



Statement of Institutional Effectiveness

The GST is committed to providing the highest quality graduate theological education. The GST utilizes a variety of tools to assess the effectiveness of its educational programs, including evaluating the degree to which students meet expected learning outcomes for their respective programs, student satisfaction, graduation rates, and placement rates.

GST students have met or exceeded the faculty's goals for student learning as demonstrated through faculty assessment of students' coursework, portfolios, and theses.

The following tables provide additional information on the effectiveness of the GST's programs based on feedback from graduates. Please note that these statistics represent a small sampling of data one might use to judge the effectiveness of the GST's educational programs. We invite you to contact us to learn more about the GST, our programs, and our student body.

Program Completion Rates		
MDIV, MACM & MA degrees		
Year of Graduation	Graduated Within 3 Years	Graduated Within 4 Years
2010-2011	33%	79%
2011-2012	41%	76%
2012-2013	32%	68%
2013-2014	23%	59%
2014-2015	33%	56%
2015-2016	47%	89%
2016-2017	26%	63%
2017-2018	47%	63%

Program Completion Rates				
Doctor of Ministry Program				
Cohort Year	Started	Graduated	In Progress	Discontinued
2005-2006	7	2	1	4
		29%	14%	57%
2006-2007	6	5	0	1
		83%	0%	17%
2007-2008	6	4	0	2
		67%	0%	33%
2008-2009	6	5	0	1
		83%	0%	17%
2009-2010	5	4	0	1

		80%	0%	20%
2010-2011	10	6	0	4
		60%	0%	40%
2011-2012	4	3	0	1
		75%	0%	25%
2012-2013	6	1	2	3
		17%	33%	50%
2013-2014	6	3	1	2
		50%	17%	33%
2014-15	5	0	4	1
		0%	80%	20%
Total	61	33	8	20
		54%	13%	33%

GST Graduate Student Questionnaire (MDiv, MACM, MAMI, MAGS)				
	2013	2014	2015	19 Year Average
Congregational Ministry	30%	32%	31%	21.14%
Campus Ministry	4%	0%	0%	3.41%
Inner City Ministry	9%	0%	0%	1.81%
Pastoral Counseling	0%	0%	0%	0.44%
Hospital or Other Chaplaincy	4%	8%	0%	2.07%
Secondary School Teaching	9%	15%	11%	0.50%
College Teaching	0%	0%	0%	6.12%
Church Administration	0%	0%	0%	0%
Seminary Teaching	0%	8%	0%	1.92%
Social Work	13%	0%	0%	1.5%
Foreign Missions	0%	8%	5%	9.81%
Home Missions	4%	0%	0%	0.74%
Church Planting/Evangelism	0%	0%	11%	4.38%
Youth Ministry	0%	0%	11%	12.60%
Church Musician	0%	0%	0%	0.42%
Christian Education	0%	0%	0%	1.65%
Spiritual Direction	0%	0%	0%	1.53%
Social Justice Ministry	4%	8%	5%	1.48%
Further Graduate Study	9%	0%	11%	7.94%
Professional Lay Ministry	0%	0%	0%	1.15%
Other	0%	0%	5%	2.33%
Undecided	13%	15%	11%	14.52%

*2016-2017 and 2017-2018 data is missing due to low reporting resulting in a small N.

TABLE 14: Measure of Educational Effectiveness and Personal Growth

GRADUATING STUDENTS, BATCH=All, YEAR=2017-2018, TERM=All

SCHOOL: Abilene Christian University, MDiv/MA

By Degree Program	MDiv		Prof MA		Total	
	Avg	S.D.	Avg	S.D.	Avg	S.D.
Empathy for the poor and oppressed	4.0	0.0	3.0	0.0	3.5	0.5
Ability to pray	2.0	0.0	3.0	0.0	2.5	0.5
Concern about social justice	5.0	0.0	3.0	0.0	4.0	1.0
Enthusiasm for learning	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0
Insight into troubles of others	4.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	3.0	1.0
Desire to become an authority in my field	4.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	2.5	1.5
Trust in God	4.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	4.5	0.5
Self-discipline and focus	4.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	4.5	0.5
Respect for other religious traditions	4.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	4.5	0.5
Respect for my own religious tradition	3.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	4.0	1.0
Ability to live my faith in daily life	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0
Clarity of vocational goals	5.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	5.0	0.0
Self-confidence	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0
Self-knowledge	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0
Strength of spiritual life	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0

1 Not at all effective	2 Not very effective	3 Somewhat effective	4 Effective	5 Very effective
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TABLE 15: Educational Effectiveness in Facilitating Skill Areas**GRADUATING STUDENTS, BATCH=All, YEAR=2017-2018, TERM=All****SCHOOL: Abilene Christian University, MDiv/MA**

By Degree Program	MDiv		Prof MA		Total Avg S.D.	
	Avg	S.D.	Avg	S.D.		
Ability to preach well	2.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	2.0	0.0
Ability to use and interpret Scripture	3.0	0.0	3.0	0.0	3.0	0.0
Knowledge of church polity/canon law	2.0	0.0	3.0	0.0	2.5	0.5
Ability to give spiritual direction	4.0	0.0	3.0	0.0	3.5	0.5
Ability to teach well	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0
Knowledge of church doctrine and history	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0
Ability to lead others	4.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	4.5	0.5
Ability to conduct worship/liturgy	3.0	0.0	3.0	0.0	3.0	0.0
Ability to interact effectively with those of religious traditions other than my own	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0
Ability to work effectively within my own religious tradition	5.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	4.5	0.5
Ability to interact effectively with those from cultural and racial/ethnic contexts other than my own	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0
Awareness and appreciation of the globalized context in which ministry is practiced	5.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	5.0	0.0
Ability to work effectively with both women and men	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	4.0	0.0
Ability to relate social issues to faith	4.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	4.5	0.5
Ability in pastoral counseling	5.0	0.0	3.0	0.0	4.0	1.0
Ability to administer a parish	3.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	3.5	0.5
Knowledge of Christian philosophy and ethics	3.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	3.5	0.5
Ability to think theologically	5.0	0.0	4.0	0.0	4.5	0.5
Ability to integrate insights from science into theology and ministry	4.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	3.0	1.0
Ability to integrate ecological concerns into theology and ministry	4.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	3.0	1.0

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