

Ministerial Studies Preparation: The Pre-Seminary program consists of a curriculum which is designed to meet entrance requirements for graduate or professional studies in Seventh-day Adventist or other seminaries or graduate schools. Taken in combination with a major of the student's choosing, the Pre-Seminary track provides a foundation upon which to build the skills and knowledge essential to the Christian ministry; the Religious Studies major which is offered by the School of Religion is particularly compatible. In addition to their regular major program advisor, Pre-Seminary students are encouraged to work closely with their assigned pre-seminary advisor in the School of Religion.

Pre-Seminary students who wish to enhance their pastoral skills on the undergraduate level have the additional option of including in their program the 18-unit "practices package" of professional courses as listed below. These are offered on a two-year rotating cycle. Students who are following the Pre-Seminary curriculum apply to the School of Religion during the winter quarter of their sophomore year. In addition, they complete, during that quarter, a prescribed battery of diagnostic tests which cost \$25. These are planned, along with a two-hour counseling session, to help students evaluate themselves and their call to the ministry. Each application is considered by the faculty of the school, and a letter of response is sent to each applicant before the autumn quarter of their junior year.

REQUIRED CORE: 47 units (25 upper division)

- RELB 104 Jesus and the Gospels (4 units)
- RELB 206 Sacred Texts: The Old Testament Scriptures (4 units)
- RELB 207 Sacred Texts: The New Testament Scriptures (4 units)
- RELB 409 Sacred Texts: Theory & Practice of Biblical Interpretation (4 units)
- RELH 254 Ellen G. White and the Church (4 units)
- RELH 445 History of Christianity I (4 units) OR RELH 446 History of Christianity II (4 units) OR
RELH 447 History of Christianity III (4 units) OR RELH 495 Reformation Lands Tour (4 units)
- RELH 483 History of Seventh-day Adventism (4 units)
- RELP 101, 102 Introduction to Ministry I, II (2 units)
- RELP 361 Homiletics I (4 units)
- RELP 374 Externship (1 units)
- RELT 255, 355, & 455 Theology I, Theology II, and Theology III

REQUIRED COGNATES: 24 units

Four quarters of Greek or Hebrew satisfies the World Language Foundational Studies Requirement

- RELL 281, 282, 283 Beginning Greek I, II, III (9 units)
- RELL 381, 382, 383 Intermediate Greek I, II, III (9 units)
- RELL 481, 482 Basic Hebrew I, II (6 units)

RECOMMENDED COGNATES:

- PSYC 104 General Psychology (4 units) OR PSYC 105 Methods of Inquiry in Psychological Studies
- RELH 445, 446, 447 History of Christianity I, II, III (Any courses in the sequence not taken for Core credit)

OPTIONAL PRACTICES PACKAGE:

- RELP 264 Evangelism (4 units)
- RELP 345 Spiritual Formation (2-4 units)
- RELP 349 Principles of Christian Worship (4 units)
- RELP 362 Homiletics II (4 units)
- RELP 374 Externship (2 or more units)
- RELP 397 Proseminar in Ministerial Studies (1-4 units)
- RELP 415 Youth Ministry and the Local Church (2 units)
- RELP 436 Pastoral Counseling (2-4 units)
- RELP 463 Homiletics III (2-4 units)
- RELP 465 Principles and Practice of Evangelism (4 units)
- RELM 464 Theology of Mission (2-4 units)
- RELT 464 Religious Development & Moral Learning (4 units)

PRE-SEMINARY

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND RELATED OCCUPATIONS: The completion of the pre-ministerial track, in conjunction with a baccalaureate degree in a major of one's choice, qualifies the graduate for acceptance into professional programs such as seminary or graduate school. With competition strong for the limited openings in the traditional pastoral ministry, the completion of such professional training on the graduate level is an increasing requisite for successful placement. With additional education, ministers can specialize in hospital chaplaincy, or focus on teaching (with educational credentials), youth ministry, administration, or other specialized ministry.

The Bachelor of Art in Religious Studies provides a particularly compatible complement to the Pre-Ministry track.

EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS: The successful completion of a graduate or professional degree is an increasing pattern in the preparation for pastoral ministry in the Seventh-day Adventist denomination. Ordination typically follows a period of successful ministry thereafter.

DENOMINATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES: Openings in the traditional pastoral ministry are limited, although opportunities continue to arise especially for those who have completed graduate/professional training. Alternatives include youth counseling, family relations, secondary teaching, and various chaplaincy careers.

ENTERING SALARY: Entering wage level in the Southeastern California Conference for 2008 ranges between **\$38,785** and **\$51,764** annually, depending upon location. Benefits are in addition to the base salary.

SOURCES OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Websites:

La Sierra University

<http://www.lasierra.edu/>

School of Religion

<http://www.lasierra.edu/sor/>

Deans of School of Religion:

John Webster, Ph.D.

Douglas Clark, Ph.D., Associate

Ministerial Studies Coordinator:

Bailey Gillespie, Ph.D.

Advisors:

Bailey Gillespie, Ph.D.

Kendra Haloviak, Ph.D.

Ginger Harwood, Ph.D.

John Jones, Ph.D.

Wonil Kim, Ph.D.

Location:

La Sierra Hall

951-785-2041

Professional Organizations:

Ministerial Department

General Conference of

Seventh-day Adventist

6840 Eastern Avenue, NW

Washington, D.C. 20012

Academic Advising
Center for Student Academic Success
Sierra Vista Hall, Room 114
(951) 785-2452

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