

Abilene Christian University
College of Biblical Studies
 Master of Divinity
 Competencies
 Spring, 1999

Purpose of the Master of Divinity

As a comprehensive program of studies designed to prepare students for a variety of ministry, the Master of Divinity is the basic degree in theological education. This degree is designed to prepare graduates to serve as pulpit ministers, counselors, Christian educators, campus ministers, other ministries of the church, and chaplains, and it provides the foundation for advanced theological study. This three year program (84 hours) seeks to provide a knowledge of the Bible and related disciplines, to integrate the knowledge of these disciplines with the skills for various ministries, and to provide the opportunity for spiritual formation. Co-curricular experiences, such as the mentoring program and the Supervised Practice of Ministry program, seek to nurture the whole person in preparation for ministry,

Master of Divinity students should demonstrate the following competencies

<i>Competencies</i>	<i>Assessments</i>
I. A basic knowledge of biblical content	1 Satisfactory completion of the English Bible Examination and of OT and NT Interpretation courses
2. The ability to interpret the biblical texts in a way that reflects both responsible research and faithfulness to the Christian tradition.	2 Performance in biblical interpretation courses and in comprehensive exam case studies
3 A basic understanding of the history of the Christian faith and of the Stone-Campbell heritage	3 Performance in church history courses and in comprehensive exam case studies
4 The capacity to reflect theologically in	4 Performance in theology courses,

response to issues, situations, and experiences	comprehensive exam case studies and in Profiles of Ministry (POM,)
5 The ability to integrate theological and theoretical concepts with concrete ministry situations	5 Performance in theology courses, Supervised Practice Ministry (SPM), comprehensive exam case studies and POM.

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<i>Competencies</i>	Assessments
6. The maturity to make personal appropriation of theological understandings, meanings, and values from the perspective of personal faith.	6. Performance in SPM POM, Mentor Groups, and Comprehensive exam case studies
7. The ability to communicate the gospel effectively, especially in the tasks of preaching, teaching, and evangelism	7. Performance in POM, SPM and courses in preaching, teaching, and missions/evangelism classes
8. The ability to lead the church to enhance its theological understanding	8. Performance in SPM, POM, and worship course.

<p>and faithful practice of Christian worship.</p> <p>9. The capacity to make intentional use of the disciplines leading to personal and spiritual formation.</p>	<p>9. Performance in the POM Intentional Growth Plan, Mentor Groups, and Spiritual Formation course</p>
<p>10. The capacity to care for persons in crisis with appropriate compassion and counseling.</p>	<p>10. Performance in SPM, POM, comprehensive exam case studies, and counseling course</p>
<p>11. The ability to lead the church in the practice of its ministry.</p>	<p>11. Performance in SPM, POM, and comprehensive exam case studies.</p>
<p>12. The skill to respond appropriately to multi-cultural or cross-cultural ministry contexts</p>	<p>12. Multi-contextual field observations and performance in SPM and POM, Opportunities for multi-cultural internships.</p>
<p>13. An understanding of the global dimensions of ministry and mission.</p>	<p>13. Participation in SPM, POM, courses in missions, and opportunities for global missions experiences</p>
<p>14. The capacity to manage oneself</p>	<p>14. Performance in SPM, PONT,</p>

<p>personally and professionally in ways</p> <p>that demonstrate character and</p> <p>enhance one's ministry effectiveness</p>	<p>Mentoring Groups, and</p> <p>comprehensive exam case studies</p>
<p>15. Demonstrate facility in both written</p> <p>and oral communication</p>	<p>15. Written papers and oral presentations</p> <p>in course work, written briefs and oral</p> <p>synopses in comprehensive exams</p>

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