

MASTER OF DIVINITY

The Master of Divinity degree (M.Div.) is a graduate degree in theology as well as a professional degree for those interested in all forms of ministry in Church and society, and especially for those preparing for ordination in the Orthodox Church. The program is open to qualified students who have a bachelor's degree or its equivalent from an accredited college or university. The program gives students a foundation in academic theological disciplines and in practical ministry through field education. Applicants who are preparing for ordination (seminarians) and who have recently joined the Orthodox Church are expected to have spent a minimum of two years living an active life in an Orthodox parish community prior to enrolling in the M.Div. program.

The degree of Master of Divinity is awarded to regular students in good standing who have satisfactorily completed the course of study with an average grade not lower than C (2.0), and the following requirements:

- A minimum number of credit hours as required by the particular version of the M.Div. program in which a student is enrolled
- Supervised field education as prescribed by the faculty
- One elective in the area of ecumenical studies or in a religious tradition other than the Orthodox Christian tradition
- One elective should be either *Religious Education* or *Youth Ministry*.
- If the student so chooses, the successful completion of a thesis in accordance with the "Guide for the Preparation of the M.Div. Thesis." A copy of the guide may be obtained from the director of the M.Div. thesis program. This replaces 6 credit hours of electives.

M.Div. Learning Outcomes

1. Religious Heritage: Articulate and illustrate the Orthodox Christian tradition in its defining elements.
2. Cultural Context: Engage diverse theological discourses (traditions) and cultures with respect and integrity.
3. Spiritual Formation and Growth: Demonstrate a commitment to spiritual growth and to the care of themselves and those around them, and define an informed vocational direction.

4. Capacity for Ministerial and Public Leadership
 - a. Participate knowledgably in, or when appropriate lead, Orthodox liturgical services.
 - b. Expound and apply the Gospel and Orthodox theology in public, worship, and ministerial settings.
 - c. Demonstrate the skills needed for church administration and leadership.
5. For those on the ordination track in the Greek Archdiocese: Demonstrate pastoral and liturgical competency in the Greek language

There are three categories of students in the M.Div. program. These are outlined below, together with their particular version(s) of the M.Div. program.

Seminarians of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese

Seminarians of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese are admitted to one of two versions of the M.Div. program according to their qualifications. Those who are graduates of the Religious Studies seminarian program of Hellenic College enroll in a three-year program, while those who have received their bachelor's degrees from other institutions ordinarily enroll in the four-year program. The difference lies in certain courses which graduates of Hellenic College will already have had but which are unlikely to have been taken by graduates of other schools. These courses include New Testament Greek, Modern Greek (which fulfills an important pastoral need within the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese), Byzantine music, and introductory courses in the Old and New Testaments.

Seminarians of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese are required, in addition, to fulfill the following:

- A voice review during orientation and at least one semester of voice class before graduating.
- Participation in the Holy Week Seminar during the student's first year of study.
- Participation in the St. Helen's Pilgrimage Study Abroad program, as part of the Ecumenical Patriarchate summer course.

- Participation in the Archdiocesan Seminar held at the headquarters of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America in New York City during the spring semester of the senior year.

Modern Greek Language Requirements for GOA

Modern Greek language preparation is a central element in training for ordained ministry in the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. To that end, non-native Greek-speaking seminarians complete 18 credits in Modern Greek language instruction regardless of their knowledge of Modern Greek at the time of matriculation. The typical course of study is as follows:

Beginning Modern Greek I-II	6 cr.
Intermediate Modern Greek I-II	6 cr.
Advanced Modern Greek I-II	6 cr.

Proficiency exams offered each spring will determine whether students have attained the necessary degree of competence to move to the next level of Greek, or whether a remedial course is required first. Students with prior knowledge of Modern Greek will take a placement exam to determine at what level their studies begin, and they will continue their studies in domain-specific courses (e.g., culture, literature, history, post-advanced level language courses).

Master of Divinity – Three Year Program

For seminarians of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese who are graduates of the Hellenic College Religious Studies A Program

Semester I (Fall)

Church History I	3 cr.
Pastoral Care I	3 cr.
Patrology I	3 cr.
Religious Education	3 cr.
Byz. Music IV	<u>1.5 cr.</u>

Total: 13.5 cr.

Semester II (Spring)

Church History II	3 cr.
Pastoral Care II	3 cr.
Patrology II	3 cr.
Old Testament Exegesis	3 cr.
Byz. Music V	1.5 cr.
Holy Week Seminar	<u>0 cr.</u>

Total: 13.5 cr.

