

# Master of Arts in Pastoral Theology – 42 Unit Program

## **FOR STUDENTS WHO ENROLLED AUGUST 2009 AND AFTER**

All students must complete **42 semester hours**, maintaining a minimum grade point average of "B" (3.0). All courses are 3 semester hours, unless otherwise noted.

### **Core Courses (24)**

The following eight courses (**24 semester hours**) are required.

THST 600 Foundations of NT Theology *or* THST 603 Foundations of OT Theology  
THST 630 Introduction to Systematic Theology  
THST 660 Foundations of Christian Moral Life *or* One Course from the Historical Area (620's)  
THST 670 Foundations of Pastoral Theology  
THST 675 Spiritual Formation for Pastoral Ministry  
THST 692 Graduate Pro-Seminar (taken in the first semester)  
THST 689 Supervised Pastoral Field Education  
THST 691 Pastoral Synthesis Project (taken after completion of 36 hours)

### **Elective Courses (18)**

Pastoral Theology students are required to take **one** three unit course in either Liturgy, Religious Education, or Spirituality and select **other elective** courses offered by the Department of Theological Studies after consultation with their advisor. The program is designed to allow students to pursue general interests or a particular concentration. Concentrations are offered in two areas: (1) Pastoral Leadership and (2) Spiritual Direction. Under special circumstances, students may take up to two courses (six semester hours) outside the department.

### **Concentration in Spiritual Direction**

This concentration is designed for anyone in the Master of Arts in Pastoral Theology who would like to acquire the art of Spiritual Direction, a ministry of accompanying others in their spiritual journey. The purpose of the concentration is to provide a course of studies that integrates Theology, Scripture, Psychology, Spirituality, skills acquisition and supervision in the art of Spiritual Direction. Students who wish to concentrate their **elective** in a spiritual direction would take the following four courses in sequence:

THST 685 Theory and Practice of Spiritual Direction  
THST 686 Ignatian Spirituality  
THST 687 Psychological Foundations of Pastoral Ministry  
THST 688 Practicum and Supervision in Spiritual Direction

### **Concentration in Pastoral Leadership**

This concentration is designed to educate those who will serve (or who currently serve) as leaders in pastoral settings, either as leaders in specialized ministries or as leaders in general ministry positions. Examples of leaders in specialized ministry: Directors of Religious Education, Directors of Youth Ministry or Campus Ministry, Directors of Catechumenate/RCIA. The concentration is deliberately open to the students to design under the guidance of the academic advisor. In this way, students who find themselves actively engaged in, or aspiring to, leadership ministries within schools or parishes will choose courses for the concentration that fit their current or aspired ministry commitments. Students who choose to do this Concentration are required to take:

THST 674 Pastoral Leadership

In addition, students are required to take two (2) of the following (or other courses approved by the academic advisor):

THST 650 Liturgical Theology: History and Interpretation  
THST 652 The Rites  
THST 671 Pastoral Approaches to Religious Education  
THST 673 Faith and Culture: Catechesis in Southern California  
THST 677 Pastoral Liturgy  
THST 678 The Theology of the Parish  
THST 679 Special Topics in Pastoral Theology  
THST 687 Psychological Foundations of Pastoral Ministry