

MASTER OF ARTS IN PRACTICAL THEOLOGY TEACHING MINISTRIES CONCENTRATION

This program equips graduates for teaching ministries in churches, Bible Institutes, para-church organizations, and other ministry settings. The concentration provides a foundation in educational theory and practice that will assist students to pursue teaching vocations or doctoral studies. It seeks to develop the essential knowledge and skills for classroom methodology and effective application of educational theory.

In addition to a strong biblical and theological foundation, the curriculum is flexible enough to meet the demands of both professional and lay positions. The concentration provides opportunity for the expression of individual interests through specialized research and projects. The practicum will encourage students to seek both national and international opportunities for supervised practice.

The objectives of the Master of Arts in Practical Theology-Teaching Ministries Concentration are to:

- Prepare candidates with a foundational knowledge of the content of Scripture within its cultural and historical context with application to selected contemporary situations.
- Prepare students to increase competence and understanding in the Word of God by utilizing basic methods of biblical interpretation.
- Provide a basic knowledge of the contents and methods of Christian theology.
- Provide a systematized overview of the historical development of theology in the Christian tradition.
- Prepare students to effectively communicate the message of Christianity in various cultural contexts.
- Enable students to develop skills and practical ministry strategies.
- Integrate theological reflection and practice through internship opportunities.
- Promote a biblical/theological understanding of the person, work, and ministry of the Holy Spirit.
- Enable students to articulate clearly their understanding of a ministry/professional calling.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university or a college recognized by The Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE)
- Cumulative undergraduate grade point average of 2.5 or higher
- An official entrance exam score is required (waived for those who hold a Bachelors degree with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 or a Masters degree from a regionally accredited institution): Miller Analogies Test (minimum score of 396) or the Graduate Record Exam (minimum combined score of 300 for verbal and quantitative sections)
- For those whose language of instruction was not English, Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL): score of 550 paper-based, 213 computer-based, 79-80 internet-based, or the IELTS (minimum band score of 7.0), and submit a score within the past two years

PREREQUISITES (3 CREDIT HOURS)

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS (47.5 CREDIT HOURS)

- ORU Distinctive Courses (4.5 credit hours)
- Assessments (1 credit hour)
- Biblical and Theological Foundations (15 credit hours)
- Practical Theology Cognate (12 credit hours)
- Teaching Ministries Concentration (15 credit hours)

ACCREDITATION

- Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada (ATS)
- The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association (NCA) of Colleges and Schools

Transfer credit and advanced standing for hours taken at another accredited university, per approval of the Academic Committee, are available. Detailed information is available at gradtheology.oru.edu