, through study, especially the study of theology, the future priest assents to the word of God, grows in his spiritual life and prepares himself to fulfill his pastoral ministry. (PDV #51)

The academic dimension of the formation program for ordination is fulfilled by the M.Div. plan of studies, which includes 122 core credit hours. The courses cover the following fields of theological studies: Scripture, systematic theology, moral theology, church history, canon law, pastoral theology, and electives. Additionally, students may be required to take pastoral language courses in order to attain proficiency in both English and Spanish. Details may be found in the Plan of Studies (A.9). Qualified candidates admitted into the formation program are enrolled in the M.Div. plan of studies. Transfer students from other seminaries may enter the M.Div. degree program if they have been in the M.Div. or an equivalent program at the seminary from which they transferred. To qualify for this degree, transfer candidates must enroll for a minimum of four full semesters of academic work (61 credits) at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary. (For full details of the M.Div. Degree academic requirements, transfer credits, etc., cf. the section *General Academic Information*).

A.5.1.2. HUMAN FORMATION

According to the Student Learning Outcome for Human Formation, the graduate will

manifest emotional, moral, and psychological maturity for Christian living, evangelizing witness, and joyful priestly service. (Human Formation: M.Div. SLO-1)

Every Seminary must have a program of human formation appropriate to the stage of the candidates' preparation, which seeks to prepare men to be bridges for, not obstacles to, the spread of the Gospel. The identity to be fostered in the candidate is that he become a man

of communion, that is, someone who makes a gift of himself and is able to receive the gift of others. He needs integrity and self-possession in order to make such gift. The capacity to be fostered is the affective ability to engage in pastoral leadership with Jesus as the model shepherd. (PPF #83)

Each applicant to the formation program of St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary is expected to undergo physical and psychological examinations as part of the entrance requirements. The physical and psychological well-being of the priest is very important since he will be ordained to assist others in human and spiritual growth. The formation program will challenge the candidate to examine and change attitudes and habits that hinder his freedom for ministry. The seminary is prepared, through trained personnel and facilities, to help the candidate in this aspect of formation. Student Learning Outcomes are measured systematically by a standard rubric by members of the Formation Team. In addition, the program of human formation provides opportunities that enable seminarians to grow in emotional maturity, moral integrity, and public witness. The program also helps them to develop an understanding of the multicultural realities and structures within which the Catholic Church lives and carries out its mission.

Finally, the Board of Trustees has mandated that the seminarians actively participate in annual Chaste Celibacy and Addiction Workshops. The seminary holds these workshops during closed weekends. On closed weekends, all seminarians are required to remain on campus.

A.5.1.3. SPIRITUAL FORMATION

The Student Learning Outcome for Spiritual Formation indicates that graduates will

evidence a theologically informed, developing priestly spirituality that embraces prayer, simplicity of life, obedience, pastoral service, attentiveness to the marginalized and social justice, a commitment to spiritual direction, a regular practice of the use of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a valuing of community, and chaste celibacy. (Spiritual Formation: M.Div. SLO-2)

The spiritual formation program is at the center of the whole formation program of the seminary.

Since spiritual formation is the core that unifies the life of a priest, it stands at the heart of seminary life and is the center around which all other aspects are integrated. Human, intellectual, and pastoral formation are indispensable in developing the seminarian's relationship and communion with God and his ability to communicate God's truth and love to others in the likeness of Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd and eternal High Priest. (PPF #115)

The seminarian gradually learns how to deepen his intimacy with Christ and develop an orientation to pastoral ministry. Both human development and spiritual progress are closely intertwined in this process of growth to priestly maturity. The seminarian needs a high degree of emotional maturity and personal holiness to enable him to accept priestly challenges and to exercise pastoral responsibility.

The seminary offers a variety of opportunities and activities to help the seminarian discern his vocation and grow in his relationship with Christ. The expansive grounds and chapels provide an atmosphere

for reflection and quiet meditation. Seminarians are expected to attend and participate in the daily Eucharist, Morning and Evening Prayer, days and weekends of recollection, conferences, retreats, and devotions. All these spiritual activities touch on the many themes of spiritual, communal, and pastoral life. Central to spiritual formation is the ongoing opportunity for personal spiritual direction. The spiritual director is a companion and guide who assists the seminarian in listening and responding to God's self-communication in the seminarian's life. The seminarian is presented with issues of priestly identity and service, such as sacrificial love, mature obedience, chaste celibacy, flexibility, simplicity in lifestyle, and commitment to social justice.

The Dean of Spiritual Formation, in consultation with the Rector, coordinates the spiritual life of the seminary. He coordinates the activities of all the spiritual directors of the seminary and ensures that each seminarian has a spiritual director. It is the responsibility of the Dean of Spiritual Formation to ensure that each seminarian is actively participating regularly in spiritual direction sessions with his individual director and for the systematic evaluation of student learning goals in this area.

A.5.1.4. PASTORAL FORMATION

The Student Learning Outcome most directly connected to Pastoral Formation indicates that the M.Div. graduate will

exhibit a substantive capacity for priestly ministry and pastoral leadership to the People of God as developed through field education placements and responsibilities. (Pastoral Formation: M.Div. SLO-4)

Graduates must also heed the call of Pope Francis for the Church to be "a community of missionary disciples" (Evangelii Gaudium #24), and thus will

express evangelical zeal and competency for pastoral outreach to all, with particular attention to the poor and marginalized, through the acquisition of pastoral language skills, awareness of cultural context, the application of theological material to pastoral situations, and well-developed preaching and teaching skills. (Missionary Discipleship: M.Div. SLO-5)

The pastoral formation program provides education, field placements, supervision, and theological reflection in the practice of ministry to help priesthood candidates to develop the attitudes and skills needed to fulfill these learning outcomes.

Pastoral formation provides an opportunity for the seminarian to exercise various forms of leadership in the Church and to learn and integrate the uniquely priestly dimensions of pastoral ministry. Supervision is provided by seminary pastoral staff, on-site supervisors, and trained volunteers. In addition, parish priests serve as valuable role models and teachers by their integration of a healthy prayer life, ongoing personal growth, and constant theological development within active priestly ministry.

In offering the seminarian various supervised experiences of pastoral ministry, the seminary seeks to help him to develop a zeal for the mission of the Church, a love for the pastoral care of God's people, and a pastoral acumen that reflects his readiness for ordained ministry. The Dean of Pastoral Formation and the Director

of Field Ministry are responsible for coordinating the pastoral formation program. Systematic assessments are achieved by means of a standard rubric to measure identified areas of growth in the Student Learning Outcomes.

The Pastoral Formation requirements consist of the following seminars, field placement assignments and, liturgical and preaching practica:

FIELD PLACEMENTS AND INTEGRATIVE SEMINARS

The following are requirements for the M.Div. Program:

PFS520 Introduction to Pastoral Ministry
 PFS530 Critical Issues in Pastoral Ministry
 PFS620 Theological Reflection
 PAS603 Pastoral Placement I
 PAS604 Pastoral Placement II
 PAS605 Pastoral Year Workshop I
 PAS606 Pastoral Year Workshop II
 PAS615 Pastoral Counseling I
 PAS616 Pastoral Counseling II
 PAS652 Liturgical Chant
 PAS660 Parish Administration
 PAS667 Catechesis, Missiology, and Evangelization

Seminarians will be assigned to a variety of pastoral placements during their years of formation. The minimum field placement hourly requirements per week are:

First Theology	-	2 hours
Second Theology	-	2 hours
Third Theology	-	2 hours
Pastoral Year Internship	-	9 month placement
Fourth Theology (Deacon Year)	-	weekend placement

LITURGICAL PRACTICA:

PFS700 Liturgical Practicum I
 PFS800 Liturgical Practicum II

PREACHING PRACTICA:

HOM620 Homiletics I
 HOM720 Homiletics II
 HOM730 Homiletics III
 HOM820 Homiletics IV

A.5.2. RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT

The M.Div. Program at St. Vincent de Paul has a multifaceted goal: the academic, human, spiritual, and pastoral formation of future priests. The importance of developing a comprehensive educational community is such that the M.Div. cannot be viewed simply as an accumulation of courses or of an individual's independent work.

To ensure the development of this educational community, no more than 61 semester hours of graduate credit work completed in other graduate theologates can be transferred into the M.Div. Program.

Any candidate who has transferred from another formation program must complete a minimum of two years in residence to receive the M.Div. or a recommendation for ordination to the diaconate or priesthood.

A.5.3. DURATION

The M.Div. Program is typically a five-year full-time program. SVDP meets the minimum standard required in the Program of Priestly Formation that, "At least four full years should be dedicated to graduate theological studies" (PPF #191). As indicated above, a candidate for the M.Div. at St. Vincent de Paul must complete at least two full years in residence.

Students have 7 1/2 years to complete the program. The 7 1/2 years begins on the opening date of the first semester in which coursework begins.

In extraordinary circumstances, a student can appeal the time frame to complete the program in writing to the Academic Dean. Such exceptions are rare and are based on factors such as illness or injury of the student; death or illness in the student's family that significantly affects the student; significant interpersonal problems with others; difficulties balancing school, work, and/or family responsibilities; leave of absence from formation; financial difficulties; or military deployment.

A.6 - EVALUATIONS, MINISTRIES, AND ORDERS

The formation program at the seminary is under the direction of the Rector. The Rector coordinates the various aspects of seminary formation, with the support of the Formation Team. Each resident seminarian has both a spiritual director and formation advisor while in formation.

A.6.1. EVALUATIONS

The formation process facilitates both the Church's and the candidate's own discernment of a priestly vocation through the annual process of evaluation. The formation advisor helps the seminarian with his growth and integration of the dimensions of priestly formation. More specifically, the formation advisor helps the candidate with the details of self-evaluation, yearly evaluations, and ultimately

recommendations for orders. It is the responsibility of the candidate to meet at least monthly with his formation advisor to discuss his progress in the formation process. This process involves the candidate, the Formation Team, the seminary community (through an endorsement process), and pastoral placement supervisors. Annual standardized assessment rubrics based on the requirements specified in the *PPF* are completed by the Rector, the Dean of Human Formation, formation advisors, faculty, and pastoral supervisors.

A.6.2. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CANDIDACY, MINISTRIES, AND ORDERS

Since the purpose of the formation program is to provide worthy candidates to the Church as priests, the seminary takes seriously its responsibility to recommend only worthy candidates to diocesan bishops for installation into the ministries of lector and acolyte, admission to candidacy, and especially ordination to the diaconate and the priesthood. Consequently, such recommendations are made only when the candidate has been involved in the seminary's formation program for a sufficient period of time.

A candidate is not considered for recommendation to the order of diaconate or priesthood unless he has been in the formation program of St. Vincent de Paul Seminary for at least two years. The seminary normally schedules ordination to diaconate during the spring semester of third theology, for those seminarians whose bishops wish them to be ordained to the diaconate with their classmates. Diocesan bishops generally schedule ordination to the priesthood after the deacon has completed his fourth year of theology.

A.7 - COMMUNITY LIFE

It is from the parish community that each seminarian comes as a candidate, and it is to the parish community that each candidate returns as a priest. Thus, the seminary fosters a sense of the Church as the community of God's people. By participating in community life, the candidate shares in the responsibilities and benefits of this community. Community life involves a common life of prayer, study, and work; sharing in the celebration of milestones within the process, both academic and pastoral; and shared liturgical and sacramental events. A true sense of respect and charity is an underlying premise of community life: "Love is patient; love is kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, hopes all things, endures all things" (1 Cor 13:4–7).

As a future priest, each candidate will be expected to be a leader of community and a public person. The seminary would be remiss in its responsibility if it did not train each candidate in these two specific areas. Seminarians are expected to contribute to the broader community life in the following ways:

Community Service: Community life requires that each seminarian contribute his time and talent for the common good. To this end, each seminarian is given a "stewardship assignment," which should take at least two hours of work weekly. The Student Council, in consultation with the Dean of Human Formation, distributes the stewardship assignments.

The **Student Council** is an important part of community life. It affords the opportunity for seminarians to participate in leadership roles and encourages creative and constructive activity in the community. The Student Council exists and operates as an organized committee, elected by the seminarians to do the following:

1. provide a vehicle for communication among administration, faculty, and seminarians
2. provide a forum for seminarians to share ideas, express opinions, and reach a consensus on matters that concern them
3. coordinate community activities and organizations
4. form *ad hoc* committees to address particular needs
5. administer students' funds and properties

Class Responsibilities: There are certain times during the semester when a class is expected to assume responsibility for community-oriented events. Examples include community dinners; social events; stewardship-appreciation days; and participation in annual fundraising events, such as Friends of the Seminary.

A.8 - BILINGUAL AND MULTICULTURAL LIFE

An essential component of St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary since 1971 has been its bilingual (English/Spanish) Program. Sensitive to the needs of the Church in Florida and throughout the United States, the seminary began this program to help students become bilingual and appreciative of the cultural differences in American society. In their Pastoral Letter of December 1990, *Heritage and Hope: Evangelization in America*, the U.S. Bishops affirmed that the diverse cultures and peoples of the Church in the U.S. are unique "gifts of God." This is the vision that has guided St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary in its commitment to the formation of priests who serve in a multicultural context.

Because of this vision and commitment, many aspects of the formation program are bilingual. Spiritual direction, formation sessions, counseling, liturgical celebrations, select academic courses, conferences, field education opportunities, and programs are offered in both Spanish and English. In addition, the seminary has an annual intercultural competency workshop and integrates intercultural competency throughout its courses, case studies, and assessments.

St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary is enriched with the presence of faculty members and seminarians from North and South America, the Caribbean, Europe, Asia, and Africa. Seminarians profit from a mixture of cultures and traditions as well as by practicing and perfecting their pastoral language.

The Pastoral Language Program at St. Vincent de Paul promotes awareness of our diverse world through a multi-layered, interdisciplinary approach to language learning and cultural understanding. This provides future priests with a linguistic flexibility, and consequent availability, to their parishioners that will enhance priestly ministry and pastoral care. In an increasingly interconnected world, such interpersonal skills will increase the effectiveness of our newly ordained priests wherever they may be assigned.

A.9 - OVERVIEW OF PLAN OF STUDIES FOR THE M.DIV. AND ORDINATION PROGRAM:

SEMESTER I		SEMESTER II	
BIB501	Intro. to Biblical Studies.....2	BIB510	Pentateuch .....3
THY530	Christian Spirituality.....3	THY501	Fundamental Theology .....3
THY540	Theological Anthropology .....3	THY541	Fund. Moral Theology .....3
THY610	Liturgical Theology .....3	HIS510	Church History I .....3
THY560	Proseminar and Intro. to Liturgical Music .....1	PFS530	Critical Issues in Pastoral Ministry ...2
PFS520	Intro. to Pastoral Ministry.....2	Pastoral Language (if required) .....3/2	
Pastoral Language (if required) .....3/2		TOTAL	..... 17/14 credits
TOTAL	..... 17/14 credits		
SUMMER			
PAS550S	Spanish Pastoral Immersion (if required).....2		
SEMESTER III		SEMESTER IV	
BIB610	Prophetic Literature .....3	BIB611	Synoptic Gospels .....3
THY510	Trinity .....3	THY611	Christology .....3
THY650	Sacraments I (Intro. Bapt. & Conf.) .....3	THY660	Sacraments II (Eucharist) .....2
HIS720	Church History II .....3	THY712	Human Sexuality and Marriage .....3
PFS620	Theological Reflection.....1	HOM620	Homiletics I .....2
Pastoral Language (if required) .....2		Pastoral Language (if required) .....2	
TOTAL	..... 15/13	TOTAL	..... 15/13
PASTORAL YEAR			
PAS603	Pastoral Placement I* .....3	PAS604	Pastoral Placement II* .....3
PAS605	Pastoral Year Workshop I* .....2	PAS606	Pastoral Year Workshop II* .....2
PAS667	Catechesis, Missiology, & Evangelization.....2	PAS660	Parish Administration .....2
TOTAL	..... 7	TOTAL	..... 7

SEMESTER V

BIB710	Pauline Letters.....	3
THY750	Sacraments III (Holy Orders)	2
THY640	Social Justice	3
LAW710	Canon Law I.....	3
HOM720	Homiletics II	2
PFS700	Liturgical Practicum I.....	1
ELECTIVE	.....	2
TOTAL	.....	16 credits

SEMESTER VI

BIB711	Johannine Literature	3
THY715	Ecclesiology/Mariology/Ecumenism ..	3
LAW711	Canon Law II	3
PAS615	Pastoral Counseling I	2
HOM730	Homiletics III	2
ELECTIVE	.....	2
TOTAL	.....	15 credits

SEMESTER VII

THY860	Sacraments IV (Penance & Anointing).....	3
THY840	Medical Ethics.....	3
HOM820	Homiletics IV.....	2
PAS616	Pastoral Counseling II.....	2
ELECTIVE	.....	2
TOTAL	.....	12 credits

SEMESTER VIII

BIB815	Wisdom Literature & Psalms	2
HIS820	Church History III	2
PAS811	Spiritual Direction	2
PFS800	Liturgical Practicum II.....	2
PAS652	Liturgical Chant.....	1
ELECTIVE	.....	2
TOTAL	.....	11 credits

*Seminarians from the Redemptoris Mater Seminary may substitute PAS607, PAS608, PAS707, and PAS708, over 2 years.

