

Assessment Plan

2021-22



SEM - Master of Divinity - Online

University Mission: George Fox University, a Christ-centered community, prepares students spiritually, academically, and professionally to think with clarity, act with integrity, and serve with passion.

Program Mission: George Fox Evangelical Seminary is a multi-denominational, evangelical, university-based seminary committed to equipping women and men academically, spiritually, emotionally, and theologically for ministry in the church and world.

The Master of Divinity is a professional ministry degree that prepares students to serve as senior and lead pastors. Graduates serve in a variety of churches, parachurch organizations, and innovative ministry settings including church planting, chaplaincy, and missional ministries.

Alignment With GFU Mission: Seminary programs support primarily the university's core themes of 'Excellence in Professional Preparation' and 'Christ-Centered Community.'

Degree Outcomes:

- Interact with Christian Scripture, history, and theology; interpret understandings critically and express them faithfully
- Cultivate tools and habits to pursue an ever-deepening sense of the reality of Jesus Christ through spiritual formation
- Experience themselves and relate to others as created in God's image and called into community
- Support the just transformation of societies through personal and social holiness motivated by love
- Lead the church under the lordship of Jesus Christ in its mission and ministries
- Preach, teach, exercise pastoral care, equip, and lead in local churches and Christian communities

Assessment Lead: Melissa Ramos

Outcome: Religious Heritage

ATS Standard A.2.2 Religious heritage: The program shall provide structured opportunities to develop a comprehensive and discriminating understanding of the religious heritage. Instruction shall be provided in Scripture, in the historical development and contemporary articulation of the doctrinal and theological tradition of the community of faith, and in the social and institutional history of that community. Attention should be given both to the broader heritage of the Christian tradition as such and to the more specific character of particular Christian traditions and communities, to the ways the traditions transcend particular social and cultural settings, and to the ways they come to unique expression in them.

Outcome Status: Active

OutcomeType: Association of Theological Schools

Assessment Tools

Writing Assignment - NT2 final assignment/essay (Active)

Target: 75% of students score 80+% on exam

Schedule for Data Collection: end of spring term annually

Schedule for Data Analysis & Reporting: summer annually

Writing Assignment - OT1 exegetical assignments (Active)

Target: Majority of students will show improvement from first to last exegetical assignment

Schedule for Data Collection: end of fall term annually

Schedule for Data Analysis & Reporting: spring term annually

Writing Assignment - CHTH 507 - Final Research Paper (Active)

Target: 75% of students will score above 80%

SEM - Master of Divinity - Online

Schedule for Data Collection: end of fall term annually
Schedule for Data Analysis & Reporting: spring annually

Writing Assignment - NT 1 final assignment/essay (Active)

Target: Final Exam: Benchmark – 75% of students score 80+
Schedule for Data Collection: Spring annually
Schedule for Data Analysis & Reporting: Spring annually

Related Courses

BIST 506 - Old Testament I

BIST 508 - New Testament I

BIST 509 - New Testament II

CHTH 511 - Christian History & Theology I

Related Goals

SEM - Master of Divinity - Online

Departmental - Our goal is to offer the church healthy leaders.

Outcome: Cultural Context

ATS Standard A.2.3 The program shall provide opportunities to develop a critical understanding of and creative engagement with the cultural realities and structures within which the church lives and carries out its mission. The program shall provide for instruction in contemporary cultural and social issues and their significance for diverse linguistic and cultural contexts of ministry. Such instruction should draw on the insights of the arts and humanities, the natural sciences, and the social sciences. MDiv education shall engage students with the global character of the church as well as ministry in the multifaith and multicultural context of contemporary society. This should include attention to the wide diversity of religious traditions present in potential ministry settings, as well as expressions of social justice and respect congruent with the institution's mission and purpose.

Outcome Status: Active

OutcomeType: Association of Theological Schools

Assessment Tools

Capstone Assignment - MLDR 535 final project (Active)

Target: 90% of students score 80+% on project
Schedule for Data Collection: end of spring term annually
Schedule for Data Analysis & Reporting: summer term annually

Writing Assignment - CHTH 509 final assignment/paper (Active)

Target: 80% of students will score 80% or more on this assignment
Schedule for Data Collection: end of summer term annually
Schedule for Data Analysis & Reporting: fall annually

Related Courses

SEM - Master of Divinity - Online

CHTH 513 - American Church History

MLDR 570 - Christian Min Reconciliation

Related Goals

SEM - Master of Divinity - Online

Departmental - Our goal is to offer the church healthy leaders.

Outcome: Personal and Spiritual Formation

ATS Standard A.2.4 Personal and spiritual formation: The program shall provide opportunities through which the student may grow in personal faith, emotional maturity, moral integrity, and public witness. Ministerial preparation includes concern with the development of capacities: intellectual and affective, individual and corporate, ecclesial and public that are requisite to a life of pastoral leadership. The program shall provide for spiritual, academic, and vocational counseling and careful reflection on ministerial roles such as leader, guide, and servant of the faith community. The program shall provide opportunities to assist students in developing commitment to Christian faith and life (e.g., expressions of justice, leadership development, the devotional life, evangelistic witness) in ways consistent with the overall goal and purpose of the institution's MDiv program.

Outcome Status: Active

OutcomeType: Association of Theological Schools

Assessment Tools

Capstone Assignment - SFAD 560 summative project (Active)

Target: 80% of students will score 90+%

Schedule for Data Collection: end of spring term annually

Schedule for Data Analysis & Reporting: summer annually

Related Courses

SFAD 591 - Spiritual Leadership

Related Goals

SEM - Master of Divinity - Online

Departmental - Our goal is to offer the church healthy leaders.

Outcome: Ministerial and Public Leadership

ATS Standard A.2.5 Capacity for ministerial and public leadership: The program shall provide theological reflection on and education for the practice of ministry. These activities should cultivate the capacity for leadership in both ecclesial and public contexts. The program shall provide for courses in the areas of ministry practice and shall ensure a constructive relationship among courses dealing primarily with the practice of ministry and courses dealing primarily with other subjects. The program shall specifically provide for training in professional and ministerial ethics. The program shall provide opportunities for education through supervised experiences in ministry. These experiences should be of sufficient duration and intensity to provide opportunity to gain expertise in the tasks of ministerial leadership within both the congregation and the broader public context and to reflect on interrelated theological, cultural, and experiential learning. Qualified persons shall be selected as field supervisors and trained in supervisory methods and the educational expectations of the institution. The institution shall have established procedures for selection, development, evaluation, and termination of supervised ministry settings.

Outcome Status: Active

SEM - Master of Divinity - Online

OutcomeType: Association of Theological Schools

Related Courses

MLDR 575 - Internship

PSTD 575 - Pastoral Internship

Related Goals

SEM - Master of Divinity - Online

Departmental - Our goal is to offer the church healthy leaders.
--