MASTER OF ARTS IN
CHRISTIAN FORMATION

The Master of Arts in Christian Formation is designed to develop basic competencies essential to the study of the Bible and related theological literature, while also nurturing knowledge and skill development in the enactment of educational ministry leadership. The program consists of 65-semester hours, which includes a 32-hour Bible and theology core and a 33-hour educational ministries specialization. In addition to foundational courses, applicants choose a nine-hour ministry specialization (Student & Family Ministries, Small Group & Discipleship Ministries, Interdisciplinary Studies, Intercultural Ministries, Formation & Soul Care Ministries, or Campus & Student Development Ministries) and an eight-hour ministry residency (contextual learning under the supervision of a seasoned ministry mentor). The eight-hour ministry residency can be replaced with MIN-584, MIN-797 and elective credits for the student intending to pursue doctoral study. Applicants for this degree program should possess a minimum 2.5 cumulative grade point average from an accredited baccalaureate institution. For the student planning to enroll full-time, the table below provides a detailed and specific curricular path. Those intending to enroll part-time will find valuable insights from this information for planning your ideal course sequencing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR ONE</th>
<th>YEAR TWO</th>
<th>YEAR THREE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FALL SEMESTER</td>
<td>J-TERM/SPRING SEMESTER</td>
<td>SUMMER SEMESTER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO. COURSE</td>
<td>CR.</td>
<td>NO. COURSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIN-500 Christian Spiritual Formation</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>MIN-543 Christian Formation in the Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO. COURSE</td>
<td>CR.</td>
<td>NO. COURSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE-673 Moral Issues in Christian Life and Ministry</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>MIN-545 Teaching and Learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIN-685 Ministry Residency I</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>MIN-686 Ministry Residency II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry Specialization</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Ministry Specialization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NO. COURSE</td>
<td>CR.</td>
<td>NO. COURSE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bible Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Bible Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIN-782 Ministry Residency</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>MIN-782 Ministry Residency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry Specialization</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Ministry Specialization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL HOURS: 65
MASTER OF ARTS IN
CHRISTIAN FORMATION
SPECIALIZATIONS (CHOOSE ONE):

Student & Family Ministries
MIN-553 Sociology of Youth and Emerging Adulthood
MIN-641 Foundations for Ministry to Youth and Emerging Adults
One of the following:
COU-520 Child & Adolescent Counseling
COU-521 Marriage & Family Counseling

Small Group & Discipleship Ministries
MIN-630 Small Group Ministries
MIN-643 Educational Ministries for Adults
One of the following:
MIN-534 Evangelism/Discipleship Ministries
MIN-554 Theology of Women in Ministry
MIN-567 The Church’s Relationship to a Post-Christian Culture
COU-532 Counseling Women through the Life Cycle
COU-612

Interdisciplinary Studies
Three course cluster from ministry disciplines (MIN and/or COU) selected with consultation of faculty advisor.

Intercultural Ministries
MIN-567 The Church’s Relationship to a Post-Christian Culture
MIN-660 Cultural Intelligence
MIN-667 Urban and Local Development

Formation & Soul Care Ministries
COU-500 Counseling Philosophy
COU-510 Consulting
COU-521 Marriage & Family Counseling

Campus & Student Development Ministries
MIN-533 Sociology of Youth and Emerging Adulthood
MIN-518 Foundations of Student Development
COU-520 Child & Adolescent Counseling

MASTER OF ARTS IN
CHRISTIAN FORMATION
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The Master of Arts in Christian Formation degree is conferred when the following conditions are met:

1. Completion of 65 semester hours with a minimum 2.5 cumulative grade point average. Included are a 15-hour Bible core, 17-hour theology core and a 33-hour educational ministries specialization.
2. A minimum of 33 semester hours must be achieved at Grand Rapids Theological Seminary by transfer students.
3. Advanced standing credit is limited to ¼ of the degree program requirements (16 hours).
4. Credits achieved online and/or by distance education are limited to a maximum of eight courses (24 hours) within the degree program.
5. Evidence of personal commitment to Jesus Christ and a life pattern of moral character and conduct.
6. Completion of all assessments, including entrance, mid-point and exit assessments.
7. Successful completion of the Ministry Residency requirement or M.A. thesis component.
8. The meeting of all financial obligations.
9. GRTS limits the use of credits towards the completion of a degree to those credits (i.e. transfer credits, advanced standing credits, or credits earned at GRTS) achieved within 10 years prior to degree completion.
10. Participation in commencement.

MASTERS OF ARTS IN
CHRISTIAN FORMATION STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The Master of Arts in Christian Formation curriculum is designed to enable the student to:

Core Curriculum
1. Conduct basic biblical interpretation and application with reference to the English Bible texts.
2. State a basic understanding of the primary elements of Christian theology.
3. Demonstrate knowledge, values and practices essential to personal spiritual formation.
4. Demonstrate basic competency in cultural intelligence and cultural exegesis.

Christian Formation Major
1. Demonstrate a distinctively Christian philosophy of spiritual formation that is informed by sound education theory and best practices.
2. Exhibit the knowledge and skills necessary for the effective communication of biblical truth.
3. Demonstrate proficiency to direct people, resources, and programs necessary to the effective spiritual formation of individuals and communities.