NOTE: The *Seminarian Handbook* contains more detailed expectations regarding the four dimensions of priestly formation.



PROGRAMS

MASTER OF ARTS (PHILOSOPHICAL STUDIES FOR MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP) DEGREE PROGRAM

B.1 - PURPOSE OF THE DEGREE

The Master of Arts (Philosophical Studies for Missionary Discipleship) (MAPS) is a graduate program of philosophical studies in preparation for graduate study in theology, further graduate study in philosophy for service to the Church, and/or continuing formation for the priesthood.

1. In keeping with the seminary's primary mission, the MAPS program provides the philosophical and preparatory theological background required by the *Program of Priestly Formation (PPF)* for entrance into an M.Div. program, in an environment where the four dimensions of formation for the priesthood are addressed.
2. In keeping with the secondary mission of the seminary, the MAPS program is available to nonresident students desiring to pursue graduate philosophical studies for service to the Church, preparing students to integrate theological and philosophical principles so that they can better engage the world today.

B.2 - PRINCIPAL GOALS OF THE MAPS PROGRAM

The goals of the MAPS program are expressed in the following Student Learning Outcomes, which call for graduates to be able to

1. demonstrate a comprehensive knowledge of philosophy necessary to pursue higher-level graduate study of theology, including the history of philosophy, logic, epistemology, philosophy of nature, metaphysics, natural theology, philosophical anthropology, and ethics (as outlined in the *PPF* #155–156, 182) (**Philosophical Content: MAPS SLO-1**);
2. demonstrate the knowledge of theology necessary to pursue higher-level graduate study of theology, including Church teachings, Scripture, and the role of the Church in the world (**Theological Content: MAPS SLO-2**);
3. integrate philosophical and theological concepts, demonstrating the ability to research the thought of and dialogue with philosophers of different eras, including modern thinkers, and the capacity to make the link "between philosophical insights and theological frameworks" (*PPF* 186) (**Integration: MAPS SLO-3**);
4. communicate graduate-level philosophical and theological concepts in appropriate writing or presentation style, in a way that is logical, engaging, and responsive to questions asked by scholars or the lay public today (**Communication: MAPS SLO-4**).

B.3 - ADMISSION TO THE MAPS PROGRAM

B.3.1. CATEGORIES OF ADMISSION

Students may be admitted in the MAPS program and/or the pre-theology program within four possible categories:

1. degree-seeking seminarians;
2. seminarians seeking to complete the requirements for pre-theology without pursuing the MAPS degree;
3. degree-seeking students who are not seminarians;
4. non-degree-seeking students who are not seminarians. (Students in this category can take up to nine semester credit hours before they must officially declare in writing their intent to enroll in the MAPS degree program.)

B.3.2. REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIC TO THE MAPS PROGRAM

In addition to the general requirements listed in "Requirements for Admission to Any Academic Program at SVDP" above, candidates for admission to the MAPS program are required to meet the following requirements and/or provide the following documents:

1. autobiography;
2. three letters of recommendation expressing the applicant's suitability for the MAPS program (for seminarians one from the seminarian's pastor and two from other priests).

For seminarian applicants only, the following are also required:

1. sponsorship by a diocese or religious community;
2. psychological testing (report sent directly to the Rector's office);
3. physical exam report, including tuberculosis and HIV test results (report sent to the Rector's office);
4. certificates for Baptism, Confirmation, and First Eucharist (issued within the last six months and sent to the Rector's office);
5. if there is previous seminary or religious community experience, a final evaluation or letter of recommendation from the previous seminaries or religious communities (sent to the Rector's office) and signed permission for the Rector to make inquiry concerning any previous seminary enrollment;
6. a current picture of the applicant;
7. copy of driver's license (if applicant does not have a driver's license, he will be required to apply for one in a timely manner after acceptance), with release authorizing SVDP to run the driver's license to check driving record;
8. VECHS Federal Background Check, including a fingerprint check;
9. participation in an accepted program for Protection of Children and Young People, such as VIRTUS;
10. if applicable, discharge papers from the armed services;
11. records of any Church ministry (candidacy, lector, or acolyte) previously received.

Nonresident seminarians applying to SVDP complete the application form for nonresident students and only need to provide the documents indicated in #1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, and 14 above.

B.3.3. LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS FOR NON-NATIVE SPEAKERS IN THE MAPS PROGRAM

For applicants whose undergraduate degree is from a non-English-speaking country, the TOEFL-iBT may be required. The TOEFL-iBT score required for the MAPS program is 75 or higher.

B.4 - DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM

B.4.1. ACADEMIC DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The MAPS program consists of a minimum of 42 semester credit hours distributed as follows (overview of courses presented at B.5):

1. 30 credit hours of philosophical studies with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.7.
2. 12 credit hours of theological studies
3. a comprehensive exam, with written and oral components
4. a philosophy/theology integration paper, as part of PHI545 (Philosophy/Theology Seminar)

B.4.2. CAPSTONE EXAMINATION

The comprehensive examination is a requirement for graduation from the MAPS program. This examination takes place during the second semester of the year in which the student expects to graduate. This examination includes written and oral portions. Students who receive below a 3.0 for the examination must retake it. The time and manner of this retake is to be determined by the Academic Dean. A second failure disqualifies the student from receiving the MAPS degree.

B.4.3. DURATION

The MAPS program requires four semesters of full-time study or its equivalent. Students have five years to complete the program. The five-year period begins on the opening date of the first semester in which coursework begins.

In extraordinary circumstances, a student can appeal the timeframe to complete the program in writing to the Academic Dean. Such exceptions are rare and are based on factors such as illness or injury of the student; death or illness in the student's family that significantly affects the student; significant interpersonal problems with spouse (including divorce and/or domestic violence), friends, or others; difficulties balancing school, work, and/or family responsibilities; leave of absence from formation; financial difficulties; or military deployment.

B.5 - OVERVIEW OF THE PLAN OF STUDIES FOR THE MAPS PROGRAM

The following is an overview of the MAPS plan of studies, assuming completion in two academic years:

SEMESTER I		SEMESTER II	
PHI500	Logic/Critical Thinking .....3	PHI502	Medieval Philosophy .....3
PHI501	Ancient Philosophy.....3	PHI520	Epistemology .....3
THY525	Fundamentals of the Catholic Faith I .....2	BIB520	Introduction to the Bible.....3
THY515	Intro to Sources and Methods of Prayer .....2	THY526	Fundamentals of the Catholic Faith II .....2
SEMESTER TOTAL 10 credits		SEMESTER TOTAL 11 credits	
SEMESTER III		SEMESTER IV	
PHI521	Ethics and Natural Law .....3	PHI504	Contemporary Philosophy .....3
PHI503	Modern Philosophy .....3	PHI545	Philosophy/Theology Seminar .....3
PHI522	Metaphysics .....3	PHI540	Philosophical Anthropology.....3
THY516	Vatican II and the Mission of the Church Today .....3	SEMESTER TOTAL 9 credits	
SEMESTER TOTAL 12 credits			

NOTE: With the permission of the Academic Dean, students who, based on previous academic work, show competence in the material covered by the prescribed theology courses may substitute electives from other SVDP offerings. Pre-theology students who do so would still need to take the same total number of credits in the M.Div. program.

B.6 - PRE-THEOLOGY PROGRAM

The primary intent of the MAPS program is to fulfill the requirements for intellectual formation which the *Ratio Fundamentalis Institutionis Sacerdotalis* (#63) describes as the "Stage of Philosophical Studies (or Discipleship)." This stage "allows for systematic work in the personality of the seminarian, in openness to the Holy Spirit" (*Ratio Fundamentalis Institutionis Sacerdotalis*, #63). The four dimensions of formation — intellectual, human, spiritual, and pastoral (described in detail in the description of the M.Div. program, see A.5) — are addressed extensively in the pre-theology program. The seminarian must fulfill not only the academic requirements, but also all the requirements of the formation program, as described in the *Seminarian Handbook*.

TERMINOLOGY

Pre-Theology I	First academic year of philosophical studies
Pre-Theology II	Second academic year of philosophical studies

Seminarians in the pre-theology program who are pursuing the MAPS degree follow the plan of studies below. The language courses may vary, based on the needs and abilities of the individual seminarian. Seminarians participating in the pre-theology program but not enrolled in the MAPS program also follow this plan of studies:

SEMESTER I		SEMESTER II	
PHI500	Logic/Critical Thinking .....3	PHI502	Medieval Philosophy .....3
PHI501	Ancient Philosophy.....3	PHI520	Epistemology .....3
THY525	Fundamentals of the Catholic Faith I .....2	BIB520	Introduction to the Bible.....3
THY515	Intro to Sources and Methods of Prayer.....2	THY526	Fundamentals of the Catholic Faith II .....2
PAS507/9	Basic Spanish I/Pastoral Spanish I..3	PAS508/510	Basic Spanish II/Pastoral Spanish II .....3
SEMESTER TOTAL 13 credits		SEMESTER TOTAL 14 credits	

SEMESTER III

PHI521	Ethics and Natural Law	3
PHI503	Modern Philosophy	3
PHI522	Metaphysics	3
THY516	Vatican II and the Mission of the Church Today	3
LAT551	Ecclesiastical Latin I	3
Pastoral Spanish I/III	.....	3/2

SEMESTER TOTAL 18/17 credits

SEMESTER IV

PHI504	Contemporary Philosophy	3
PHI545	Philosophy/Theology Seminar	3
PHI540	Philosophical Anthropology	3
LAT552	Ecclesiastical Latin II	3
Pastoral Spanish II/IV	.....	3/2

SEMESTER TOTAL 15/14 credits

SUMMER II

PAS550S Spanish Pastoral Immersion (if required).....	2
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NOTES: Some students may choose, based on the recommendation of the Pastoral Language Department and their formation advisors, to postpone Ecclesiastical Latin until the first year of the M.Div. Program. Students who are fluent in Spanish may, with the approval of the Academic Dean, take appropriate elective courses in the M.Div. Program.

B.7 - MAPS PROGRAM FOR FORMER SEMINARIANS

Any seminarian who withdraws from the pre-theology program and wishes to complete the MAPS degree as a nonresident student may request to complete the program as a nonresident student after a full semester from the date of withdrawal but within three years of the acceptance date into the pre-theology program. Any exception to this policy must be approved by the Admissions Committee.



PROGRAMS

MASTER OF ARTS (THEOLOGICAL STUDIES) (MATS) DEGREE PROGRAM

C.1 - PURPOSE OF THE DEGREE

The Master of Arts (Theological Studies) (MATS) is a graduate program of theology for lay and religious students. The MATS program offers theological preparation for ministries other than priesthood, such as the permanent diaconate or lay ecclesial ministry, for preparation for further graduate study in theology, or for personal theological enrichment. The program is aligned to the academic standards of *The National Directory for the Formation, Ministry, and Life of Permanent Deacons*. Candidates in formation for the permanent diaconate in the Archdiocese of Miami and the Diocese of Palm Beach receive their academic formation through the MATS program.

C.2 - PRINCIPAL GOALS OF THE MASTER OF ARTS (THEOLOGICAL STUDIES) PROGRAM

The goals of the MATS program are expressed in the following Student Learning Outcomes, which require graduates to be able to

1. express a competent understanding of Catholic theology including Scripture, systematic theology, moral theology, and historical theology (**Content: MATS SLO-1**);
2. develop theological arguments with pastoral applications, demonstrating the ability to conduct research using appropriate resources, synthesize and logically organize information, and evaluate nuanced perspectives (**Developing Theology: MATS SLO-2**);
3. communicate theological concepts for the lay public grounded in research and knowledge in a way that is engaging, contextually aware, and pastoral (**Communication: MATS SLO-3**).

C.3 - REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIC TO THE MATS PROGRAM

In addition to the general requirements listed in "Requirements for Admission to Any Academic Program at SVDP" above, the following items are required:

1. evidence of at least six semester credit hours of philosophical studies in an official transcript sent directly to the Registrar (students lacking these prerequisite philosophy courses may take noncredit courses offered at the seminary);
2. three letters of recommendation expressing the applicant's suitability for the MATS program;
3. autobiography.

C.3.1. LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS FOR NON-NATIVE SPEAKERS

For applicants whose undergraduate degree is from a non-English-speaking country, the TOEFL-iBT may be required. The TOEFL-iBT score required for the MATS program is 75 or higher.

C.3.2. REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIC TO THE MASTER OF ARTS (THEOLOGICAL STUDIES) (MATS) PROGRAM

CATEGORIES OF ADMISSION

Nonresident students may be admitted into one of two possible categories:

1. degree-seeking students;
2. non-degree-seeking, credit-earning students (Students in this category can take up to nine semester credit hours before they must officially declare in writing their intent to enroll in the MATS degree program; this option is primarily designed to accommodate degreed catechists and Catholic school teachers taking courses as part of ongoing professional development.)

C.4 - DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM

C.4.1. ACADEMIC DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The MATS program consists of a minimum of 48 semester credit hours distributed as indicated in the plan of studies below at C.5 with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.7.

C.4.2. PROPAEDEUTIC SEMESTER

Students admitted to the MATS program are required to complete a propaedeutic semester, which includes philosophy and writing-skills prerequisites, prior to beginning the full MATS program. The propaedeutic semester is not included in the 48 credits required for completion of the degree. A student who can demonstrate competence in these areas may appeal to the Academic Dean for a waiver of this requirement.

C.4.3. COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

The comprehensive examination is a requirement for graduation from the MATS program. This examination takes place during the second semester of the year in which the student expects to graduate. This examination includes written and presentation portions. Students who receive below a 3.0 for the examination must retake it. The time and manner of this retake is to be determined by the Academic Dean. A second failure disqualifies the student from receiving the MATS degree.

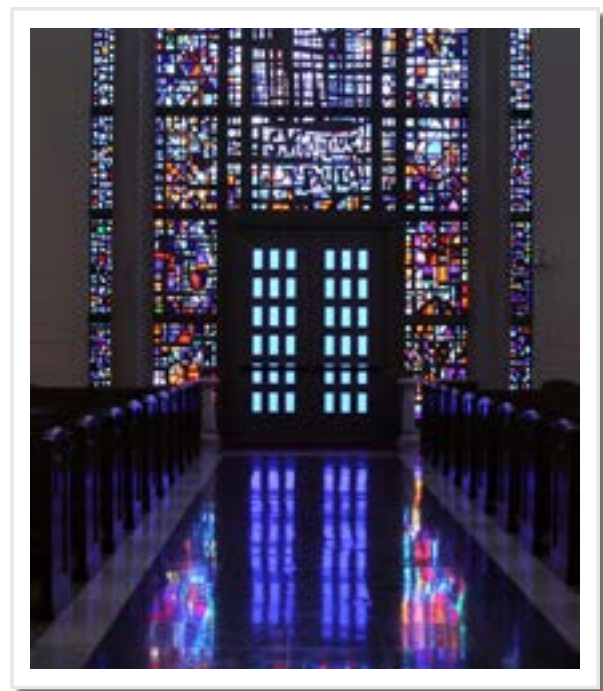
C.4.4. DURATION

The MATS program requires four semesters of full-time study or its equivalent. Nonresident students have five years to complete the program. The five-year period begins on the opening date of the first semester in which a student first takes courses in the MATS plan of studies described below, at C.5.

In extraordinary circumstances, a student can appeal the timeframe to complete the program in writing to the Academic Dean. Such exceptions are rare and are based on factors such as illness or injury of the student; death or illness in the student's family that significantly affects the student; significant interpersonal problems with spouse (including divorce and/or domestic violence), friends, or others; difficulties balancing school, work, and/or family responsibilities; leave of absence from formation; financial difficulties; or military deployment.

