



Concordia
UNIVERSITY • SAINT PAUL

Christian Outreach

Master of Arts

Offered by the Oswald Hoffmann School of Christian Outreach (OHSCO)
through Concordia University, St. Paul.

A blend of online and residency learning

DESIGNED FOR THOSE SERVING IN MINISTRY

Learners collaborate with a community of peers using weekly online class discussions, e-mail, and Internet bulletin boards.

A GRADUATE PROGRAM THAT:

- allows degree completion in 26 months
- provides a collaborative, cohort learning experience
- gives practicum opportunities that match your ministry situation
- is the only program of its kind within the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
- gives you the option of becoming a Director of Christian Outreach (DCO), a rostered position in the LCMS
- Requires a two-week residency each of three summers

For more information about this program, contact :

MACO OFFICE:

651-641-8224 | 651-603-6252

E-mail: maco@csp.edu

or visit our website:

www.csp.edu/maco

Accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

Established 1893

PROGRAM OBJECTIVE

The primary mission of the church is to make disciples of every nation by bearing witness to Jesus Christ through the sharing of the Gospel and the administration of the Sacraments. The Master of Arts in Christian Outreach equips church leaders with a deepened understanding of a theology of God's mission and provides the practical tools necessary to engage in the outreach ministries of the church.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

THY 521 Spiritual Leadership Formation - 3 credits

Foundational for the whole area of Christian leadership, the course focuses on the nature of spiritual leadership development utilizing faith nurturing experiences including regular use of the Scriptures, Sacraments, prayer, meditation, personal Bible study, service, corporate activities, and mentoring. An introduction to a theological understanding of leadership formation and approaches for designing programs are presented.

THY 531 Worldviews and the Gospel - 3 credits

Students examine historical and contemporary methods used in the rational and experiential defense of the Christian faith against unbelief, the use of categories of thought foreign to Biblical thinking, and Christian responses to worldviews hostile to Christianity with the intention of developing an appropriate, Biblical, and contemporary apologetic for particular contexts.

THY 541 History of Mission - 3 credits

Students will study the historical expansion of the Christian church and its impact on church and society over the centuries in light of God's mission. It will develop in students an awareness of God's hand in the growth of the church in all areas of the world from the time of Christ until today.

THY 551 Social Issues in Mission - 3 credits

Students consider the economic and political challenges to people in a given society and the issues of social justice. Students will design appropriate strategies for addressing the social issues in mission contexts.

THY 572 Missio Dei - 3 credits

Based upon Jesus' announcement of the Good News of the Kingdom of God, this course develops a Lutheran theology of mission that motivates Christians to proclaim the kingdom. It builds an understanding of the mission among the lost and hurting. Resources will include the Bible, the Lutheran Confessions, and missiological texts.

THY 573 Outreach Ministry in Context I: Theory - 3 credits

Students learn the process of understanding another culture, how to adapt to it, and make sound value judgments within it. The results from anthropological and sociological research as well as current communication theory will inform this endeavor. Case studies from a variety of cultures will be utilized.

THY 574/575/576 Missiological Research Design - 3 credits

This course provides an understanding of the function and scope of research science in the area of missiology so that the missiological perspective can be analyzed, discussed, and evaluated. Students begin to develop their thesis/project proposals.

THY 581 Outreach Ministry in Context II: Strategies - 3 credits

This course focuses on outreach ministry overseas and in North America. It shares distinct strategies for reaching people in the variety of contexts to be found in multicultural urban centers, the changing dynamics of rural culture, the exploding outer rings of major cities, and the inner ring suburbs struggling to revitalize. A theological understanding of human care and evangelistic ministries will be developed for these multiple settings.

THY 582 Evangelism in the Life of the Church - 3 credits

Students will learn how to reach those who do not know Christ and how to integrate them into the Christian family. Focus is on general strategies and techniques of evangelism. It will also consider the worldview of the unchurched and their needs. A key emphasis is on the task every Christian has in outreach and the church worker's role in equipping them to respond to everyday opportunities.

A history of academic excellence

Focused, flexible programs for busy adult learners.

THY 592 Capstone: Thesis, Project, or Portfolio - 3 credits

As the final work submitted by graduate students, and in respect to the guidelines for research base, analysis, and synthesis, students can choose from a thesis, project, or portfolio to complete their graduate experience. Faculty approval of the topic and finished product is required for graduation.

FIELD PRACTICUMS

Students will complete two practicum courses from the following list of six options.

