

MASTER OF MINISTERIAL STUDIES (Non-Thesis) Major in Ministerial Leadership

The Master of Ministerial Studies will be considered as an alternative to the Master of Divinity (Thesis Track). It is a two-year program designed for those who finished a degree in Bachelor of Theology major in Pastoral Ministry. In the past, graduates of Bachelor of Theology, both from of the Silliman University Divinity School and other accredited seminaries come to enroll in the Master of Divinity program. They come back to update their degree, and especially to gain more preparation in the nurturing ministry. For some years now, these kinds of students were put in the same classes with B.Th. students. Those in this kind of arrangement did not find enough challenge, especially when their intention to come back to the seminary was to focus on a particular field. Many of these M. Div. students have expressed that they do not find challenges in this kind of setup, especially when they are asked to take the courses they have already taken. Responding to this need the Divinity School offered the Master of Divinity -Thesis track.

However, it has been observed that students who enrolled in the M.Div- thesis program are more interested in pursuing their ministries' professional enhancement than pure academic research. Thesis requirement becomes a disincentive to prospective students.

Another possible limitation is in the career opportunity. A graduate of an M.Div thesis-track may not meet the faculty qualification standard of ATESEA. The Master of Theology (M.Th or Th.M.) is considered by ATESEA to be the minimum educational credential for teaching theological subjects in accredited schools. Students who plan to teach in the seminary are advised to enroll in the M.Th program. This will limit prospective students for the M.Div thesis degree program.

To address those who want to pursue the professional enhancement of their ministries, the Divinity School is submitting a new program: The Master of Ministerial Studies. This degree requires a minimum of two years full-time or its equivalent in part-time study. The aim of the program is the enhancement of contemporary ministries, and it is designed for ministers, priests, pastors, and others involved in a range of ministries. This is a non-thesis track program that requires a minimum of forty-five (48) units.

Major in Ministerial Leadership

This program is designed to provide graduate theological study for persons contemplating specialized leadership roles in congregational, church, or diaconal organizational settings.

First Year

First Semester	Units	Second Semester	Units
MMS 200 - Seminar in Pastoral Theology	3	MMS 202 - Christologies	3
MMS 201 - Trends in Biblical studies	3	MMS 305 - Preaching Patterns and Worship	3
Major 1	3	MMS 304 - Ethical Issues Arising from the Ministry	3
Elective 1 /	3	Major 2	3
Total Units	12	Total Units	12

Second Year

First Semester	Units	Second Semester	Units
Major 4	3	Major 7/elective	3
Major 5	3	Major 7/ Elective 2	3
Major / Elective 1	3	Practicum	6
Major 7		Comprehensive Exams	
Total Units	12	Total Units	12