C.5 - OVERVIEW OF THE PLAN OF STUDIES FOR THE MATS PROGRAM

CURRICULUM	CREDIT HOURS
SCRIPTURE	
MBIB520 Intro. to Script. Theology	3
MBIB621 Survey of Old Testament.....	3
MBIB622 Survey of New Testament	3
SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY	
MTHY500 Intro to Syst. Theology	3
MTHY515 Trinity and Christology.....	3
MTHY545 Christian Anthropology	3
MTHY645 Survey of Sacramental Theol.	3
MORAL THEOLOGY	
MTHY541 Fundamental Moral Theology	3
MTHY650 Social Justice, Missiology and Evangelization	3
MTHY800 Medical Ethics & Sexual Morality ..	3
HISTORY	
MHIS550 Catholic Historical Theology	3
ELECTIVES.....	15
TOTAL CREDITS	48



C.6 - MATS PROGRAM FOR FORMER SEMINARIANS

Any seminarian who withdraws from the M.Div. program and meets the MATS admission requirements may apply to complete the MATS program as a nonresident student. This application must be made after a full semester from the date of withdrawal but within six years of the acceptance date into the M.Div. program. Any exception to this policy must be approved by the Admissions Committee.

C.7 - MATS PROGRAM FOR CANDIDATES FOR THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

The MATS program provides the intellectual formation for candidates for the permanent diaconate. This program offers a four-year cycle of courses in conjunction with the other dimensions of the diaconal formation programs of the Archdiocese of Miami and Diocese of Palm Beach. Weekend courses are offered once a month, for nine weekends during the academic year, at the Boynton Beach campus. In addition, MATS courses are offered at both the Boynton Beach and Miami campuses on Wednesday evenings. The course offerings for each year are available in the Academic Office.

The following courses, while they count as elective courses within the MATS program, are required for candidates for the permanent diaconate to complete their program requirements:

MLAW710	Canon Law	3
MHOM615	Theology of Preaching & Presentations	3
MHOM720	Homiletics II	2
MPAS615	Pastoral Counseling	3
MTHY525	Introduction to Christian Spirituality	2
MPFS700	Liturgical Practicum for Deacon Candidates I	1
MPFS800	Liturgical Practicum for Deacon Candidates II	1

In extraordinary circumstances, a student can appeal the timeframe to complete the program in writing to the Academic Dean. Such exceptions are rare and are based on factors such as illness or injury of the student; death or illness in the student`s family that significantly affects the student; significant interpersonal problems with spouse (including divorce and/or domestic violence), friends, or others; difficulties balancing school, work, and/or family responsibilities; leave of absence from formation; financial difficulties; or military deployment.

C.8 - CERTIFICATE IN DIACONAL STUDIES

St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary also offers the opportunity for candidates for the permanent diaconate who are not seeking the MATS to participate in non-degree, non-credit coursework to meet the requirements for ordination to the permanent diaconate. Further information about this program can be obtained from the Academic Office.

ACADEMIC YEAR

The academic year comprises two fifteen-week semesters, Fall and Spring.

CREDIT HOUR POLICY

SVDP adheres to the federal definition of a credit hour:

A credit hour is an amount of work represented in intended learning outcomes and verified by evidence of student achievement that is an institutionally established equivalency that reasonably approximates not less than—

- (1) One hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and a minimum of two hours of out of class student work each week for approximately fifteen weeks for one semester . . . hour of credit . . . or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time; or
- (2) At least an equivalent amount of work as required in paragraph (1) of this definition for other academic activities as established by the institution including laboratory work, internships, practica, studio work, and other academic work leading to the award of credit hours.

SVDP assigns one credit per each semester hour or for an equivalent amount of work meeting the graduate-level learning outcomes of the institution. Examination periods are included as instructional time.

The complete Credit Hour Policy is available in the Seminary Policy Compendium.

COURSE LOAD

Course load consists of all the required courses plus electives for which a student registers in a given semester. An M.Div. student may not carry more semester credit hours than is outlined in the M.Div. plan of studies, nor fewer than 11 credit hours, except by permission of the Academic Dean. A nonresident MATS student may not carry more than 12 credit hours per semester, except by permission of the Academic Dean. Full-time course load for any student is a minimum of 9 credit hours.

REQUIRED COURSES

Required courses for each program are the courses that all students in the M.Div., MAPS, and MATS programs must take, according to the seminary plan of studies (cf. M.Div., MAPS, MATS Plan of Studies).

ELECTIVE COURSES

General elective courses are credit courses which the student chooses to take in addition to required courses. Unless the Academic Dean grants an exception, an elective course must receive a minimum registration of five students in order to be taught.

INDEPENDENT STUDY COURSES

An independent study course is a tutorial course, which has its own proper title. It is designated as an elective for a student having a 3.50 or higher GPA who wishes to specialize in a particular area; or as a required course for a student who otherwise cannot take a core course.

The following procedure is to be followed for an independent study course:

1. By the end of the Add/Drop period, the student submits to the Academic Dean a registration form, indicating the instructor/director's acceptance to teach/direct the course.
2. The syllabus for the course, which should include a schedule of meetings, must be submitted with this form.
3. The Formation Advisor or the Director of Nonresident Students must approve the independent study course.
4. The Academic Dean must approve the independent study course.
5. Copies of research papers from specialized independent study courses are to be submitted to the Academic Office at the end of each semester.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

In the first week of the semester, students receive from the instructor a copy of the course syllabus for each course in which they are enrolled. In the syllabus, the instructor clearly makes known to the students policies concerning course requirements, assignments, papers, tests, quizzes, examinations, etc. He/she likewise conveys to the students the expectations, learning objectives, schedule, and all necessary information relative to determining course grades and other measures of student learning.

It is left to the judgment of each instructor to give oral or written tests or quizzes, with or without previous notice, to the students. However, instructors of required courses are expected to give final written examinations as scheduled by the Registrar at the conclusion of each semester, unless an alternative cumulative assessment is approved by the Academic Dean.

CLASS ATTENDANCE

Each student is expected to attend all scheduled classes and related academic programs. Unauthorized absences may result in loss of credit for the course. A student who is absent from class is required to make up missed work; arrangements to do so are the responsibility of the student.

A student enrolled to audit a class is expected to attend class regularly but is exempt from assignments, papers, tests, and examinations.

Please see the Timely Performance Policy on p. 40 for the policy concerning tardiness and late assignments.

ACADEMIC EVALUATION

The instructor submits to the Academic Dean at the conclusion of the semester an academic grade for each student. This grade involves consideration of the following indicators of student performance and learning: attendance; interest; initiative; engagement (e.g., participation in and contribution to class activities, discussions, and projects); and successful fulfillment of course requirements such as readings, papers, quizzes, and examinations. The academic evaluation is based upon the approved grading system.

GRADE DESCRIPTION	GRADE NUMBER SYMBOL	GRADE POINTS GRADE PER CREDIT HR.
EXCELLENT	A	94+
	A-	90-93
	B+	87-89
GOOD	B	84-86
	B-	80-83
	C+	77-79
AVERAGE	C	74-76
	C-	70-73
	D+	67-69
POOR	D	64-66
	D-	60-63
FAILURE	F	0-59%
INCOMPLETE	I	0.0
UNSATISFACTORY	U	0.0
WITHDREW	W	0.0
WITHDREW PASSING	WP	0.0
WITHDREW FAILING	WF	0.0
AUDIT	AU	0.0
EXCELLENT	Ex	0.0
GOOD	Go	0.0
SATISFACTORY	Sa	0.0
POOR	Pr	0.0
FAILURE	Fa	0.0

PASSING

The grade of **D** indicates that the student has passed the course and earned the corresponding credit and grade points. **D** however, is a minimum passing grade indicative of below average work and unsatisfactory quality.

The grades of **Ex** (Excellent), **Go** (Good), **Sa** (Satisfactory), **Pr** (Poor), and **Fa** (Failure) are used in the non-credit Certificate in Diaconal Studies program.

FAILURE

A student may receive the grade of *F* by reason of inadequacy in several categories listed under **Academic Evaluation**, including unauthorized class absences, unauthorized absence from the final examination, or the automatic conversion of an incomplete grade (see below). If a student receives the grade *F* for a course, no credit is given without repetition of the course. The course must be repeated if it is a required course. The grade of *Fa* or *U* is also used to indicate that a student has failed to complete satisfactorily a specific Pastoral Formation requirement for which academic credit may have been awarded. Pastoral field placement courses do enter into computation of grade point average (GPA).

INCOMPLETE

The grade of *I* is a temporary notation indicating that some course work, assignment, test, or examination has not been completed by the end of the semester because of some circumstance beyond the student's control, and the instructor, after consultation with the Academic Dean, has granted an extension of time for its completion. An incomplete grade must be removed before mid-semester of the following semester; otherwise, the incomplete grade automatically becomes an *F* or *Fa*. The individual instructor, in consultation with the Academic Dean, may specify an earlier deadline at the time the *I* is granted.

WITHDRAWAL

Withdrawal from a course may occur during the Add/Drop period. No student may withdraw at any time from a required course without the approval of the Academic Dean. After the Add/Drop period, withdrawal with approval will be graded *WP* or *WF* according to the judgment of the instructor. Withdrawal without approval from any course at any time will be graded *WF*. A student who withdraws from a required course must repeat that course.

GRADE IN QUESTION

Any question concerning a grade must be resolved by the student, in consultation with his formation advisor (for resident seminarians), the Academic Dean (for nonresident seminarians), or the Director of Nonresident Students (for nonresident students) and the instructor, within one week of the official notification of grades. If any change is to be made, a written request must be submitted to the Academic Dean by the instructor.

SCHOLASTIC INDEX

The cumulative grade point average (GPA) is the overall grade point average for all semesters completed. This is a student's scholastic index. Course credit hours are not computed if the grade is *W*, *WP* or *AU*; they are computed if the grade is *F* or *WF*.

SCHOLASTIC REPORTS

At the conclusion of each semester, students have access to their final grades via the SIS (Student Information System). A seminarian signs a release form authorizing the seminary to send a copy of his grades to his respective Ordinary and Vocation Director. Likewise, a permanent deacon candidate signs a release form authorizing the seminary to send a copy of his grades to his respective Ordinary, sponsoring pastor, and program director. Only the semester grades appear on the student's permanent record.

TRANSFER CREDIT POLICY

SVDP accepts graduate-level credit for transfer to its degree programs based on the content and quality of the coursework, including consistency with SVDP course and program outcomes; comparability with courses offered at SVDP; and degree program relevance. Graduate-level credit earned at accredited academic institutions or seminaries or from pontifical institutions is transferable to all degree programs at SVDP based on these criteria. Graduate-level credit earned at other institutions is evaluated on a case-by-case basis taking into account the same criteria. To evaluate credits of students who have earned credits outside the US, other than at pontifical institutions, an evaluation by a recognized agency, such as World Education Service, is used to supplement the evaluation process.

Credits to be considered for transfer must be in lieu of courses in the appropriate SVDP degree program or in lieu of elective courses at SVDP. The Academic Dean evaluates requests to transfer credits, consulting if necessary with members of the faculty with knowledge in particular fields, to determine whether the courses proposed for transfer are of equal academic rigor and have similar learning outcomes as the corresponding courses offered by SVDP. For seminarians and candidates for the permanent diaconate, the effect of accepting credits on the whole plan of formation is also considered in making determination about the acceptance of credits. All courses accepted for transfer must also be consistent with SVDP's mission and Catholic identity.

SVDP awards transfer credit both for credit received prior to enrollment at the seminary and for credit earned at other institutions while enrolled at SVDP. A maximum of 61 credits can be accepted in transfer for the M.Div. degree program (out of the minimum degree requirement of 122 credits), and a maximum of nine credits for the MAPS or MATS degree programs (42- and 48-credit programs, respectively). No grade below C or Pass for a Pass/Fail course is accepted in transfer for the M.Div. program, and no grade below B or Pass for a Pass/Fail course is accepted in transfer for the MAPS or MATS program.

In addition to the limits above, no more than half the credits from a previously completed degree may be transferred into any SVDP program. Generally, no credits earned more than seven years prior to entrance into SVDP are accepted for transfer credit hours. SVDP does not accept transfer credit for experiential learning (unless already credited by a graduate institution), prior learning assessment, prior noncredit work, or credit by examination.

A new student who wishes to transfer credits earned prior to enrollment at SVDP must request in writing for this transfer to occur within the first semester of admission to SVDP. Students who have received credit from other institutions for courses taken after enrollment at SVDP must request in writing that these credits be transferred and SVDP must have an official transcript documenting these credits. This request must be presented before the end of the following semester in which the student earned the outside credits.

Grades for credits accepted by transfer do not enter into the calculation of the SVDP grade point average (GPA).

The complete Transfer Credit Policy is available in the Seminary Policy Compendium.

¹ Discussion of the number of credits transferred in what follows assumes credits earned as semester hours equivalent to SVDP's definition of a credit hour. In the case of accepting credits for transfer from an institution on the quarter system, SVDP will multiply quarter hours by 0.67 to convert to semester hours. In certain circumstances, the Academic Dean may accept a 4-credit quarter-hour course that meets a SVDP 3-credit course requirement as fulfilling that course requirement in full (the 2.68 calculated semester hours would be rounded up to 3 credits).

²Per the academic degree requirements, M.Div. students must complete 61 semester credit hours as a degree candidate and at least two full years of residency at SVDP.

ACADEMIC PROBATION

Academic probation is a serious warning to the student that his/her academic record is unsatisfactory. A student is placed on academic probation if his/her cumulative GPA falls below 2.7.

A student on academic probation will be so informed as soon as possible by the Academic Dean. Thereafter, the student is expected to consult his/her formation or faculty advisor as directed.

The Executive Committee of the Academic Committee will review the case of a MATS student who has obtained, in two courses, grades lower than **B** in any one semester of study, or whose cumulative GPA falls below 3.0. After consultation with the student's faculty advisor, an appropriate course of action will be devised and its implementation monitored.

A MATS student on academic probation for two consecutive semesters will not be allowed to continue in the degree program. Upon recommendation by the Academic Dean, the Rector may allow such a student to register for Audit status.

The Formation Team will review the case of an ordination candidate who is on academic probation for two successive semesters, or has failed two courses in a single semester. Such a student may continue in the seminary only by special approval of the Formation Team. Any student who is receiving Veterans' benefits will be terminated for V.A. pay purposes if the student remains on academic probation beyond two consecutive semesters.

HONORS

A degree candidate who has maintained a high level of scholastic standing is awarded his/her degree with the following distinctions, provided that in the judgment of the Faculty Council he/she reflects the aims and objectives of this seminary:

1. Cum laude for a GPA of 3.5
2. Magna cum laude for a GPA of 3.7
3. Summa cum laude for a GPA of 3.9

VALEDICTORIAN

The title of valedictorian is awarded to the graduate with the highest GPA at SVDP among the graduates for that year for the M.Div., MAPS, and MATS, respectively. The valedictorian must earn at least 50% of his/her credits while enrolled in the SVDP degree program from which he/she is to receive a degree.

ACADEMIC RECORDS

The Registrar's Office, a subsidiary of the Academic Office, secures the academic records which originate from St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary, including the records of off-site students and students in distance education classes. The seminary maintains the confidentiality of educational records of all students on-campus, off-site, or in distance education classes in accordance with the *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act* (FERPA) of 1974 as amended.

All currently and formerly enrolled students have the right to review their academic records. However, documents submitted by or for students as part of the admission requirements are not available for review by the student, nor may they be released to a third party.

Requests for transcripts should be made in writing to the Registrar. There is a fee of \$5.00 for each transcript issued. Once requested in writing, the Office of the Registrar will issue official transcripts directly and only to agencies, institutions, or business concerns named by the student or former student making the request. Official transcripts are not issued to students or former students. An official transcript is one which bears the signature of the Registrar and date of issue on the line following the last entry on each page, and is imprinted with the seal of the Regional Seminary of St. Vincent de Paul in Florida, Incorporated.

POLICIES REGARDING WORK FOR EVALUATION

1) WRITING STYLE

All written work is to conform to the norms stipulated in the document "A Guide to Formatting Written Work at SVDP." The style described therein is based on the 17th edition (2017) of *The Chicago Manual of Style*.

2) USE OF GENDER-INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE

While the direct quotations from other works are to respect the language of quoted text, appropriate use of gender-inclusive language is expected in all written work.

