

Diploma in Christian Ministry

The Diploma in Christian Ministry is designed to prepare mature students who sense a call later in life to serve within the Church of the Lutheran Brethren or in other church bodies or mission organizations but do not have the Bachelor's degree which is prerequisite for the Master of Divinity Degree (see p. 21, Non-Degree Applicant). The Diploma in Christian Ministry provides an opportunity for students who have completed 32 general education credits as prescribed to complete a program of ministry training without receiving a formal academic degree.

The General Education prerequisites are required in the belief that they are needed for the student to have the basic skills to benefit from this course of study leading to being prepared for Christian ministry.

The student will follow essentially the same course of study as prescribed for the Master of Divinity degree.

Should a graduate of the LBS Diploma ever subsequently complete an accredited college baccalaureate degree, the Diploma degree may be exchanged for either an M.T.S. or M.Div. degree, upon the recommendation of the faculty, provided that 1.) Diploma credits have not been used in another degree program; and 2.) all of the academic requirements stipulated in the current LBS catalog for those degrees are satisfied.

Program Outcomes

- A. Interpret the Bible in its parts and in its whole through use of its original languages and appropriate exegetical and hermeneutical methods.
- B. Articulate and apply the doctrinal teachings as set forth in the Scriptures and confessed in the CLB Statement of Faith.
- C. Proclaim God's saving work in Jesus Christ through the public and private ministries of the Word and Sacrament.
- D. Demonstrate knowledge and skills for leading congregations.
- E. Develop opportunities for broader involvement in God's mission.
- F. Demonstrate a personal love for God, His Church, and the world.

General Education Requirements for the Diploma in Christian Ministry (32 credits)

At a minimum, the student must meet the following general education requirements prior to admission into the program:

Communications (6 credits)

Speech	3 credits
English Composition	3 credits

Behavioral/Social Science (12 credits)

Western Civilization, I, II	6 credits
General Psychology	3 credits
Introduction to Sociology	3 credits

Humanities/Fine Arts (6 credits)

Introduction to Philosophy	3 credits
Literature	3 credits

Natural Science/Math (3 credits)

The following are also required either prior to or following admission:

Humanities Electives	(5 credits)
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Total General Education Requirements 32 credits

In addition, 90 credits of seminary credits are also required. The Diploma in Christian Ministry will be granted to students who have completed the 32 credits of prescribed general education requirements plus the 90 required credits outlined in the Seminary Diploma in Christian Ministry program of study.

Diploma in Christian Ministry⁵

Seminary Year 1

PT 900 Introduction to Seminary Education 1

Total Credit 1

Fall

EB 635 New Testament Introduction I 2
 HT 715 Church History 3
 NT 601 New Testament Greek I 3
 WM 757 World Religions & New Religious Movements 3

Total Credits 11

Spring

EB 611 Torah & Covenant History 3
 EB 636 New Testament Introduction II 2
 HT 722 Survey of American Christianity 3
 NT 602 New Testament Greek II 3
 PT 901 Homiletics 3
 PT 912 Supervised Ministry Experience 1

Total Credits 15

Seminary Year 2

Fall

NT 605 Exegesis of a Gospel 3
 OT 601 Beginning Biblical Hebrew 4
 PT 903 Preaching Lab 1
 PT 908 Pastoral Theology 3
 PT 913 Supervised Ministry Education 1
 ST 821 Systematic Theology I 3

Total credits 15

Spring

NT 636 Exegesis of Galatians 3
 EB 612 Old Testament Prophets 3
 OT 602 Introduction to Hebrew Exegesis 3
 PT 914 Supervised Ministry Education 1
 ST 822 Systematic Theology II 3
 WM 755 Cross Cultural Comm. In Mission 3

Total credits 16

Seminary Year 3

Fall

EB 613 OT Poetry & Wisdom 3
 PT 905 Preaching Lab 1
 PT 907 Spiritual Care 3
 PT 915 Supervised Ministry Education 1
 ST 823 Systematic Theology III 3
 WM 751 The Church in Mission 3

Total credits 14

Spring

PT 932 Theology & Practice Of Evangelism 3
 PT 965 Personal Wellness in Ministry 3
 ST 824 Systematic Theology Capstone 1
 ST 836 Ethics 3
 ELEC **Elective (Directive Study) 2

Total credits 12

Intensive Courses

Offered every other year to 2nd & 3rd Year students

PT 920 Worship 2
 PT 909 Leadership in Ministry 2
 PT 911 Teaching Ministry of the Congregation 2

Offered:

August 2017
 January 2018
 January 2017

Total required credits 90

⁵ For students entering seminary in the Fall of 2016. Students follow the curriculum that was in place at the time they enrolled.