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 should write academics@div.duke.edu to seek approval for Focus. Students who seek to move from MTS Core to MTS Focus should do the same.

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 can 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.
- 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
- 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.
- 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: OT 752 and NT 754</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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<tr>
<td>3-English Exegesis courses (at least 1 NT and 1 OT)*</td>
<td>2 Hebrew Exegesis courses</td>
<td>2 Greek Exegesis courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 electives (NT or OT)</td>
<td>1 Elective (NT or OT)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Introductory Greek recommended</td>
<td>Introductory Hebrew recommended</td>
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*Bible students may take Greek or Hebrew Exegesis as replacement for English Exegesis.

Updated 6.1.2021
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
  - 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.

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