3) WRITTEN WORK DUE DATE

The last possible submission date for written work such as papers, reports, etc., is determined by the Academic Dean, in consultation with the Faculty Council, and then published in the official Seminary Calendar. Instructors have the right to require due dates for written work prior to, but not after, this date. Additionally, students are expected to abide by the Timely Performance Policy (see below) regarding both written and non-written assignments.

TIMELY PERFORMANCE POLICY

Students are expected to be on time for all scheduled classes and have all work completed by the date indicated by an instructor either orally or as specifically indicated in the syllabus, which, by seminary policy, is subject to modification according to circumstances determined and articulated by the instructor.

Written work is due immediately upon entry to class of the assigned date, or at the discretion of the instructor, in electronic format by the date and time indicated in the directive. A student who is late for class should speak to the instructor explaining the reason for being tardy. If a student is late for a third class, or assignment within a semester, the appropriate formation advisor, the Director of Nonresident Students, and/or the student's diaconate formation office will be notified.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The development of moral leaders is foundational to the seminary and its programs. The seminary takes the matter of academic integrity very seriously. Integrity is essential not only to the seminary as an academic institution, but also to the seminary's goals of human, spiritual, and pastoral formation as well. Violations of academic integrity include but are not exclusive to the actions described below.

CHEATING

Cheating includes, but is not necessarily limited to the following:

- Looking onto another's work during an exam;
- Obtaining answers prior to an exam;
- Bringing resources that are not permitted into an exam;
- Copying from the work of another on exams or written assignments;
- Falsification, plagiarism, and improper use of materials;
- Misrepresentation of one's own or another's identity for academic purposes or of material facts or circumstances in relation to examinations, papers, or other evaluative activities;
- The sale, purchase, or the giving or receiving of papers, essays, or research for fraudulent use;
- The unauthorized recording, sale, purchase, or use of academic lectures without the expressed written consent of the instructor;
- Collusion.

Collusion is defined as cooperating with or an attempt to cooperate with another student in an act of academic dishonesty. Collusion is distinct from collaborative learning, which may be a valuable component to scholarly development and which may be encouraged in some courses. Students are expected to consult with their instructor if they are uncertain whether their cooperative activities are acceptable.

Instructors are to clearly state what materials may or may not be used on exams and assignments.

COPYRIGHT

Copyright infringements include violations of "fair use" as described in copyright law. Students of St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary are expected to abide responsibly by the standard guidelines of fair use doctrine for copyrighted materials, including seeking permission for the use or sharing of copyrighted material. Each student is expected to familiarize him or herself with the accepted standards of application.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is the act of taking the work presented in the ideas, data, illustrations, or statements of another person or source, and presenting them as one's own. It is an expectation of the seminary that all written and oral assignments will be prepared with full integrity. Materials from print, non-print, and electronic sources used in developing papers or presentations are to be carefully cited. Graduate-level standards would indicate a limited use of direct quotations. Oral presentations must acknowledge all outside sources. Plagiarism is a grave offense, entailing a grade of *F* for the assignment. Additionally, according to the specific circumstances surrounding the offense, failure of the course and dismissal from the program and the seminary are possible.

Some forms of plagiarism would include the following:

- Not quoting or citing any work that is not one's own;
- Using multiple sources to such an extent that one's paper or presentation no longer represents original work;
- Referring to or citing non-existing sources;
- Re-cycling one's own previous work without permission from the instructor;
- Downloading a paper and attempting to pass it in as one's own work;
- Using a paper or sections of a paper from another student or paper file and turning in that paper.

POLICY AND PROCESS REGARDING QUESTIONS OF ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Violations of academic integrity in any form are unacceptable behavior for a student in any program at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary. In case of suspected violations of academic integrity, the faculty member will speak to the student first. If the faculty member imposes an academic consequence, he or she will notify the Academic Dean. If the student chooses, he or she may appeal the consequence to the Academic Dean in writing within five business days.

The Academic Dean will attempt to resolve the matter to the satisfaction of the professor and the student. If no resolution can be reached, a disciplinary board will be convened. This board will consist of the Academic Dean, the Dean of Students (for alleged violations by seminarians) or the Director of Nonresident Students (for alleged violations by nonresident students), and an uninvolved faculty member. The board will investigate the matter and make its recommendation to the Academic Dean. If the violation is found credible, the Academic Dean will decide on an appropriate course of action which may include the following:

- a. failure of the assignment;
- b. failure of the course;
- c. suspension for the following semester from all courses;
- d. any combination of the above;
- e. dismissal from the seminary.

Any student who is dissatisfied with the decision of the Academic Dean may appeal in writing to the Rector within seven days of the finding. The decision of the Rector is final.

RECORDS

A record of reported violations of academic integrity and any subsequent proceedings will be kept on file in the office of the Academic Dean for the tenure of a student's enrollment.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY POLICY

The seminary administration recognizes the need to provide technological resources to support its mission statement. As a commitment to the teaching, learning, and research goals of the seminary program, every effort is being made to provide adequate electronic resources for students, faculty, and staff to assist and enhance the curriculum and the formation of priests, deacons, and laity. The Information Technology Policy is found in the *Seminarian Handbook*, *Nonresident Handbook*, and *Faculty and Administration Handbook*.

STUDENT TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to meet the minimum computer and technology requirements as presented in the SVDP Computer Specification Guidelines. Older computers often do not perform well on today's modern infrastructure. The SVDP Computer Specification Guidelines are designed to alleviate potential difficulties in utilizing the seminary's resources and completing academic work. The guidelines are available on the SVDP website at <https://www.svdp.edu/programs/techreqs> and in the Canvas student resource shells. The guidelines are also included in the program application materials. If a student's equipment does not meet the minimum requirements of the SVDP Computer Specification Guidelines, the student may not be able to fully meet course requirements, may not have proper network connectivity and support of seminary provided

software, and may forfeit the level-1 IT support that SVDP typically provides for nonseminary computers. If meeting the minimum technology requirements poses a significant hardship, the student should speak to the Academic Dean at the time of application or at the time a current student is no longer able to meet the requirements

HUMAN SUBJECTS RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES POLICY

All research and scholarly activities conducted with human participants at SVDP are guided by the moral principle of respect for the dignity of each person embodied in the Catholic moral tradition. In order to ensure that each person's autonomy and freedom are respected, this policy expresses the commitment of SVDP to ensure that all research by those affiliated with the seminary be conducted ethically. SVDP adheres to the criteria for ethical research outlined in the Belmont Report: respect for persons, beneficence, and justice. Consistent with the Code of Federal Regulations regarding the criteria for approved research, at SVDP risks to subjects are minimized and reasonable in relation to the benefits, selection of subjects is equitable, informed consent is employed and documented, data is protected, privacy is protected as appropriate, and special safeguards are taken with any vulnerable populations.

All research conducted by SVDP faculty members, staff members, and students that meets the federal definition of human subjects research must be reviewed and approved by the SVDP Institutional Review Board process prior to any engagement with human participants (or, in the case of work with data from normal educational practices or de-identified publicly available data, prior to the use of the data for presentation or publication outside of SVDP). Activities requiring IRB approval include research that involves human subjects that will be presented or published outside of SVDP, or made available to the public, including classroom activities of this nature.

While the Federal definition of research only defines as research those activities designed to develop or contribute to generalized knowledge, SVDP expects all scholarly activities involving human participants, such as classroom activities that gather data or engage outside persons in class activities or program evaluation, to adhere to the same ethical principles guiding human subjects research, as well as following all SVDP policies, even if the information will not be generalized beyond the classroom. If there is any chance that a classroom activity might be used to contribute to generalized knowledge (e.g., be presented or published outside of SVDP), then that activity must be approved through the IRB process.

All scholarly activities and human subjects research conducted at SVDP by students must have a faculty supervisor. For classroom activities, the instructor-of-record serves as the supervisor for the entire class.

The full Human Subjects Research and Scholarly Activities Policy is available in the Seminary Policy Compendium, including the procedures to be followed when there is any question whether the IRB process needs to be implemented.

¹National Commission for the Protection of Human Subjects of Biomedical and Behavioral Research, "The Belmont Report," 1979, <https://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/regulations-and-policy/belmont-report/read-the-belmont-report/index.html>

²45 CFR 46.111, "Criteria for IRB Approval of Research," July 19, 2018.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The following are budgets used in estimating the cost of attendance per year and are the figures used for financial aid purposes:

- (1) Resident Seminarians
- (2) Nonresident students (full-time, 9 cr. hrs/semester), off-campus room/board
- (3) Nonresident students (part-time, 5 cr. hrs/semester), off-campus room/board

	(1)	(2)	(3)
Tuition	\$22,000	\$8,100 (est.)	\$4,500 (est.)
Books/supplies	\$1,000	\$600	\$300
Room and Board (allowance for nonresident students)	\$12,100	\$16,500	\$16,500
Fees	\$1,100		
Transportation	\$1,800	\$1,800	\$900
Personal expenses	\$1,200	\$3,600	\$3,600
One-time registration fee	\$0	\$15	\$15
Graduation fee	\$20	\$20	\$20
Cap, Gown, Hood	\$20	\$20	\$20
TOTAL	\$39,240.00	\$30,655.00	\$25,855.00

The bolded items above are the cost of actual fees charged by the seminary. Other items are estimates.

The tuition and room and board fees for seminarians are payable on the first day of each semester. The amounts listed do not represent the total costs of tuition and room and board, which are subsidized by the dioceses of the region.

Tuition is payable at registration each semester or at the end of each academic year for those in the Deacon Formation Program. Students may solicit deferred payment at registration for a period no longer than thirty days. The registration fee is payable at first entrance only. The graduation fee is payable at the time the student registers for graduation. Nonresident students who are present during the day for classes are asked to make a minimum \$5.00 donation per meal or \$65 per semester. This arrangement should be made in advance with the business office by those electing to participate. Students who are members of a permanent diaconate formation program are already enrolled in the meal plan by their diocese.

Financial obligations to the seminary may be paid by credit card, but are subject to a 5% administrative fee. Tuition fees paid by credit card must be paid in full.

TUITION PER CREDIT HOUR

All non-credit courses	(300 and 400 level and audit)	\$400.00 per cr. hr.
All graduate courses	(500 level and above)	\$450.00 per cr. hr.

No student may receive a diploma, nor will the Registrar issue transcripts of his/her academic record until his/her financial obligations to the seminary have been settled. These include borrowed library items and any outstanding debts to the bookstore.

COMPREHENSIVE EXAM FEE

Students taking the comprehensive exam for the MAPS or MATS in an academic year during which they took no classes at St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary will be charged the cost of one credit hour (\$450.00) as an examination fee.

TUITION REFUNDS

If a seminarian withdraws during a semester, the tuition and fees paid for that semester will be refunded (upon application), as follows:

Two weeks or less in residence	80% refund
Between 2 and 6 weeks in residence	50% refund
After 6 weeks in residence	No refund

If a nonresident student withdraws during a given semester, the tuition and fees paid for that semester will be refunded (upon application) as follows:

Two weeks or less after start of classes	80% refund
Between 2 and 6 weeks after start of classes	50% refund
More than 6 weeks after start of classes	No refund

FINANCIAL AID

SVDP's Financial Aid Office coordinates the Direct Loan program, which is available for the M.Div., MAPS, and MATS Programs. To apply for this program, a financial statement must be submitted and a needs analysis is made by the Federal Student Aid Processor (FAFSA). To qualify for a student loan, a student must be enrolled on at least a half-time basis (**taking two or more classes or enrolled in a pastoral internship**). For more information on applying for financial aid at SVDP contact the Director of Financial Aid at finaid@svdp.edu.

Students new to the Direct Loan program must first complete entrance counseling, <https://studentaid.gov> and then apply for a loan at <https://studentaid.gov/mpn>. Repayment of Stafford loans begins six months after graduation, withdrawal, or dropping below half-time. Repayment of PLUS loans begins immediately. Students who graduate or withdraw must complete exit counseling at <https://studentaid.gov/exit-counseling>. Failure to complete this requirement can delay federal aid requested from a school attended after leaving SVDP.

Because financial aid for seminarians in the M.Div. and MAPS programs is usually provided through the vocations office of their respective dioceses, the seminary recommends that seminarians in the M.Div. and MAPS programs receive counseling from their Ordinary, Vocation Director, or the Rector prior to applying for a student loan. The seminary also recommends that seminarians not apply for loans exceeding \$4,000 per academic year, bearing in mind the earning potential of a diocesan priest and his ability to repay.

Information on other sources of financial aid is available at the Financial Aid Office.

SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) is determined by meeting the measures for GPA, pace, and timeframe outlined below. Any student who has not met one of these measures in any semester has not made SAP in order to receive financial aid.

QUALITATIVE MEASURE: GPA

In order to maintain SAP, students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.70. The student's GPA is rounded up or down to the nearest hundredth.

QUANTITATIVE MEASURE: PACE

In addition, all students must earn at least 67% of the cumulative credits attempted. This is calculated at the end of each semester.

The percentage of credits completed is calculated and rounded up or down to the nearest whole number.

TIMEFRAME

- M.Div. students have a maximum timeframe of 7.5 years to complete the program
- Master of Arts (Philosophical Studies for Missionary Discipleship) (MAPS) and Master of Arts (Theological Studies) (MATS) students have a maximum timeframe of 5 years to complete the program.

INCOMPLETES, WITHDRAWALS, REPETITIONS, AND TRANSFER CREDITS

For purposes of the GPA:

- Incompletes do not affect the GPA until finalized.
- Withdrawals do not affect the GPA.
- Repeated courses are counted in the GPA each time taken.
- Transfer credits are not included in the GPA.

For purposes of PACE:

- Incompletes are included in hours attempted and not counted as hours earned.
- Withdrawals are included in hours attempted, and not counted as hours earned.
- Repeated courses are included in the student's attempted credit total in evaluating pace and timeframe. All attempts of a repeated course are counted in the attempted hours total, but only passed attempts are counted in the earned hours total. For purposes of financial aid, students can only take a passed course one more time.
- Transfer credits are counted as attempted and earned in the semester in which they are accepted.

FREQUENCY OF SAP EVALUATION

SAP is calculated at the end of each semester within three weeks of the close of final grades. GPA and pace (percentage of credits earned to credits attempted) are calculated cumulatively from the start of the program. Progress toward completion within the maximum timeframe is also calculated each semester based on years remaining in the maximum timeframe, credit hours needed to complete the program, and maximum credit hours of 18 per semester. When the time period to earn the credit hours needed to complete the program exceeds the time remaining in the maximum timeframe, the student has not made SAP.

The semester before reaching the maximum timeframe, the Director of Financial Aid notifies the student that one semester remains to complete the program and remain eligible for federal student aid.

If the student is unable to complete the program at the end of the maximum timeframe, the student is placed on warning and follows the guidelines for warning below.

WARNING

If a student is failing to make SAP based on any of the above three criteria (GPA, pace, or timeframe) and the student had made SAP in the previous semester or has only completed one semester, the student is placed on warning for one semester. The student is given notice of the warning, an explanation of the cause, the consequences of not meeting SAP, and how to meet SAP. The student's financial aid eligibility continues during the warning period.

If a student is on warning, SAP is calculated within three weeks after the reporting of grades at the end of the warning semester. Students on SAP warning who fail to meet SAP at the end of the SAP warning semester are notified they are ineligible for continued federal student aid. They are suspended from receiving further financial aid unless they successfully appeal the suspension or they regain SAP in a subsequent semester.

A student may be on federal student aid warning more than once during an academic career, but not consecutively.

APPEALS

A student may submit an appeal of suspension in writing to the Director of Financial Aid within thirty days of notification of suspension from federal student aid if there were extraordinary circumstances that affected the student's ability to maintain SAP. The student must include in the appeal request a) why the student believes he/she could not make SAP based on the criteria below and b) what has changed that will allow the student to demonstrate SAP at the end of the next SAP evaluation. Appeals for failures to meet GPA, pace, or timeframe are treated equivalently. The Director of Financial Aid and Registrar jointly decide the outcome of appeals based on their assessment of whether the student should be able to meet SAP standards by the end of a probationary semester. If they do not agree, the Academic Dean makes the final determination.

Criteria that can form the basis of an appeal include

- Illness or injury of the student
- Death or illness in the student's family that affects the student
- Interpersonal problems with spouse (including divorce and/or domestic violence), friends, or others
- Difficulties balancing school, work, and/or family responsibilities
- Financial difficulties
- Military deployment

If the appeal is approved, the student is placed on SAP probation for one semester.

