

MASTER OF DIVINITY DEGREE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Wesley Theological Seminary is to equip persons for Christian ministry and leadership in the church and the world, to advance theological scholarship, and to model a prophetic voice in the public square.

The MDiv curriculum strives toward greater educational excellence in the following areas:

I. Religious Heritage

Goal: Students will cultivate deep roots in the foundational biblical and theological traditions of the Christian faith.

Objectives: Students will demonstrate:

- A. knowledge of biblical and historical foundations of Christian theology and practice;
- B. critical understanding of methodological issues in interpreting these traditions for contemporary faith and practice;
- C. engagement with the diversity of the Christian heritage and imaginative expression in liturgy, writing and the arts.

II. Cultural Context

Goal: Students will engage diverse cultural contexts sensitively, critically and constructively.

Objectives: Students will demonstrate:

- A. ability to enter into diverse cultural communities with an openness to encountering, contributing to, and learning from different cultural perspectives;
- B. critical use of methods for identifying and analyzing cultural patterns, social structures, and economic forces impacting human communities and their lived faith;
- C. constructive engagement in collaborative ministry with others in ways that are culturally informed.

III. Ministerial and Public Leadership

Goal: Students will hone their own skills for ministry and enable the ministry and leadership of others.

Objectives: Students will demonstrate:

- A. skill in practicing the arts of ministry and church leadership;
- B. ability to work effectively with others to facilitate their gifts for service and leadership in the church, in community organization, and in the public square;
- C. fruitful approaches toward innovation to help others face new challenges and opportunities for creative and faithful ministry and mission.

IV. Personal and Spiritual Formation

Goal: Students will strive toward deeper integration intellectually, morally, emotionally and spiritually.

Objectives: Students will demonstrate:

- A. committed discipleship as faithful individuals and as persons of moral character within community;
- B. responsibility for directing their learning for more effective engagement;
- C. self-awareness, especially of their own emotional processes in interaction with others.