Semester III (Fall)

Preaching*	3 cr.
Dogmatics I	3 cr.
Ethics	3 cr.
Canon Law	3 cr.
Elective	<u>3 cr.</u>

Total: 15 cr.

Semester IV (Spring)

Liturgics	3 cr.
Dogmatics II	3 cr.
Dogmatics III	3 cr.
New Testament Exegesis	3 cr.
Elective	3 cr.
Preaching Practicum	<u>0 cr.</u>

Total: 15 cr.

Summer II

Ecumenical Patriarchate**	3 cr.
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Semester V (Fall)

Ecumenism/World Religions	3 cr.
Elective	3 cr.
Elective	3 cr.
Thesis or Elective	3 cr.
Teleturgics I	<u>2.5 cr.</u>

Total: 14.5 cr.

Semester VI (Spring)

Social Ministries	3 cr.
Parish Administration	3 cr.
Youth Ministry	3 cr.
Thesis or Elective	3 cr.
Teleturgics II	<u>2.5 cr.</u>

Total: 14.5 cr.

Total Credits: 89

**Preaching is a single course offered in two segments. Classroom instruction occurs in the fall semester, and in the spring semester, the student finalizes and delivers the sermon publicly.*

*** The Ecumenical Patriarchate course is a travel course that involves attending a series of lectures, and the producing a written project during the time abroad, based on the lectures and the experience of travel.*

Master of Divinity – Four Year Program

For seminarians of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese

Semester I (Fall)

Old Testament Intro.	3 cr.
Church History I	3 cr.
Biblical Greek I	3 cr.
Patrology I	3 cr.
Service Rubrics	1.5 cr.
Voice Lesson Practicum [†]	0 cr.

Total: 13.5 cr.

Semester II (Spring)

Old Testament Exegesis	3 cr.
Church History II	3 cr.
Biblical Greek II	3 cr.
Patrology II	3 cr.
Byz. Music I	1.5 cr.
Holy Week Seminar	0 cr.

Total: 13.5 cr.

Semester III (Fall)

New Testament Intro	3 cr.
Dogmatics I	3 cr.
Pastoral Care I	3 cr.
Beginning Modern Greek I	3 cr.
Byz. Music II	1.5 cr.

Total: 13.5 cr.

Semester IV (Spring)

Liturgics	3 cr.
Dogmatics II	3 cr.
Pastoral Care II	3 cr.
Beginning Modern Greek II	3 cr.
Byz. Music III	1.5 cr.

Total: 13.5 cr.

Semester V (Fall)

Preaching*	3 cr.
Ethics	3 cr.
Inter. Modern Greek I	3 cr.
Elective	3 cr.
Byz. Music IV	1.5 cr.

Total: 13.5 cr.

Semester VI (Spring)

Dogmatics III	3 cr.
New Testament Exegesis	3 cr.
Inter. Modern Greek II	3 cr.
Elective	3 cr.
Byz. Music V	1.5 cr.
Preaching Practicum	0 cr.

Total: 13.5 cr.

Summer III

Ecumenical Patriarchate**	3 cr.
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Semester VII (Fall)

Ecumenism/World Religions	3 cr.
Canon Law	3 cr.
Advanced Modern Greek I	3 cr.
Thesis or Elective	3 cr.
Teleturgics I	2.5 cr.

Total: 14.5 cr.

Semester VIII (Spring)

Parish Administration	3 cr.
Social Ministries	3 cr.
Advanced Modern Greek II	3 cr.
Thesis or Elective	3 cr.
Teleturgics II	2.5 cr.

Total: 14.5 cr.

Total Credits: 113

†The Voice Lesson Practicum is part of Byzantine Music I in the Spring semester, and the grade for that course will include the grade for the Voice Lesson Practicum.

**Preaching is a single course offered in two segments. Classroom instruction occurs in the fall semester, and in the spring semester, the student finalizes and delivers the sermon publicly.*

*** The Ecumenical Patriarchate course is a travel course that involves attending a series of lectures, and the producing a written project during the time abroad, based on the lectures and the experience of travel.*

At least one elective in the MDiv program must be dedicated to either Religious Education or Youth Ministry

Master of Divinity – Antiochian Archdiocese Seminarians

Antiochian Archdiocese seminarians complete the basic three-year program with requirements in language and liturgical practice appropriate to their jurisdiction. All incoming seminarians are required to take a voice review during orientation and at least one semester of voice class before graduation, and to participate in the Holy Week Seminar during their first year of study.