PROBATION

If a student is on probation, SAP is calculated within three weeks after the reporting of grades at the end of the warning semester. Students on SAP probation who fail to meet SAP at the end of the probation semester are notified they are ineligible for continued federal student aid. Students may file one additional new appeal for an extension of probation following the same process as outlined in "Appeals" above. That is, students are allowed a total of two appeals of suspension. The new appeal must include new information to constitute a new appeal. Students who have not met SAP and do not successfully appeal the suspension of federal student aid are ineligible for continued federal student aid unless they later meet the criteria for SAP.

REINSTATEMENT OF FEDERAL STUDENT AID ELIGIBILITY

The Director of Financial Aid continues to provide students who have been suspended from financial aid notification of their SAP status each semester. If they are currently making SAP they can be reinstated as eligible for federal student aid.

The full Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy is available in the Seminary Policy Compendium.

GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO VETERANS

St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary has been approved for Veterans' educational benefits under Section #1775 of Title 38, United States Code.

REV. SEAMUS MURTAGH SCHOLARSHIP

Dr. H. Edward Wrapp established a scholarship fund to honor Rev. Seamus Murtagh for his contributions to St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary. St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary awards this scholarship to nonresident students who, after a full year of enrollment at the seminary, show significant academic ability and a personal commitment to Christian service/ministry. Nonresident students apply for this scholarship by contacting the Academic Dean.

OTHER POLICIES

HAZING POLICY

Consistent with its mission statement, St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary believes that true community is nurtured in an atmosphere of social and moral responsibility, respect for individuals, and loyalty to the principles of higher education. This basic philosophy, coupled with the seminary's adherence to state, local, and federal guidelines, is the basis for the adoption of this formal hazing policy.

Hazing Is Defined As

1. Any action or situation which recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student, or which willfully destroys or removes public or private property for the purpose of initiation or admission into or in affiliation with, or as a condition for continued membership in, any organization operating under the sanction of or recognized by the St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary.
2. Such actions and situations include paddling in any form; creation of excessive fatigue; physical or psychological stress; wearing, publicly, apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste; engaging in public stunts; morally degrading or humiliating games and activities; forcing consumption of alcohol or drugs; and any other activity which is not consistent with the formation program, regulations or policies of St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary.

If a student or group is involved in a hazing incident appropriate disciplinary action will be taken.

Any hazing that involves discrimination against a protected class falls under the Nondiscrimination and Sexual Misconduct Policy.

FORMAL STUDENT COMPLAINT POLICY

Students at SVDP who have credible and substantive complaints about academics, student services, the actions of fellow students or of faculty, deviations from specific seminary policies or norms as published in seminary publications or accreditation standards, or other such complaints, have recourse to the formal student complaint process as described below. This policy pertains to all SVDP students, including those taking distance education courses or courses at SVDP's ongoing course-offering site. Excluded from this policy are matters covered by SVDP's Nondiscrimination and Harassment Policy. Additionally, all votes by the Formation Team and actions by the Rector concerning continuation of formation and/or promotion to ordination are also excluded from consideration under this policy.

When a student believes that he/she has been treated unfairly or that SVDP is not following its procedures or adhering to accreditation standards, the seminary encourages the student to resolve the grievance, in accord with Matthew 18:15-17, informally and directly with the other person(s) or offices involved. If this fails to bring about a satisfactory resolution, the student has recourse to the following process:

- Step 1: A resident seminarian may bring the grievance to either his formation advisor, the Dean of Human Formation, or the Academic Dean (especially if the grievance involves an instructor). A nonresident seminarian may bring the grievance to the Academic Dean. Other nonresident students may bring the grievance to either the Director of Nonresident Students or the Academic Dean.
- Step 2: If the student is unsatisfied with the response following Step 1, the student is asked to informally raise the concern with the Vice Rector.
- Step 3: If this fails to bring a satisfactory resolution, the student may submit a formal written complaint (hardcopy or submitted electronically) to the Vice Rector. The written complaint must include:
 - a. The policy or norm that has allegedly been violated as described in official seminary publications, the *Program of Priestly Formation* (5th ed.), or accreditation standards.
 - b. The person against whom the complaint is alleged (if a particular person is involved);
 - c. Specific details and circumstances of the grievance; and
 - d. A description of the informal process attempted for resolution prior to the formal complaint and the people involved.

PROCESSING OF THE COMPLAINT

Generally, students should file the formal complaint within thirty days of the conduct or actions giving rise to the complaint. Following receipt of the complaint, the Vice Rector determines if the complaint is credible and substantive and gathers information pertaining to the underlying facts of the complaint. The Vice Rector also evaluates if the complaint is a possible violation of the Nondiscrimination and Harassment policy, in which case the complaint is referred to the policies and procedures outlined therein. The Vice Rector also informs the Academic Dean (if the Vice Rector is not the Academic Dean) and/or the Campus Administrator of any complaints that involve a faculty member, administrator, or staff member.

RESPONDING PARTIES

Generally, the responding party or parties, if any, have the right to access copies of the complaint and to provide a response to the written complaint. The Vice Rector generally informs all responding parties if a complaint has been submitted against them.

DETERMINATIONS

1. If the Vice Rector determines that a complaint is without merit, the complainant will be notified of the decision and may appeal the decision to the Rector. The Rector's determination of the appeal, if any, will be final.
2. If the Vice Rector determines that a complaint is with merit and no further review is necessary, the Vice Rector resolves the complaint. If the complainant is not satisfied with the resolution, the complainant can appeal the decision and the complaint follows the review process below.
3. If the Vice Rector accepts the merit of the complaint and determines that a nearly identical complaint has previously been decided, the Vice Rector informs the complainant of the outcome of that decision and the complaint and the determination of its similarity to a previous complaint is maintained in the formal complaint files. The complainant has the right to appeal the decision to the Rector.
4. If the Vice Rector determines that a complaint may have merit but warrants further consideration, generally, within three business days, the Vice Rector appoints an Inquiry Board of three members to review the written complaint along with supporting documentation. The complainant must agree to at least one member of the appointed board; the responding party(ies), if there are any, must agree to at least one member of the appointed board.
 - a. The Inquiry Board is responsible for investigating the complaint and may request additional information or documents from the complainant or responding party.
 - b. Generally, the complainant and responding party have access to the complaint and related documentation and have an opportunity to represent themselves to the Inquiry Board.
 - c. Generally, within one week, the Inquiry Board renders a written recommendation to the Vice Rector.
 - d. The Vice Rector reviews the recommendation of the Inquiry Board and issues a written decision, together with any action to be taken, to the complainant, the responding party, the Rector and the Academic Dean or Campus Administrator, as appropriate.
 - e. Complainants and responding parties may appeal the decision made by the Vice Rector to the Rector within one week of the Vice Rector's decision. Generally, the Rector issues a final determination of the appeal within one week.

ALTERNATIVE PROCESS

If a complaint is directed against the Vice Rector, the formal complaint is submitted to the Rector, and the Rector completes the Vice Rector's duties as outlined herein. Any appeal of the Rector's decision may be made to Chair of the Board of Trustees.

If a complaint is directed against the Rector, the formal complaint is submitted to the Vice Rector, with a copy to the Chair of the Board of Trustees. The Vice Rector completes his duties outlined in this policy; however, the Chair of the Board of Trustees replaces the Rector for purposes of this policy and any appeal of the Chair's decision may be made to the full Board of Trustees.

RECORDS

Records of formal complaints include the initial complaint, a list and summary of the information gathered in determining the merits of the complaint, the determination, the composition of the Inquiry Board if convened, a list and summary of the information gathered by the Inquiry Board, the Board's recommendation, the decision by the Vice Rector (or the decision of the appropriate party), any actions to be taken, and any appeals process. Records of formal complaints will generally be kept for ten years in the Rector's Office, in the custody of the Assistant to the Rector.

EXTERNAL PROCESS

In general, students not satisfied with the institutional resolution of a complaint can submit a complaint as follows. Students wanting to pursue a complaint about financial aid can submit a complaint to the [Office of Student Financial Assistance, Florida Department of Education](#), the [Federal Student Aid Feedback System](#), and the [Federal Student Aid Ombudsman](#). Out-of-state distance education students, who have completed the internal institutional grievance process and the applicable state grievance process, may appeal non-instructional complaints to the FL-SARA PRDEC Council. For additional information on the FL-SARA complaint process, please visit the [FL-SARA Complaint Process page](#).

NONDISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT, AND SEXUAL MISCONDUCT POLICY

St. Vincent de Paul Regional Seminary strives to provide a learning, working, and living environment free from all forms of unlawful discrimination, discriminatory or sexual harassment, and all forms of sexual misconduct. All students, faculty, and staff at the Seminary have the right to expect an environment that allows them to enjoy the full benefits of their work or learning experience. It is, therefore, the SVDP policy that no member of the Seminary community may engage in conduct which unlawfully discriminates against or harasses another individual or group on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, sex, age, disability, veteran's status or any other criteria protected by applicable law. Likewise, the Seminary prohibits conduct which constitutes sexual misconduct such as sexual harassment, sexual assault, and other forms of sexual violence, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking as those terms are defined in the Nondiscrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Policy.

The full policy appears in the Seminary Policy Compendium. All SVDP employees, unless explicitly designated as a confidential resource in the policy, are expected to promptly report actual or suspected discrimination, harassment, or sexual misconduct to the Title IX/EEO Coordinator, one of the Deputy Title IX/EEO Coordinators, or the Independent Investigator, whose contact information is provided at www.svdp.edu/nhsm. Moreover, students and other campus community affiliates and visitors are encouraged to report such incidents directly to the Title IX/EEO Coordinator, one of the Deputy Title IX/EEO Coordinators, or the Independent Investigator. There is no stated timeframe for reporting, but prompt reporting will better enable SVDP to provide an appropriate response.

The reporting, investigation, and resolution process are described in detail in the policy and are summarized in the *Seminarian Handbook* and the *Nonresident Student Handbook*.



COURSE OFFERINGS IN THE M.DIV. PROGRAM

SCRIPTURE

BIB501 INTRODUCTION TO BIBLICAL STUDIES CREDIT HOURS 2

This course covers the basic elements and doctrines which are fundamental and preliminary to the study of Sacred Scripture, including the notion of canon and its formation; ways of understanding the doctrine of biblical inspiration and inerrancy; Church documents on these issues; and methods and approaches used in the critical or scientific study of the Bible, including interpretative theories and hermeneutics. **This is a prerequisite course for all Scripture courses.**

BIB510 PENTATEUCH CREDIT HOURS 3

This course is a study of the first five books of the Bible from historical and literary points of view. It enables students to become familiar with the Pentateuch, to understand its purpose and importance in Israel and its relevance to the study and understanding of the rest of the Old Testament, the New Testament, and of Judaism. The course includes exegesis of selected texts. **Prerequisite: BIB501 Introduction to Biblical Studies.**

BIB610 PROPHETIC LITERATURE CREDIT HOURS 3

This course examines the phenomenon of prophecy in Israel. It explores its origins and surveys some early "non-writing" prophets and the classical prophets who have left books that bear their names. These prophets are set in their historical contexts, which include social, political, and economic factors; their books and sayings are studied with modern literary techniques, including exegesis of selected texts. The overall aim is to uncover the theological message of the prophets (including their teachings on social justice) and to arrive at an understanding of the development of prophecy into eschatology and apocalyptic (including messianism). **Prerequisite: BIB501 Introduction to Biblical Studies.**

BIB611 SYNOPTIC GOSPELS CREDIT HOURS 3

This course studies the gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke with a view toward understanding their relationship and interdependence (the "synoptic problem"). Which gospel was written first, which sources were used by the "synoptic" gospels, and what are the literary and theological characteristics of each of these gospels? Topics covered include the question of the historicity of the gospels; their Christological, soteriological, and ecclesial dimensions; and similar issues in regard to the Acts of the Apostles. The course includes exegesis of selected texts. **Prerequisite: BIB501 Introduction to Biblical Studies.**

BIB710 PAULINE LETTERS CREDIT HOURS 3

This course is a discussion of Paul as theologian and author, focusing on the main themes of the Pauline "Gospel," such as Christology, faith, and justification. Paul's view of the Law and the promise, his ecclesiology and theology of grace are also considered. **Prerequisite: BIB501 Introduction to Biblical Studies.**

BIB711 JOHANNINE LITERATURE CREDIT HOURS 3

This course is a study of the fourth gospel (John) and, secondarily, of the three letters attributed to John. It also briefly discusses the Book of Revelation. It examines the question of authorship and of the

community that may be behind these writings; it explores the lofty theology and Christology, as well as the linguistic and compositional peculiarities of the author. The course includes exegesis of selected texts. **Prerequisite:** BIB501 Introduction to Biblical Studies.

BIB815 WISDOM LITERATURE & PSALMS

CREDIT HOURS 2

This course is a study of the wisdom literature of the Old Testament: Psalms, Job, Proverbs, the Deuterocanonical wisdom books such as Ben Sirach (Ecclesiasticus); the focus is on the literary and theological characteristics of the books, and includes exegesis of selected texts. Attention will be given to the contribution of wisdom literature to the biblical canon, that is, its role vis-à-vis the two other parts of the Old Testament: the Law and the Prophets. **Prerequisite:** BIB501 Introduction to Biblical Studies.

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

THY501 FUNDAMENTAL THEOLOGY

CREDIT HOURS 3

The intention of this course is to study the nature, history, and methodology of fundamental theology. This course intends to provide a basic understanding of Divine Revelation, its role as the foundation for Catholic faith, the Church's role as the divinely authorized custodian and interpreter of Divine Revelation, and its relationship with Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition.

THY510 TRINITY

CREDIT HOURS 3

Trinity is the critical, participatory and contemplative reflection on the mystery of God and His trinitarian reality. We will converse with the witness of the Scripture, the theological and magisterial Tradition of the Church, and the mystical experience. We will emphasize certain topics: the Trinity as the only answer to the challenge of atheism, the Trinity as the source of all reality, the trinitarian revelation in the Paschal Mystery of Christ, the history of development of trinitarian doctrine, and the central trinitarian categories. As a conclusion, we will reflect on the pastoral and spiritual actualization of trinitarian theology. **Prerequisite:** THY501 Fundamental Theology.

THY540 THEOLOGICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course is designed to provide the students with an introduction to the theological understanding of the nature of human beings. The course emphasizes the view that Jesus Christ is the revelation, not only of God, but also of what it is to be human. This course entails an articulation of the relationship between grace and human nature. The course will also examine the theological virtues with particular emphasis on the virtue of hope, the divine calling of humanity to its eschatological destiny.

THY560 PROSEMINAR AND INTRODUCTION TO LITURGICAL MUSIC

CREDIT HOUR 1

Proseminar and Introduction to Liturgical Music provides students with an orientation to graduate-level philosophical and theological study methodology and an introduction to liturgical music as will be engaged throughout their seminary experience. The proseminar portion covers writing skills, library research, philosophical and theological resources, crediting sources, SVDP policies on plagiarism and copyright, citation and style, critical thinking, and resource evaluation. The liturgical-music portion offers a basic introduction to liturgical music with emphasis on singing correctly and with confidence. Church documents dealing with theological background and current practice in liturgical music are covered as time allows.

THY611 CHRISTOLOGY

CREDIT HOURS 3

Christology is the critical, participatory, and contemplative reflection on the life, ministry, and Paschal event of Jesus of Nazareth. The query of the sources of Christian theology and faith includes Scriptures, the Tradition of the Fathers, the Scholastics, the Mystics, and contemporary theologians, as well as the liturgical proclamation and the life of faith, love, hope, and justice of the Church. Students will endeavor to unveil, as much as possible, the profile and identity of Jesus, the Son of God, and His meaning for the Church, human existence, and contemporary culture. **Prerequisite:** THY501 Fundamental Theology.

THY715 ECCLESIOLOGY, MARIOLOGY, ECUMENISM

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course studies the Church as revealed in the words and events of the Old Testament and New Testament – People of God, Body of Christ; the Church and the Kingdom of God; the Sacramentality of the Church; the mission of the Church; relationship to other Churches; the development of the Church with special emphasis on *Pastor Aeternus* and *Lumen Gentium*; the structures of the Church--its hierarchical constitution and role of the Magisterium. Mary's association with and relationship to the mystery of Christ and the Church is also explored, especially in light of the teaching of the Second Vatican Council. This course will also cover the Catholic Church's relationship with other Christian Churches and ecclesial communities. **Prerequisite:** THY501 Fundamental Theology.

