MTS Focus Program
Divisional Concentration Requirements

Students in the MTS Focus Program work with faculty and academic dean to select a Focus, either: Bible, NT, OT, Church History, or Theology/Ethics. This Focus can be included on the student transcript. Students admitted without a Focus but seeking to affirm one need their academic advisor approval for Focus. Students who seek to move from MTS Core to MTS Focus should do the same. Once requirements are understood, see below for possible paradigms.

All students:
- Four (4) core courses total. One core course from each of the following areas:
  - History - CH 750 or 751
  - Bible (Old Testament) – OT 752
  - Bible (New Testament) – NT 754
  - Theology and Ethics - XTIANTHE 755 or XTIANETH 757
  - One (1) core course requirement may be fulfilled by earning Advanced Placement in one of the above listed core courses. An upper-level elective must then be taken in place of the core course.
    - Student will follow advanced placement procedures of each division on the Forms page.
    - Students seeking two advanced placements need both advanced placement approval and consent of the MTS director
- Students may petition to have Religious studies courses fulfill specific requirements for the concentration, when courses are not available inside the Divinity school.

Biblical Division
- Eight (8) courses for a concentration; core courses count for the concentration
- Concentration can be in Bible, Old Testament, or New Testament
- Reading course (NT or OT 701) is recommended, but is not required towards concentration
- If students have sufficient competence in Hebrew or Greek, they may request permission to take Hebrew or Greek exegesis courses in place of the introductory language courses (see advanced placement on Forms & Paradigms).
- If students place out of OT 753, they must take an OT or NT elective in its place.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bible</th>
<th>OT</th>
<th>NT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Core courses:</td>
<td>Core courses:</td>
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<tr>
<td>OT 752 and NT 754</td>
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<td>Concentration courses:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hebrew/Greek Language not required</td>
<td>Introductory Hebrew (OT 760 and OT 761)</td>
<td>Introductory Greek (NT 760 and NT 761)</td>
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<td>OT 753</td>
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Updated December 7, 2021
3-English Exegesis courses (at least 1 NT and 1 OT)*
2 Hebrew Exegesis courses
2 Greek Exegesis courses
2 electives (NT or OT)
1 Elective (NT or OT)
1 Elective (NT or OT)
Introductory Greek recommended
Introductory Hebrew recommended

*Bible students may take Greek or Hebrew Exegesis as replacement for English Exegesis.

**Historical Division**
- Six (6) courses for a concentration
  - Core courses count towards the concentration
  - Need to be courses designated as CHURHST, HISTTHEO, AMXTIAN and/or WXTIAN, with the option of petition for certain courses from other divisions to count (petition through the division chair)
  - Supportive of history courses from schools with which we have a cross-registration policy (e.g., UNC-CH)
- Two options for a concentration:
  1. General History concentration in which “History” appears on the transcript: the student is strongly advised to pursue a broad formation and take classes that cover a variety of time periods, geographical regions, and methodologies; flexibility is allowed for the student to discern a focus or particular interest
  2. A more specifically named historical concentration from the following options:
    - Early Christianity, Early Modern Christianity, American Christianity, World Christianity or Eastern Christianity (these are not reflected on transcript – just History)
    - this requires at least 3 courses in the specific historical concentration and 3 other CHURHST, HISTTHEO, AMXTIAN and/or WXTIAN, courses

**Theological Division**
- Six (6) courses for the concentration, courses from XTIANTHE or XTIANETH designations or with Theology and Ethics title (no option for a more specific concentration); HISTTHEO courses may also count on a case-by-case basis through petition to the division chair
- Core courses count towards the concentration

**Basic Degree Requirements of MTS:**
- Maintenance of 2.5 GPA; 16 credits
- **Student Portfolio:** M.T.S. students are required to compile and submit a Student Portfolio for review by academic advisor. The review is due in the final semester of the senior year.
- **Thesis (final term):** Thesis proposal due term of graduation; final submission with advisor-signed cover page due Noon of first day of final term Reading Week.
- **Pass/Fail Grading:** Students are limited to no more than 25 percent of a student’s total curriculum at Duke to be graded as pass/fail.
- **Transfer Credit:** Students are limited to no more than 2 non-DIV courses.
Before registering for their final term, students are encouraged to access the M.TS. Graduation checklist on the For Students/Academic Resources/Forms and Paradigms page and their unofficial transcript in Duke Hub and review courses taken and left to take to inform final registration.

Note: Students enrolled in a dual degree program are not eligible for MTS Focus. Such students will be MTS Core.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paradigm Possibility (History, Theology/Ethics)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Core course (OLDTEST 752)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective in Concentration</td>
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<td>Elective</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fall</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Core course (OLDTEST 752)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective (NT or OT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Language (NEWTEST 760 or OLDTEST 760)*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
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* Bible Focus students may move to exegesis courses, as languages are not required and they will need three exegesis courses (at least 1 OT and 1 NT).
** Bible Focus students need additional NT or OT Elective