

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology



Statement on Educational Effectiveness (2017)

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Holy Cross School of Theology utilizes various metrics in assessing Educational Effectiveness, including Course Assessment Reports (CARs) in which faculty evaluate the achievement of program learning outcomes within their particular courses. We also collect and publish a set of retention and graduation rates that are commonly used across institutions of higher education as indicators of educational effectiveness.

Retention and Graduation Rates

The following tables illustrate the rates of retention and graduation for graduate programs offered by Holy Cross School of Theology, corresponding to academic year 2016-2017.

Retention rate is defined as the percentage of students who continued their studies in the same degree program from the first to second year.

Graduation rate is the percentage of students enrolled in a given year who graduated within a period equivalent to 1.5 times (150%), or double (200%), the duration of the program. It is important to note that the 150% and 200% rates correspond to different cohorts; enrolled years are in the heading of each column.

Master of Divinity (MDiv)

The duration of the MDiv program is either 3 years (MDiv3) or 4 years (MDiv4) depending upon a student's demonstrated competency in Modern Greek and Byzantine Chant at the time of matriculation. Below are the retention and graduation rates for the two tracks (MDiv3 and MDiv4).

Master of Divinity (MDiv4) 4-Year

Retention		Graduation Rate		
Year of Enrollment	Retention Rate	Program Duration	150% (Enrolled 2010-11)	200% (Enrolled 2008-2009)
2016	92%*	4 Years	86%	88.8%

Source: Office of the Registrar

*The institution has seen a recent trend in which MDiv candidates transfer into the MTS (Master of Theological Studies) program allowing for earlier degree completion. Although these students were not retained by the MDiv program they were retained by the institution.

Master of Divinity (MDiv3) 3-Year

Retention		Graduation Rate		
Year of Enrollment	Retention Rate	Program Duration	150% (Enrolled 2011-12)	200% (Enrolled 2010-2011)
2016	100%*	3 Years	92.9	75.0

*Transfer to MTS: The institution has seen a trend in which MDiv candidates transition to MTS allowing for earlier degree completion. Students who dropped out from this program actually transferred to a different degree program (MTS/Master of Theological Studies). Hence, even if they were not retained by the program, they were retained by the institution.

Master of Theological Studies (MTS)

Retention		Graduation Rate		
Year of Enrollment	Retention Rate	Program Duration	150% (Enrolled 2015)	200% (Enrolled 2014)
2016	71%	2 Years	33.3%*	80%

Source: Office of the Registrar

*The 33.3% graduation rate is significantly low compared to the program's history. Given the small numbers of the program, any small variation turns out significant in terms of rates. In this case, a small cohort of 3 students was significantly affected when two of the students chose to leave the institution.

Master of Theology (ThM)

Retention		Graduation Rate		
Year of Enrollment	Retention Rate	Program Duration	150% (Enrolled 2015)	200% (Enrolled 2014)
2016	100%	1 Years*	50%	100%

Source: Office of the Registrar

*1 year of full-time status followed by a thesis that is typically completed within the next year.

Placement Rates

Placement Rates. Graduates AY 2015-2016

	MDiv		MTS		ThM		Combined	
Vocational Placement	17	89%	3	43%	0	0%	20	69%
Non-vocational placement	1	5%	1	14%	0	0%	2	7%
Further Study	0	0%	2	29%	2	67%	4	14%
Seeking Placement	0	0%	0	0%	1	33%	1	3%
Other	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Unknown	1	5%	1	14%	0	0%	2	7%
Total	19	100%	7	100%	3	100%	29	100%

Source: Office of the Deans

This table illustrates the placement status for alumni who graduated during the Academic Year 2015-2016. The majority of graduates (69% of the total of graduates from the three programs) received placement in vocation related positions. 89% of the MDiv program graduates were among this group. In contrast, none of the ThM program received placement in vocational related positions. However, two of the three graduates from the ThM continued with further studies, which is consistent with the purpose of the program, and one was seeking placement when data was collected.

Two students from the MTS and two from the ThM, corresponding to 14% of the total graduates advanced to further studies.