SACRAMENTAL THEOLOGY

THY610 LITURGICAL THEOLOGY

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course is the study of the liturgy from a theological, historical, and anthropological dimension so as to give the student an appreciation of both divine revelation and mystery as expressed in the liturgy of the Roman Rite. This includes a familiarization with both historical documents and sociological contexts in light of current magisterial teaching on the sacred liturgy.

THY650 SACRAMENTS I (INTRODUCTION, BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION)

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course introduces the student to the general principles of sacramentality and sacramental theology. The course then applies these methods to investigate the historical, Scriptural, patristic, and doctrinal foundations of the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. Special consideration will also be given to the topics of sacramentals and the RCIA process.

THY660 SACRAMENTS II (EUCCHARIST)

CREDIT HOURS 2

This course will be focused on the anthropological, historical, Scriptural, patristic, and doctrinal foundations of the Sacrament of the Eucharist. **Prerequisite:** THY650 Sacraments I.

THY750 SACRAMENTS III (HOLY ORDERS)

CREDIT HOURS 2

This course examines the historical, Scriptural, and doctrinal foundations of the Sacrament of Holy Orders in the Catholic Church, namely, the sacrament that imparts a special character and empowers those called by God to share in Christ's priestly ministry by sanctifying, teaching, and shepherding God's people as bishops, priests, and deacons. Various themes, such as the essential relationship with

the baptismal priesthood of all Christ's faithful and the history and purpose of clerical celibacy in the Latin Rite will be addressed. An underlying theme is the centrality of self-oblation in living out the ministerial priesthood; those called to consecrate themselves through these sacred rites are to realize that their self-offering lies at the nucleus of their existence.

THY860 SACRAMENTS IV (PENANCE & ANOINTING)

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course will examine the historical, Scriptural, patristic, and doctrinal foundations of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Anointing of the Sick. Special topics will include the practical and pastoral application of Reconciliation and Anointing. **Prerequisite:** THY650 Sacraments I.

MORAL THEOLOGY

THY530 CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course aims at introducing students to this theological discipline, while assisting them to make an experience of a possible integration in Christ between knowledge and life. It will cover the origins and nature of Christian spirituality, bringing out the main basic principles of the Christian spiritual life. This will be exemplified through scriptural, traditional, and historical references.

THY541 FUNDAMENTAL MORAL THEOLOGY

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course is an introduction to the fundamental issues and concerns of Catholic Moral Theology as a science of Christian praxis. Its topics include the renewal of moral theology by Second Vatican Council, as well as the scriptural and historical background to this renewal effort; the relationship of faith and reason (grace and nature) in ethical reflection; and the meaning of moral-theological categories such as virtue, law, sin, authority, conscience, and freedom. Special emphasis is given to the significance of the virtues (theological and cardinal) in a contemporary context.

THY640 SOCIAL JUSTICE

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course offers a study of Catholic teaching on social justice, focusing on the tradition as it has developed since the encyclical *Rerum novarum* by Pope Leo XIII. It includes a review of the background to this teaching in Sacred Scripture, and in the tradition of the Catholic Church through the patristic, medieval, and modern periods to the present. Special attention is given both to the magisterial documents which constitute the main body of this teaching from *Rerum novarum* (1891) to *Laudato Si'* (2015) by Pope Francis, and the significance of this combined teaching for the life of faith in our North American context. **Prerequisite:** THY541 Fundamental Moral Theology.

THY712 HUMAN SEXUALITY AND MARRIAGE

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course provides a study of the moral and theological dimensions of human sexuality and Marriage. It includes a biblical review of love and virtue and the meaning of human sexuality in the Catholic tradition. It provides an analysis of official Catholic teaching and theological reflection on specific issues in sexual ethics. This course will also examine the historical, Scriptural, and doctrinal foundations of the Sacrament of Matrimony. **Prerequisite:** THY541 Fundamental Moral Theology.

THY840 MEDICAL ETHICS

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course offers a study of medical ethics from a Catholic moral theological perspective. The focus of the course is on the deeper moral-theological dimension of issues in medical ethics today, such as abortion, human experimentation, cloning, stem cell research, genetic intervention, informed consent, sterilization, in vitro fertilization, surrogate parenthood, euthanasia, and the role of virtues in decision-making process in medical ethics. Special attention is given to the Church's teaching, as well as to the work of moral theologians, philosophers, and medical professionals who have informed the self-understanding of Catholic moral theology in this field. **Prerequisite:** THY541 Fundamental Moral Theology.

CANON LAW

LAW710 CANON LAW I

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course surveys the historical development of Church law, which culminates in the promulgation of the 1983 Revised Code of Canon Law. Books I, II, V, and VI of the revised code are studied with particular emphasis on the interpretation of law, rights, and obligations of the Christian faithful; the hierarchical constitution of the Church; diocesan and parish structures; temporal goods, and sanctions.

LAW711 CANON LAW II

CREDIT HOURS 3

This practical study of the current Church discipline of the sacraments, with a special emphasis on matrimonial legislation, treats the theological underpinnings of the law, familiarizes the student with the canonical requisites for sacraments, especially for marriage preparation and its celebration. It readies the student to deal, as a parochial minister of the sacraments, with their proper administration, and the processes involved with the matrimonial tribunal. **Prerequisite:** LAW710 Canon Law I.

CHURCH HISTORY

HIS510 CHURCH HISTORY I

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course surveys the Christian theological tradition from the end of the New Testament period up to the Middle Ages, emphasizing the Church's engagement with culture, the development of doctrine, major intellectual figures and debates, and the saints' lived holiness as fresh, performative exegeses of the Gospel in every age. The story of the Church is a divine drama in which God intimately enters into the world to form it into a "chalice" for his self-outpouring presence. This course will also treat significant political, historical, and cultural events to the extent that they illuminate and contextualize the story of the Church. Through the close reading of primary texts, the course endeavors to help students to read and appreciate these texts more deeply. **This course continues in HIS720 and HIS820.**

HIS720 CHURCH HISTORY II

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course is a continuation of Church History I. It is a comprehensive history of the Church from the beginning of the 11th century until the end of the 16th century. The Investiture Crisis, the Crusades, and the birth of the Mendicant Orders will be explored as well as the rise of universities, the inquisition, and the Avignon Papacy. The Renaissance will be studied, and in this context the Protestant Reformation and the Catholic Renewal, especially the Council of Trent will be explored in depth.

HIS820 CHURCH HISTORY III

CREDIT HOURS 2

This course continues the survey of Church History starting with the missionary Church and the New World of the 16th Century and concluding in the 20th Century with the Second Vatican Council. The implications of the missionary efforts of the Church during the Age of Absolutism and the rise of the new religious congregations of this era shall be discussed. Additionally, the new doctrinal and philosophical questions that arise from the advent of the secular state leading to the First Vatican Council shall be discussed, as well as the postwar world in relation to the convocation of the Second Vatican Council. This course will also have a special focus on the concurrent growth of the Church in the United States throughout this time period.

PASTORAL STUDIES**HOM620 HOMILETICS I**

CREDIT HOURS 2

This course is designed to introduce the seminarian to: the history of preaching since the liturgical reform of the Second Vatican Council; the craft of Lectionary-based preaching and the discipline of homiletics for preaching in the Sunday assembly; the use of the exegesis of the text; the importance of *Lectio Divina* in homily preparation; the use of movements in a homily; and the importance of public speaking skills. Each seminarian will be expected to prepare written texts of his homilies, to record the delivered homily, and participate in the review of peer homilies. Additionally, two homilies will be reviewed in small group coaching. The seminary-preaching rubric will be used in assessing the homilies. **Only seminarians may register for this course.**

HOM720 HOMILETICS II

CREDIT HOURS 2

This course is designed to build on the foundation established in HOM620, honing the seminarian's understanding of preaching in the Roman Catholic tradition. The Homiletic Directory will be used to summarize the course material previously studied. The seminarian will develop an operative theology of preaching that will reflect his integrated understanding of systematic theology and pastoral life. The operative theology of preaching will demonstrate a theological awareness of how preaching incorporates the applied disciplines of anthropology, theology, and Christology, as well as understanding preaching within the dialectical and sacramental imagination. The seminarian will learn to assess critically his particular assembly, incorporating these facets into the skill and art of writing a homily. This course will emphasize the exegesis of both the preacher and the assembly. Each seminarian will be expected to prepare written texts of his homilies, record the delivered homily, and participate in the review of peer homilies. Additionally, two homilies will be reviewed in small group coaching. The seminary-preaching rubric will be used in assessing the homilies. **Prerequisite: HOM620 Homiletics I. Only seminarians may register for this course.**

HOM730 HOMILETICS III

CREDIT HOURS 2

This course builds upon HOM720E, the second course in homiletics. It continues to focus on homily preparation, developing a personal methodology and style of preparation. The course will include sacramental preaching on baptism, Eucharist, weddings, as well as funerals, and homilies in preparation of those receiving Confirmation. The use of imagination will be emphasized for homily preparation. As a general rule, the seminarians in third theology are ordained to the diaconate at the end of this semester.

M.DIV. COURSE OFFERINGS

Hence, this course is designed to prepare the "newly ordained deacon" for ministry in the following summer as minister of the Word for baptisms, funerals, and weddings, as well as daily and Sunday homilies. **Prerequisite:** HOM720 Homiletics II. **Only seminarians may register for this course.**

HOM820 HOMILETICS IV

CREDIT HOURS 2

This course provides the fourth year seminarian, usually the transitional deacon, the opportunity to hone the skills for homily preparation and presentation. Building upon the three previous preaching courses a major point of emphasis will be to challenge the students to sharpen one's listening and critical thinking skills to identify concretely the theology which is being preached and which is being heard by the assembly. Each student will be expected to review and compare a homily from one's first course in homiletics with a homily from this course with a "dialogue partner," another deacon: a pre and post peer evaluation of one's homilies in course of the homiletics program at the seminary. Preaching without a text will be stressed. The course will include presentations on preaching days of recollection for groups such as Spirit days for confirmation, parish staffs, parish missions, etc. **Prerequisite:** HOM730 Homiletics III. **Only seminarians may register for this course.**

PAS615 PASTORAL COUNSELING I

CREDIT HOURS 2

This course will introduce the student to the concepts, theories, and principles of counseling with a broad spectrum of applications: individual, family, and marital. There is a focus on both the theoretical and practical aspects of acquiring clinical skills through interviewing and role-play experiences.

PAS616 PASTORAL COUNSELING II

CREDIT HOURS 2

This is a continuation of Pastoral Counseling I. The emphasis of this course is on helping students build counseling skills for pastoral ministry, and to help them to recognize when and how to refer parishioners to professional therapists. **Prerequisite:** PAS615 Pastoral Counseling I.

PAS660 PARISH ADMINISTRATION

CREDIT HOURS 2

This course provides topical lectures, case studies, guest speakers, and discussion to prepare the student for a future role of leadership and management as it relates to effective administration of a parish. The course will explore critical issues that pastors and administrators will face. The course will employ an experiential approach that seeks to help the student understand and grow into the role of Pastor/Administrator and how this role relates to his evolving priestly responsibilities. It will also help the student relate the Administrator function to personal skills development. This course is offered via videoconferencing for seminarians on Pastoral Year, as well as in person, for seminarians on campus.

PAS667 CATECHESIS, MISSIOLOGY, & EVANGELIZATION

CREDIT HOURS 2

This course draws on students' ministerial experiences in catechesis, mission, and evangelization. Students share best practices from their pastoral experiences. This course introduces skills to identify community or parish needs and socio-cultural context, gather and synthesize data, reflect theologically, and plan an appropriate programmatic pastoral response.

PAS811 SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

CREDIT HOURS 2

This is an overview course, which will include aspects such as: the qualification and preparation of candidates for director, the focus of the session, obstacles to a good relationship, the skills and procedures that help facilitate this spiritual dialogue, the goals of direction, and case studies. **Prerequisite:** THY530 **Christian Spirituality.**

PFS700 LITURGICAL PRACTICUM I

CREDIT HOUR 1

An introduction to style of celebrating sacraments, respect for theology and directives contained within the ritual books: practicum for the Sacraments of Baptism and Marriage; an understanding of the ministries of lector and acolyte; practicum for the care of the sick and the dying, burial, Eucharistic devotions, and ritual of blessings. This class is scheduled to meet two hours per week, and is for one credit. **Only seminarians may register for this course.**

PFS800 LITURGICAL PRACTICUM II

CREDIT HOURS 2

This course provides lectures and practicum experiences to prepare the student for the liturgical roles proper to the priest. The course will explore the theology and directives contained within the liturgical books and will offer practicum experience in the seminary's pastoral languages for the sacramental and liturgical responsibilities proper to the presbyter: the celebration of the Mass (including some of the special issues relating to RCIA and Holy Week) and the Sacraments of Anointing the Sick and Penance. **Only seminarians may register for this course.**

PASTORAL SEMINARS**PAS501 PASTORAL SUMMER/CPE PLACEMENT**

CREDIT HOURS 3

Clinical Pastoral Education: The Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc. (ACPE) is a multicultural, multi-faith organization devoted to providing pastoral education and improving the quality of pastoral counseling for those who offer spiritual care-giving. This eight to ten week program is offered during the summer months and normally takes place immediately after the seminarian's second year of theological studies.

PAS603 PASTORAL PLACEMENT I

CREDIT HOURS 3

Each seminarian is assigned by his (arch)diocese to a parish placement with a priest-supervisor for a 2-semester experience, living with parish priests and working with them and the parish staff for approximately nine months. This extended internship allows the seminarian to engage fully in the collaborative nature of parish life and to develop his pastoral identity and ministerial skills, participating in a variety of parish ministries and activities. The internship is a time for continuing clarification of the seminarian's vocational choice through prayer and discernment.

PAS604 PASTORAL PLACEMENT II

CREDIT HOURS 3

This is a continuation of PAS603 Pastoral Placement I.

M.DIV. COURSE OFFERINGS

PAS605 PASTORAL YEAR WORKSHOP I

CREDIT HOURS 2

This first of two Pastoral Year workshops is meant to facilitate the seminarian's integration of the Clinical Pastoral Education experience, as well as help to process issues arising in the first weeks of the Pastoral Year. The Dean of Pastoral Formation and members of the Pastoral Formation Faculty facilitate this program, with the assistance of other faculty members. Theological reflections, verbatims, videos, and speakers may be part of this process.

PAS606 PASTORAL YEAR WORKSHOP II

CREDIT HOURS 2

This second of the two Pastoral Year workshops is similar to the first, but focuses more intensely on the seminarian's experience in the parish and his developing pastoral aptitude, taking into consideration feedback from the supervisor, parishioners, and staff.

PAS607 PASTORAL PLACEMENT FOR MISSIONARY MOVEMENT I

CREDIT HOURS 3

Each seminarian from the Redemptoris Mater Seminary is assigned by his superiors to missionary placements, with pastoral assignments representing 15 hours per week, with a pastor and team members as supervisors, for what is normally a 2-year experience, sharing life with parish priests and with members of the Neocatechumenal Way. This extended internship allows the seminarian to engage fully in the missionary charism of the Neocatechumenal Way, while being involved in a variety of parish ministries and activities. This experience is a time for continuing clarification of the seminarian's vocational choice through prayer and discernment. This represents the first semester of a 4-semester experience, during which the seminarian is considered a full-time student at SVDP.

PAS608 PASTORAL PLACEMENT FOR MISSIONARY MOVEMENTS II

CREDIT HOURS 3

This is a continuation of PAS607 Pastoral Placement for Missionary Movements I.

PAS703 PASTORAL YEAR PLACEMENT III

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course is a continuation of PAS604, for seminarians who would benefit from an additional pastoral placement.

PAS704 PASTORAL YEAR PLACEMENT IV

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course is a continuation of PAS703 Pastoral Placement III.

PAS707 PASTORAL PLACEMENT FOR MISSIONARY MOVEMENTS III

CREDIT HOURS 3

This is continuation of PAS608 Pastoral Placement for Missionary Movements II.

PAS708 PASTORAL PLACEMENT FOR MISSIONARY MOVEMENTS IV

CREDIT HOURS 3

This is continuation of PAS707 Pastoral Placement for Missionary Movements III.

PAS709 PASTORAL PLACEMENT FOR MISSIONARY MOVEMENTS V

CREDIT HOURS 3

For those seminarians for whom a longer missionary experience is judged appropriate, this course is a continuation of PAS708 Pastoral Placement for Missionary Movements IV.

PAS710 PASTORAL PLACEMENT FOR MISSIONARY MOVEMENTS VI CREDIT HOURS 3

For those seminarians for whom a longer missionary experience is judged appropriate, this course is a continuation of PAS709 Pastoral Placement for Missionary Movements V.