Semester I (Fall)

Church History I	3 cr.
Old Testament Intro.	3 cr.
Patrology I	3 cr.
Pastoral Care I	3 cr.
Beginning Arabic I	1.5 cr.
Service Rubrics	1.5 cr.
Voice Lesson Practicum†	0 cr.
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Total: 15 cr.

Semester II (Spring)

Church History II	3 cr.
Old Testament Exegesis	3 cr.
Patrology II	3 cr.
Pastoral Care II	3 cr.
Beginning Arabic II	1.5 cr.
Ecclesiastical Chant I	1.5 cr.
Holy Week Seminar	0 cr.
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Total: 15 cr.

Semester III (Fall)

New Testament Intro.	3 cr.
Biblical Greek I	3 cr.
Dogmatics I	3 cr.
Ethics	3 cr.
Intermediate Arabic I	1.5 cr.
Ecclesiastical Chant II	1.5 cr.
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Total: 15 cr.

Semester IV (Spring)

New Testament Exegesis	3 cr.
Biblical Greek II	3 cr.
Dogmatics II	3 cr.
Liturgics	3 cr.
Intermediate Arabic II	1.5 cr.
Ecclesiastical Chant III	1.5 cr.
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Total: 15 cr.

Semester V (Fall)

Ecumenism/World Religions	3 cr.
Canon Law	3 cr.
Preaching	3 cr.
Thesis or Elective	3 cr.
Teleturgics I	2.5 cr.
Advanced Arabic I	1.5 cr.
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Total: 16 cr.

Semester VI (Spring)

Dogmatics III	3 cr.
Parish Administration	3 cr.
Social Ministries	3 cr.
Thesis or Elective	3 cr.
Teleturgics II	2.5 cr.
Advanced Arabic II	1.5 cr.
Preaching Practicum	0 cr.
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Total: 16 cr.

Total Credits: 92

**Preaching is a single course offered in two segments. Classroom instruction occurs in the fall semester, and in the spring semester, the student finalizes and delivers the sermon publicly.*

†The Voice Lesson Practicum is part of Byzantine Music I in the Spring semester, and the grade for that course will include the grade for the Voice Lesson Practicum.

Master of Divinity – Seminarians of Other Jurisdictions and Candidates for Lay Ministry

Seminarians of other jurisdictions follow the program below. They may be required to take courses in liturgical practices appropriate to their jurisdictions. Additionally, all incoming seminarians are required to take a voice review during orientation and at least one semester of voice class before graduation, and to participate in the Holy Week Seminar during their first year of study.

This program is also designed for male and female students whose future plans relate to Church ministry in both its theological and its pastoral dimensions as these pertain, for example, to various parish ministries, hospital work, or counseling.

<u>Semester I (Fall)</u>	
Old Testament Intro.	3 cr.
Biblical Greek I	3 cr.
Church History I	3 cr.
Patrology I	3 cr.
Service Rubrics	1.5 cr.
Voice Lesson Practicum [†]	0 cr.
Total: 13.5 cr.	

<u>Semester II (Spring)</u>	
Old Testament Exegesis	3 cr.
Biblical Greek II	3 cr.
Church History II	3 cr.
Patrology II	3 cr.
Byzantine Music I	1.5 cr.
Holy Week Seminar	0 cr.
Total: 13.5 cr.	

<u>Semester III (Fall)</u>	
New Testament Intro.	3 cr.
Dogmatics I	3 cr.
Pastoral Care I	3 cr.
Ethics	3 cr.
Byzantine Music II	1.5 cr.
Total: 13.5 cr.	

<u>Semester IV (Spring)</u>	
New Testament Exegesis	3 cr.
Dogmatics II	3 cr.
Pastoral Care II	3 cr.
Liturgics	3 cr.
Byzantine Music III	1.5 cr.
Total: 13.5 cr.	

<u>Semester V (Fall)</u>	
Ecumenism/World Religions	3 cr.
Canon Law	3 cr.
Preaching*	3 cr.
Elective	3 cr.
Thesis or Elective	3 cr.
Total: 15 cr.	

<u>Semester VI (Spring)</u>	
Dogmatics III	3 cr.
Parish Administration	3 cr.
Social Ministries	3 cr.
Elective	3 cr.
Thesis or Elective	3 cr.
Preaching Practicum	0 cr.
Total: 15 cr.	

Total Credits: 84

**Preaching is a single course offered in two segments. Classroom instruction occurs in the fall semester, and in the spring semester, the student finalizes and delivers the sermon publicly.*

†The Voice Lesson Practicum is part of Byzantine Music I in the Spring semester, and the grade for that course will include the grade for the Voice Lesson Practicum.

At least one elective in the MDiv program must be dedicated to either Religious Education or Youth Ministry