In each of the practicum courses students should demonstrate depth of reflection and clarity of connection with learning experiences from program courses and activities, readings, discussions, and outside work. Items related to small group and family ministry strategies, cross-cultural issues, and effective apologetic methodologies, all based on a firm Lutheran theological understanding of God's mission, should be demonstrated.

DELIVERY MODEL

This program is a modified cohort model. Cohorts are groups of 10-15 students who start and finish the program together, taking one class at a time. It is modified because other students may enroll for summer courses for personal development or individual course credit. The program spans three summers and two academic years (26 months). For two weeks each summer, the cohort completes three courses – two 3-credit courses and one 1-credit course. During the academic year, the cohort completes two 3-credit courses, one using computer assisted and distance education methodologies, and one 3-credit practicum of the student's choice to be completed at the student's ministry site. The final semester (3 credits) is the student's portfolio/project/thesis.

SUMMER ONE [2 week Residency]

THY 521 | THY 574-1cr | THY 573

ACADEMIC YEAR ONE [Online]

Practicum #1 (4 options) | THY 541

SUMMER TWO [2 week Residency]

THY 572 | THY 575-1cr | THY 581

ACADEMIC YEAR TWO [Online]

Practicum #2 (5 options) | THY 531

SUMMER THREE [2 week Residency]

THY 551 | THY 576-1cr | THY 582

FALL SEMESTER YEAR THREE

THY 592 Capstone

THY 522 Care for the Whole Person - 3 credits

An individually tailored experience arranged by the student to practice skills and theories related to caregiving in the congregation and community. Students will learn principles of diagnosis and personal care for the spiritual, emotional, physical, and social needs of people especially in the times of crisis, grief, and loss. A final paper describes and evaluates the experience.

THY 561 Outreach through Evangelism and Worship - 3 credits

An individually tailored experience arranged by the student to practice skills and theories related to reaching those who do not know Christ through evangelism and worship. The practicum will focus on researching, developing, and using evangelism strategies for reaching the lost. Students will describe and evaluate the experiences in a final paper.

THY 562 Writing/Production of Evangelism/Leadership Development Materials - 3 credits

Students will write or translate evangelism and leadership development materials that reach the unchurched and equip the saved. Outreach materials should be related to worship, catechesis, assimilation, and outreach programs in the church and/or for the community.

THY 583 Planting the Worshiping Community - 3 credits

An individually tailored experience arranged by the student to practice skills and theories related to church planting/beginning small groups. Students will be asked to plan and implement a church plant/small group ministry. A final paper will describe and evaluate the experience.

THY 584 Outreach in the Urban, Suburban, or Rural Center - 3 credits

An individually tailored experience arranged by the student to practice skills and theories related to working in the urban, suburban, or rural center. Students will be asked to develop a plan for reaching urban, suburban, or rural unchurched people, immerse themselves in the particular context of ministry, and describe and evaluate the experiences in a final paper.

THY 591 Independently Developed Practicum - 3 credits

An individually tailored experience arranged by the student in consultation with the program director to practice skills and theories related to particular outreach issues and contexts in the student's present ministry. Students will develop the practicum, i.e., project, readings, assignments, in order to supplement the outreach task of the ministry in which the student is working. A final paper describes and evaluates the experience.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION

Entrance portfolio containing:

1. MA - Christian Outreach application
 2. Official transcripts from the college/university granting undergraduate degree
 3. Two letters of recommendation
 4. Recommendation letter from pastor
 5. Résumé/outreach work experience
 6. Essay
 7. Documented coursework completed in Biblical and Christian doctrine
 8. Technology Agreement
 9. \$50 application fee
- Detailed instructions available at www.csp.edu/admission

TO APPLY

Send application materials to:

Office of Admission/MACO
Concordia University
275 Syndicate St. North
St. Paul, MN 55104

An entrance portfolio is reviewed as soon as it is complete. The MACO director will send a letter indicating acceptance or non-acceptance along with additional information and schedules. A tuition deposit of \$250 is required to enroll.

TUITION AND FEES

This is a 36 credit program. Tuition rate is \$415 per academic credit for 2006-07. For tuition and financial aid information, please call 651-641-8230 or 1-800-333-4705, or visit our website at: www.csp.edu/admission

RESIDENCY

A distinctive feature of our cohort-delivered program begins with the first two-week residency, which allows students to work through course content, develop peer relationships, receive online technology training, and meet core faculty members. This program has additional two-week summer residencies in year two and three of the program.

During residency students provide their own transportation and lodging. Options for lodging can be provided through the Admission Office.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Students use their personal computer in this program. To begin the program, students must meet the requirements listed on the technology agreement. To view this agreement please visit www.csp.edu/Admission/Graduate/Requirements/



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