PFS520 INTRODUCTION TO PASTORAL MINISTRY CREDIT HOURS 2

This course is designed to help the first year theologian gain a basic understanding of the essential theology, dynamics, and fundamental skills of pastoral ministry. The course is designed to complement the seminarian's pastoral assignment for the year.

PFS530 CRITICAL ISSUES IN PASTORAL MINISTRY CREDIT HOURS 2

This course is designed to help the first year theologian deepen his appropriation of the dynamics and skills of ministry with particular focus on the pastoral issues of grief, conflict, doubt, and situational crises. **Prerequisite:** PFS520 Introduction to Pastoral Ministry.

PFS620 THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION CREDIT HOUR 1

This course is designed to help the second year theologian learn the importance of theological reflection in effective pastoral ministry. The students will process pastoral experiences in personal and group theological reflections.

BIBLICAL LANGUAGES**BIB571 ELEMENTARY BIBLICAL HEBREW I** CREDIT HOURS 3

This is an introductory course which enables the student to acquire basic vocabulary, grammar and syntax of Biblical Hebrew, in order to gain some experience in translating the Old Testament and reading modern biblical sources intelligently.

BIB572 ELEMENTARY BIBLICAL HEBREW II CREDIT HOURS 3

This course is the second semester continuation of BIB571. **Prerequisite:** BIB571 or its equivalent.

BIB581 ELEMENTARY BIBLICAL GREEK I CREDIT HOURS 3

This course is an introduction to the Greek of the New Testament with emphasis upon vocabulary, form recognition, and basic grammar.

BIB582 ELEMENTARY BIBLICAL GREEK II CREDIT HOURS 3

This course is the second semester continuation of BIB581. **Prerequisite:** BIB581 or its equivalent.

BIB671 READINGS IN BIBLICAL HEBREW I CREDIT HOURS 2

This is a reading course in selected Hebrew texts of the Old Testament, with appropriate attention to linguistic, philological, and exegetical analysis. **Prerequisite:** BIB572 or its equivalent.

M.DIV. COURSE OFFERINGS

BIB672 READINGS IN BIBLICAL HEBREW II

CREDIT HOURS 2

This is a reading course in selected Hebrew texts of the Old Testament with appropriate attention to linguistic, philological, and exegetical analysis. **Prerequisites:** BIB572 or its equivalent.

BIB681 READINGS IN BIBLICAL GREEK I

CREDIT HOURS 2

This is a reading course in selected Greek texts of the New Testament with attention to textual, grammatical, and philological nuances. **Prerequisite:** BIB582 or its equivalent.

BIB682 READINGS IN BIBLICAL GREEK II

CREDIT HOURS 2

This is a reading course in selected Greek texts of the New Testament with attention to textual, grammatical, and philological nuances. **Prerequisite:** BIB582 or its equivalent.

PASTORAL MUSIC

PFS652E LITURGICAL CHANT

CREDIT HOUR 1

This seminar will introduce methods of sight-reading musical notation to develop a proficiency in singing Mass parts from the Roman Missal. This will be accomplished through group and individual sessions. This course is offered to seminarians in fourth theology in preparation for Priestly Ordination. This class is scheduled to meet two hours per week, and is for one credit. **Only seminarians may register for this course.**

PASTORAL LANGUAGE PROGRAM (LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT)

The Language Department assesses the language proficiency levels of all incoming seminarians upon their admission to the seminary. Multi-part language placement assessments include the LTI-OPlc as a pretest in the appropriate (non-native) language(s). The outcome of the multi-part assessment process determines placement in pastoral language courses. The Language Department later conducts LTI mid- and post – tests on all seminarians enrolled in English and Spanish pastoral language courses.

Students placed in Spanish pastoral language courses complete a **minimum** of four language courses as determined by recommendation of the Director of the Language Department. All seminarians in the Spanish subdivision of the Pastoral Language Program (M.Div. or MAPS) must achieve a minimum score of Intermediate-Mid (IM) and advance at least two sublevels on the LTI-OPlc scale upon completion of the four minimum courses; otherwise, they must continue to take pastoral Spanish courses until they achieve the required progress level. Seminarians who have not taken Spanish courses at the PAS 511S level and above as part of their placement testing requirements may take those courses as electives.

Students placed in English pastoral language courses complete the English course sequence and/or the English Language Articulation tutoring and workshops as determined by recommendation of the Director of the Language Department. All seminarians in the English pastoral language program are expected to be at a minimum level of Advanced-Low (AL) on the LTI-OPlc scale by graduation.

All seminarians with appropriate language competencies are required to take one theology course in Spanish per year. Seminarians in the Spanish subdivision of the Pastoral Language Program who have completed PAS 512S (Pastoral Spanish IV) are expected to meet this requirement.

Seminarians in the English or Spanish subdivision of the Pastoral Language Program who have completed their required course sequence must continue their language development throughout priestly formation. These students submit a pastoral language development plan to the Director of the Language Department for approval before the last day of classes in spring semester each year. Seminarians are responsible for contacting the Director of the Language Department to meet and discuss their proposed plans prior to submission. Individual pastoral language development plans must include the following components:

1. tutoring online or on site with a faculty tutor (minimum one hour per week)

and

2. 15 logged hours per semester of language activities such as peer tutoring, workshops, courses in the pastoral language, or lab hours (Consult the Director of the Language Department for further details.)

or

For Spanish pastoral language students: Pastoral Spanish courses beyond the **minimum** four language courses determined by recommendation of the Director of the Language Department upon initial placement assessment

For English pastoral language students: English-language theology courses and Pastoral English V/VI

Evaluation: Seminarians will include a report on their progress in their pastoral language development in their annual self-evaluation.

PAS500E INTRODUCTORY ENGLISH FOR PASTORAL PURPOSES I CREDIT HOURS 3

This course focuses on the fundamental elements of written and spoken English, emphasizing basic grammatical and syntactical structures using written paragraphs and short essays. The course is designed to help students whose first language is not English to establish an intermediate-level English language proficiency. Seminarians will strengthen and build their English fluency in reading, writing, speaking, and listening and will develop the skills necessary to communicate effectively across all four dimensions of formation (human, spiritual, intellectual, and pastoral). Discussions and activities based on Church-related topics and documents will help to develop pastoral communication skills.

PAS501E INTRODUCTORY ENGLISH FOR PASTORAL PURPOSES II CREDIT HOURS 3

This course is a continuation of PAS500E.

The Academic Office and/or the Language Department may recommend the introductory courses PAS500E/501E prior to PAS502E/503E.

M.DIV. COURSE OFFERINGS

PAS502E PASTORAL ENGLISH III

CREDIT HOURS 2

This course focuses on developing reading and writing skills appropriate to academic discourse and integrates the writing process, rhetorical modes, and library skills into writing assignments related primarily to nonfiction readings. Students learn and practice writing by creating original compositions using the genres appropriate to seminary studies. Students will also develop research skills and learn to incorporate research material through the writing process. Seminarians will study, discuss, and make presentations on Church-related topics and documents. The course requires students to observe the conventions of Standard American English and create documented essays, demonstrating an ability to think critically and communicate analytically. **Prerequisite:** PAS500E/PAS501E or the equivalent (determined by Language Placement Assessment).

PAS503E PASTORAL ENGLISH IV

CREDIT HOURS 2

This course is a continuation of PAS502E.

PAS513E PASTORAL ENGLISH V

CREDIT HOURS 2

This is an advanced-level course that will emphasize the ministerial and cultural components of language instruction and continue to build and improve total communication skills in American English. Seminarians will focus on the liturgy, sacraments, and homiletics, with oral presentations and discussion-based assignments helping them develop a broad range of pastoral communication skills. By the end of the course, seminarians will be better prepared for effective diction and delivery in their pastoral language. Focus areas include multi-media presentation skills and strategies; English-language articulation and conversation; and graduate-level writing skills in summaries, reflections, and homiletics. **Prerequisite:** PAS502E/PAS503E or the equivalent (determined by Language Placement Assessment).

PAS514E PASTORAL ENGLISH VI

CREDIT HOURS 2

This course is a continuation of PAS513E.

SPANISH SEQUENCE:

PAS507S BASIC SPANISH I

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course is for seminarians with limited or no previous knowledge of Spanish. The aim of this course is to develop the seminarian's ability to communicate about and comprehend his immediate world through speaking, listening, reading, and writing. The focus will be on the present and future tenses. Basic Church vocabulary is introduced via a communicative approach to real-life topics. By the end of the course, seminarians should be able to maintain a simple conversation and do a brief presentation.

PAS508S BASIC SPANISH II

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course is a continuation of PAS507S. Past tenses are introduced at this level, as is an introduction to the subjunctive mood.

The Academic Office and/or the Language Department may recommend the basic courses PAS507S/508S prior to PAS509S/510S.

PAS509S PASTORAL SPANISH I

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course builds Spanish language skills via a communicative approach to real-life, pastoral, and cultural topics. Motivated students can achieve an intermediate level of fluency. Seminarians begin to communicate and comprehend opinions, beliefs, and doubts in Spanish. In conjunction with learning to express themselves subjectively, students begin an in-depth study of the Spanish sentence structures that govern this kind of communication; increase their vocabulary; and practice grammar in the indicative, subjunctive, and imperative moods. Class materials and activities facilitate general and pastoral language skills. Seminarians will use the four components of language learning (speaking, listening, writing, and reading). Liturgical readings are included in this course. **Prerequisite: PAS507S/PAS508S or the equivalent (determined by Language Placement Assessment).**

PAS510S PASTORAL SPANISH II

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course is a continuation of PAS509S.

PAS511S PASTORAL SPANISH III

CREDIT HOURS 2

This course builds and improves Spanish pastoral-language skills at intermediate-mid to high levels of oral proficiency, emphasizing connected discourse in the context of priestly formation. Seminarians discuss Church-related documents and topics, as well as make presentations using the indicative, subjunctive, and imperative moods. Class materials and activities facilitate recognition of cognates and provide tips for a general understanding of liturgical readings and cultural topics. Seminarians will be introduced to pastoral and ministerial applications using the four components of language learning (speaking, listening, writing, and reading). **Prerequisite: PAS509S/PAS510S or the equivalent (determined by Language Placement Assessment).**

PAS512S PASTORAL SPANISH IV

CREDIT HOURS 2

This course is a continuation of PAS511S.

PAS515S PASTORAL SPANISH V

CREDIT HOURS 2

This course emphasizes ministerial and cultural components of language instruction, and continues to build and improve total communication skills in Spanish at the high/advanced levels of oral proficiency, using connected discourse in the context of priestly formation. Seminarians will focus on liturgy, sacraments, and homiletics. Oral presentations and discussion-based assignments will help develop a broad range of pastoral communication skills in a transatlantic Spanish linguistic and cultural setting. The course advances language proficiency in all four skills (speaking, listening, writing, and reading) using a range of genres and styles. By the end of the course, seminarians will be better prepared for effective diction and delivery in their pastoral language. **Prerequisite: PAS511S/PAS512S or equivalent (determined by Language Placement Assessment).**

PAS516S PASTORAL SPANISH VI

CREDIT HOURS 2

This course will emphasize the ministerial and cultural components of language instruction. It is a continuation of PAS515S.

COURSE OFFERINGS IN THE MAPS PROGRAM

SCRIPTURE

BIB520 INTRODUCTION TO THE BIBLE

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course is designed as a journey through the Old Testament (Law, Prophets, and other Writings) as well as the New, with emphasis on main characters, narratives, and major themes: the call from the Lord; the heritage of the people of Israel; and the response to Jesus incarnate, crucified, and resurrected. Proceeding from the Church's incarnational approach to the text, students will read texts that exemplify the major genres present in the canon: narrative, poetry, prophecy, gospel, epistle, and apocalyptic. The course will also stress the role that the Bible plays in the Church's prayer and liturgy.

CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

LAT551 ECCLESIASTICAL LATIN I

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course is an introduction to ecclesiastical Latin with emphasis upon vocabulary, basic grammar, pronunciation, and translation.

LAT552 ECCLESIASTICAL LATIN II

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course is the second semester continuation of LAT551. Its goal is to advance the student's knowledge of Latin morphology and syntax with emphasis upon translation. **Prerequisite:** LAT551 or its equivalent.

PHILOSOPHY

PHI500 LOGIC/CRITICAL THINKING

CREDIT HOURS 3

The goal of this course is to present major logical themes in order to form students as clearer thinkers able to rationally present, discuss, and defend ideas as a foundation for further philosophical and theological studies. Major logical themes of argumentation such as induction, deduction, validity, soundness, strength, and cogency are covered. Formal logic, informal logic, symbolic logic, truth conditions, and fallacious argumentation are presented in light of relevant philosophical themes such as epistemology, first principles, and ethical argumentation. In order to maintain a strong link between logic and students' course of study, logic as applied to metaphysical themes is strongly encouraged such as with regards to the analogy of being and what can logically be said and not said about the nature of God.

PHI501 ANCIENT PHILOSOPHY

CREDIT HOURS 3

The course is an introduction to the origins of Western Philosophy in the Ancient Mediterranean worlds of Greece and Rome. It includes a critical survey of the thought of the Pre-Socratic Philosophers, Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Stoicism, and Neo-Platonism. This critical survey focuses attention upon the philosophical heritage of Plato and Aristotle in light of missionary discipleship.

PHI502 MEDIEVAL PHILOSOPHY

CREDIT HOURS 3

A study of major themes characterizing philosophy in the Medieval period: the relation of faith and reason, the existence and nature of God, freedom of the will, the problem of evil, and the nature of the human being. These issues will be explored in the writings of some of the principal thinkers of the Medieval period: Augustine, Boethius, Anselm, Averroes, and Thomas Aquinas.

PHI503 MODERN PHILOSOPHY

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course is an in-depth study of key modern philosophers whose ideas have had significant relevance for the Catholic intellectual tradition. The metaphysical, epistemological, and ethical problems presented in the rationalism of Descartes and the empiricism of Hume will lead to the critical philosophy of Kant. These philosophers, and others, are discussed centering on such topics as: the nature of knowledge, the existence and nature of the universe, causality, teleology in an account of the universe and of human nature, as well as its role in arguing for God's existence. This course also considers the possibility of metaphysics, human freedom, and the problem of evil, while contrasting modern positions to those within an Aristotelian-Thomistic framework.

PHI504 CONTEMPORARY PHILOSOPHY

CREDIT HOURS 3

A study of the development of philosophical thought from the nineteenth century to the present day. Topics include phenomenology and existentialism, hermeneutics, the crisis of reason, the rise of atheism, postmodernism, and the revival of Thomism. Philosophers surveyed include Hegel, Marx, Nietzsche, Heidegger, Ricoeur, and Wojtyla. Some attention is given to more recent topics and problems in philosophy in light of missionary discipleship.

PHI520 EPISTEMOLOGY

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course is an in-depth systematic approach to studying theories of knowledge. After an introduction that takes into account general themes such as what is knowledge, truth, faith, belief, and certainty, questions regarding whether or not knowledge is possible or to what extent it is even obtainable are addressed. Other topics including first principles, logic as a basis for knowledge, and the biological and neurological processes that correspond with knowledge are also explored. Throughout this approach, examples are tied into the main historical philosophers of epistemology such as Plato, Aristotle, Aquinas, Locke, Berkeley, Hume, Kant, and other post-Kantian figures such as Nietzsche. Within this course, the Catholic intellectual tradition's development of epistemology is juxtaposed with other systems to highlight differences.

PHI521 ETHICS AND NATURAL LAW

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course investigates the philosophical study of ethics and involves moral themes regarding the human person such as the moral decision-making process, human conscience, freedom/free will, responsibility, human flourishing, empathy, and guilt among other topics. This course investigates competing ethical systems such as utilitarianism, social contract theory, deontological ethics, feminist ethics, virtue ethics, divine command theory, and egoism as primarily distinguished with Natural Law and the moral teaching of the magisterium of the Catholic Church. Particular ethical dilemmas such as abortion, euthanasia, and capital punishment are utilized within the context of the course to provide a multi-philosophical lens to approach each topic as preparation and basis for engaging moral theology.

PHI522 METAPHYSICS

CREDIT HOURS 3

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the fundamental principles of reality. The course examines the philosophical notions of essence and existence, substance and accidents, form and matter, causality, arguments for the existence and attributes of God, and the problem of evil. The course also examines the relation of natural theology to revealed theology in light of missionary discipleship.

PHI540 PHILOSOPHICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course is a philosophical investigation into the human person from two main perspectives. First, this course investigates diverse theories of human nature as presented by Plato, Aristotle, Hinduism, Buddhism, Augustine, Hobbes, Rousseau, Kant, Schopenhauer, Marx, Freud, Kierkegaard, Nietzsche, Sartre, evolution, etc. Secondly, this course investigates the Thomistic-Aristotelian account of the human person with particular emphasis on points of comparison and contrast with the above. This later development of human personhood clarifies all of the diverse elements of the human person: the nature of life, free will, soul, body, rationality, emotions, sexuality, spirituality, and the nature of personhood with its implications for culture. Particular emphasis is given towards the transcendent implications that stem from human nature and personhood with contrast to reductive contemporary physicalist accounts.

PHI545 PHILOSOPHY/THEOLOGY SEMINAR

CREDIT HOURS 3

This seminar course focuses on the integration of philosophical and theological themes within the particular lens of the historical dialogue between faith and reason in light of the Catholic tradition. The program requirements for this course include, though not are limited to, a substantial integration paper and oral presentation of that paper. This seminar course provides minor informative sessions pertaining to the MAPS oral and written comprehensive exams. Topics addressed are an in-depth analysis of *Fides et Ratio*, historical debates regarding faith and reason, epistemological concerns regarding metaphysical principles and the nature of God, the philosophy of nature and its implications for faith and reason, and natural theology with particular emphasis on arguments for the existence of God. Contemporary debates are integrated wherever possible. **Prerequisites: Required courses in previous semesters of the MAPS curriculum.**

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

THY515 INTRODUCTION TO SOURCES AND METHODS OF PRAYER

CREDIT HOURS 2

This course is an introduction to foundations in Christian prayer rooted in the Word of God. Resources and methods for prayer are studied and explored in practicum exercises. These include *Lectio Divina*, the Rosary, meditation, and contemplation.

THY516 VATICAN II AND THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH TODAY

CREDIT HOURS 3

St. John Paul II has said that in the Second Vatican Council "we find a sure compass by which to take our bearings in the century now beginning" (Apostolic Letter, *Novo Millennio Ineunte*, n. 57). This course will study the coming into being of the 16 documents of the Council and their main themes, focusing primarily on the mission of the Church both *ad intra* and *ad extra*. It will also refer to several documents that implemented the recommendations of the Council.

THY525 FUNDAMENTALS OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH I

CREDIT HOURS 2

This course aims at presenting the major sections of *The Catechism of the Catholic Church*, which summarizes the "essential and necessary elements" of the Christian faith and is a "new, authoritative exposition of the one and perennial apostolic faith" (St. John Paul II, Apostolic Letter, *Laetamur Magnopere*, August 15, 1997). This first part of this course will provide a very brief history of the Catechism; it will then present Part I (The Profession of Faith) and Part II (The Celebration of the Christian Mystery).

THY526 FUNDAMENTALS OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH II

CREDIT HOURS 2

This course continues the presentation of *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* started in THY525. This second part of the course will present Part III (Life in Christ) and Part IV (Christian Prayer).

COURSE OFFERINGS IN THE MATS PROGRAM

PHILOSOPHY

PAS408 WRITING SKILLS

NON-CREDIT HOURS 1.5

Designed for new graduate theology students, this course is an overview of English written communication. It will provide a review of basic English grammar, usage, punctuation, and style and invite the students to develop their own writing voice so that they will be well equipped for future graduate courses and pastoral ministry. They will also learn new skills to express themselves vividly and clearly in writing. In the capstone assessment for this course, students will critically read a short piece of scholarly literature and compose a short essay in which they will respond by proposing a thesis and defending it with evidence found through research. As they do so, they will also learn how to avoid plagiarism and write with integrity.

PHI422 METAPHYSICS

NON-CREDIT HOURS 3

The purpose of this course is to introduce the students to the fundamental metaphysical nature of reality. The course will be inspired by the Thomistic tradition, emphasizing particularly the creative retrieval of the thought of St. Thomas by some of the most important Catholic thinkers since the beginning of the 20th century.

PHI440 PHILOSOPHICAL ANTHROPOLOGY

NON-CREDIT HOURS 1.5

The purpose of this course is to introduce the students to a fundamental philosophical understanding of what it is to be human. The course will entail both a historical and systematic treatment of the basic metaphysical dimensions of human existence. Emphasis will be made especially on the personal nature of human beings and their creative freedom in the context of their essential historicity in the world of human experience.

SCRIPTURE

MBIB520 INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURAL THEOLOGY CREDIT HOURS 3

This course has three main parts: First, it explores Church teaching on Sacred Scripture, including the formation of the canon and the inspiration and truth of Scripture, by surveying various Church documents on these questions. Second, it introduces the exegetical methodology generally accepted in Catholic biblical scholarship, giving attention both to diachronic and synchronic tools; this part of the course examines exegesis so that students will understand how we know what we know about the biblical texts. Third, it provides an overview of the entire Catholic canon, offering a general introduction to the 73 books considered inspired by the Church. **This is a prerequisite course for all Scripture courses in the MATS Program**

MBIB621 SURVEY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT CREDIT HOURS 3

This course builds on the foundation provided in MBIB520 by exploring the Old Testament more deeply. It provides an overview of the culture, language, religion, and history of the Old Testament, exploring the literary, geographical, and historical contexts of the different books. The books of the Old Testament will be considered within the traditional 3-part division of the Hebrew Bible (Tanakh) – Torah, Prophets, and Writings – with attention also given to the deuterocanonical books. This course will also include exegesis of selected Old Testament texts of different genres: narrative, law, prophetic poetry and prose, wisdom literature, and apocalyptic. **Prerequisite: MBIB520 Introduction to Scripture**

MBIB622 SURVEY OF THE NEW TESTAMENT CREDIT HOURS 3

This course builds on the foundation provided in MBIB520 by exploring the New Testament more deeply. It provides an overview of the culture, language, religion, and history of the New Testament, exploring the literary, geographical, and historical contexts of the different books. The books and major theological themes of the New Testament will be considered within the division of the genres of the various texts – gospel, Hellenistic history (Acts), Hellenistic letters (those of the Pauline corpus and others), and apocalyptic (Revelation). This course will also include exegesis of selected New Testament texts of different genres. **Prerequisite: MBIB520 Introduction to Scripture**

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

MTHY500 INTRODUCTION TO SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY CREDIT HOURS 3

The discipline of Roman Catholic Systematic Theology is classically characterized by the use of an analytical realism, a deep respect for the diverse realities of Sacred Scripture, Sacred Tradition, and the individual and his/her interrelationship with the community in union with God. This course will introduce the student to the major facets integral to the practice of Roman Catholic Theology. As a survey course practicing theology within the current context, the course provides an overview of many disciplines, from the Divine Mystery and Christology, to revelation and ecclesiology.

MTHY515 TRINITY AND CHRISTOLOGY

CREDIT HOURS 3

Trinity is the critical, participatory, and contemplative reflection on the mystery of God and His Trinitarian reality. The course converses with the witness of the Scriptures, the theological and magisterial Tradition of the Church, and the experience of the mystics. The course emphasizes the following topics: the Trinity as the source of all reality and the only answer to the challenge of atheism; the Trinitarian revelation in the Paschal mystery of Christ; the historical development of Trinitarian doctrine; and the central Trinitarian categories. The course also reflects on the pastoral and spiritual actualization of Trinitarian theology.

Christology is the critical, participatory and contemplative reflection on faith in God and on the life, ministry, and Paschal event of Jesus of Nazareth. The query of the sources of Christian Theology includes: Scriptures, the tradition of the Fathers, the Scholastics, the mystics, and contemporary theologians as well as the liturgical proclamation and the life of faith, love, hope, and justice of the Church. Students will endeavor to unveil, as much as possible, the profile and identity of Jesus, the Son of God, and His meaning for the Church, human existence, and contemporary culture.

MTHY545 CHRISTIAN ANTHROPOLOGY

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course is designed to provide students with an introduction to the theological understanding of the nature of human beings. The course emphasizes the view that Jesus Christ is the revelation, not only of God, but also of what it is to be human. The course entails an articulation of the relationship between grace and human nature. In line with this relationship, the eschatological nature of Christian faith will also be considered.

MTHY645 SURVEY OF SACRAMENTAL THEOLOGY

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course will provide a general introduction to the theology of the sacraments. It will begin with an overall view of the sacraments and move specifically into more detail with each of the seven sacraments. Students will also learn the specific rituals of the sacraments and use the liturgical texts as a key tool for learning the theology of each.

MORAL THEOLOGY**MTHY541 FUNDAMENTAL MORAL THEOLOGY**

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course is an introduction to the fundamental issues and concerns of Catholic Moral Theology as a science of Christian praxis. Its topics include the renewal of moral theology by the Second Vatican Council, as well as the scriptural and historical background to this renewal effort; the relationship of faith and reason (grace and nature) in ethical reflection; and the meaning of moral-theological categories such as virtue, law, sin, authority, conscience, and freedom. Special emphasis is given to the significance of the virtues (theological and cardinal) in a contemporary context. **Prerequisite** MTHY545 Christian Anthropology

MTHY650 SOCIAL JUSTICE, MISSIOLOGY AND EVANGELIZATION

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course offers an overview of Catholic teaching on social justice beginning with the encyclical *Rerum Novarum*, issued by Pope Leo XIII in 1891. It will also offer an introduction to the theology of mission in support of the task of evangelization. **Prerequisite** MTHY541 Fundamental Moral Theology

MTHY800 SEXUAL MORALITY AND MEDICAL ETHICS

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course offers an overview of sexual and medical ethics from a Catholic moral perspective, including discussion of the deeper moral-theological dimension of issues in sexual morality such as the role of sex in human growth and development, some sexual deviations, natural and artificial procreation, as well as natural and artificial birth control, sterilization, surrogate parenthood, human experimentation, cloning, stem cell research, euthanasia, and the role of the virtues in the decision-making process in medical ethics. **Prerequisite** MTHY541 Fundamental Moral Theology

HISTORY**MHIS550** CATHOLIC HISTORICAL THEOLOGY

CREDIT HOURS 3

The purpose of this class is to introduce the students to the theology of the Catholic Church by reflecting on 2000 years of growth, through the three stages of the Church: early [patristic] (33-590), medieval [scholastics] (590-1517), and modern (1517-present). In each era, the development of Catholic theology will be seen arising from its historical context. The Church in the United States does not stand in isolation; hence, American Catholic Church history will also be examined. This course is a survey class.

OTHER**MHOM615** THEOLOGY IN PREACHING AND PRESENTATIONS

CREDIT HOURS 3

In his Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Francis states, "Preparation for preaching is so important a task that a prolonged time of study, prayer, reflection and pastoral creativity should be devoted to it" (n. 145). This course is designed to build a foundational pattern of prayer and study that will assist in the development and preaching of a Catholic homily. Students will understand the foundational texts associated with defining a Catholic homily, grow in their understanding of themselves as preachers, and learn to become attuned to the assemblies they address. Review of homilies by faculty and peers will be part of the course using the Preaching Rubric. **Only candidates for the permanent diaconate may register for this course.**

MHOM720 HOMILETICS II

CREDIT HOURS 2

This course is designed to build on the foundation established in MHOM315/615, honing the deacon candidate's understanding of preaching in the Roman Catholic tradition. The Homiletic Directory will be used to summarize the course material previously studied. The deacon candidate will develop an operative theology of preaching that will reflect his integrated understanding of systematic theology and pastoral life. The operative theology of preaching will demonstrate a theological awareness of how preaching incorporates the applied disciplines of anthropology, theology, and Christology, as well as understanding preaching within the dialectical and sacramental imagination. The deacon candidate will learn to assess critically his particular assembly, incorporating these facets into the skill and art of writing a homily. This course will emphasize the exegesis of both the preacher and the assembly. Each deacon candidate will be expected to prepare written texts of his homilies, to record the delivered homily, and participate in the review of peer homilies. The seminary-preaching rubric will be used in assessing the homilies. **Prerequisite:** HOM615 Theology in Preaching and Presentations.

MLAW710 CANON LAW

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course surveys the historical development of Church law, which culminates in the promulgation of the 1983 *Code of Canon Law*. Books I, II, IV, and VI of the Code are studied with particular emphasis on the role of clerics, rights and obligations of the Christian faithful and clergy, the hierarchical constitution of the Church, and diocesan and parish structures. A practical study of the current Church discipline of the Sacraments, with a special emphasis on matrimonial legislation and the Sacraments of Initiation, provides students with the canonical requisites for reception of the Sacraments and their celebration. It readies students to deal, as parochial ministers of the Sacraments, with their proper administration, and the processes involved with the matrimonial tribunal.

MPAS615 PASTORAL COUNSELING

CREDIT HOURS 3

This course will introduce the MATS student to the concepts, theories, and principles of counseling with a broad spectrum of applications: individual, family, and marital. There is a focus on both the theoretical and practical aspects of acquiring clinical skills through interviewing and role play experiences.

MTHY525 INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY

CREDIT HOURS 2

This course aims at introducing students to this theological discipline, while assisting them to make an experience of a possible integration in Christ between knowledge and life. It will cover the origins and nature of Christian spirituality, bringing out the main basic principles of the Christian spiritual life. This will be exemplified through Scriptural, traditional, and historical references.

MPFS700 LITURGICAL PRACTICUM I – DEACON CANDIDATES

CREDIT HOUR 1

This is an introduction to proper style for the celebration of the sacraments and other liturgies, with respect for liturgical/sacramental theology and the directives contained within the liturgical books. Focus will be on the following:

1. An understanding of the ministries of lector and acolyte, and the ordained ministry of deacon;
2. Practicum for the sacraments of Baptism and Matrimony;
3. Practicum for the care of the sick and the dying, burial, Eucharistic devotions, and blessings.

Only candidates for the permanent diaconate may register for this course.

MPFS800 LITURGICAL PRACTICUM II – DEACON CANDIDATES

CREDIT HOUR 1

This course is a continuation of MPFS700 with more opportunity for practice. **Only candidates for the permanent diaconate may register for this course.**

SPECIAL ANNUAL PROGRAMS

THEOLOGY TODAY - TOWN AND GOWN EVENT

The seminary sponsors a night devoted to the presentation of a topic of pertinent theological significance, usually twice a year. A scholar in a particular theological field is invited to speak and the event is open to the public.

SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE

Since 1983 the seminary has sponsored scholars-in-residence to either teach or present lectures. The purpose is to expose faculty and students to contemporary Catholic theological scholars. This is not an annual program.

PRIEST WINTER INSTITUTE

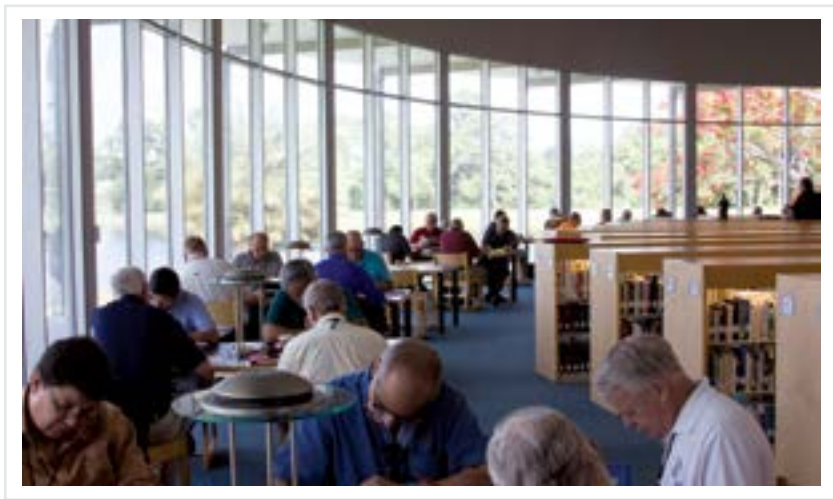
In keeping with the secondary purpose of the Mission Statement, the seminary sponsors an annual, week-long, continuing education program for priests. Each year experts are invited to address topics or issues which are of particular relevance to priests in their ministries.

DEACON SUMMER INSTITUTE

In keeping with the secondary purpose of the Mission Statement, the seminary sponsors an annual, week-long, continuing education program for permanent deacons. Each year experts are invited to address topics or issues which are of particular relevance to deacons in their ministries.

RECENTLY ORDAINED WORKSHOP

In keeping with the secondary purpose of the Mission Statement, the seminary sponsors an annual, three-day workshop for priests who are recently ordained. Experts are brought in to present topics relevant to priests who are in the early years of their ministry.



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