Concordia Theological Seminary
Fort Wayne, Indiana

M.A. Leading to Deaconess Certification 2013–2014

Dr. James Bushur
Director of Deaconess Studies
James.Bushur@ctsfw.edu
260-452-3214

Amy C. Rast, MSW
Associate Director of Deaconess Studies
Amy. Rast@ctsfw.edu
260-452-2225
Concordia Theological Seminary exists to form servants in Jesus Christ who teach the faithful, reach the lost, and care for all.
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“Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ,” wrote St. Paul to the saints in Galatia (Galatians 6:2). He was calling them to bear witness to the Christ who was in them by showing mercy and compassion to those in need. Jesus taught His disciples that a lively confession of the faith must always be accompanied by a life of charity and forgiveness.

Concordia Theological Seminary was founded in 1846 by pastors in order to share the precious Gospel of Christ as biblically and historically confessed by the Lutheran Church. One of those pastors, Pastor Wilhelm Lohe of Neuendettelsau, Bavaria, Germany, was committed to the training of deaconesses for service in the church as a part of the seminary’s mission. In Germany, Lohe supported a thriving group of deaconesses devoted to providing acts of mercy and charity to those broken by sickness and sin. When the seminary began its Deaconess Program in the fall of 2003, it was simply continuing a tradition begun by Pastor Lohe over 150 years ago.

A deaconess is a woman who is theologically trained and dedicated to sharing the Gospel of Christ through acts of mercy and human care. The role of deaconess finds expression in diverse settings and specializations, whether in a congregation, in an institution or on the mission field. Serving alongside the pastor, she embodies Christ’s incarnational care in the midst of suffering.

The Deaconess Program at Concordia Theological Seminary provides competent women with a rigorous theological education at the Master’s level. This training equips women for professional service in the church in such areas as counseling, social ministry, visitation of the sick and dying and teaching the faith under the direction of the pastoral office.

Upon fulfillment of program requirements, students receive a Master of Arts degree with Deaconess Certification. Deaconess Certification is endorsed by the faculty for students who display dedication and readiness for service as a deaconess.
What is a Deaconess?

The Lutheran deaconess is an auxiliary office in which women are called and commissioned by the church to provide diakonal care with special emphasis in works of mercy, spiritual care, and teaching the faith, by which they guide others to the Word and Sacraments provided by the Office of the Public Ministry.

The service of a deaconess finds expression in diverse settings and specializations as she shares the Gospel of Jesus Christ through acts of human care. She brings a uniquely feminine care, serving by using her skills and theological training to embody Christ’s incarnational care in the midst of suffering.
Parish Deaconess

Descriptions of Diaconal Care

The following are descriptions of how a deaconess may serve. However, the service of a deaconess is not limited to these areas; she may have special skills or interests beyond those mentioned here. Notice that some of the line items could be developed into entire areas of responsibility.

A good job description details the needs and the vision of the congregation. There is no way we can write one for YOUR congregation. As a congregation lists the deaconess’ responsibilities in different areas, it may be helpful to estimate the percentage of time and effort she should spend in that area. This helps the deaconess to prioritize her time. The percentages are not set in concrete; they are a guide that may be readjusted.

For example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Human Care</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women’s Programs</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evangelism</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Another example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Youth Programs</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Women’s Programs</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Human Care

- Initiate telephone contact and visitation with the homebound.
- Make regular visits to people who are homebound or hospitalized.
- Follow up initially when people return home from the hospital.
- Support individuals and families who are suffering from the effects of divorce, grief or a lingering illness.
- Provide counsel and support to those individuals and families with special physical needs.
- Train Stephen Ministry volunteers.
- Support the formation of groups for singles, couples, families and senior adults.
- Initiate telephone contact and visitation with inactive members.
- Provide community outreach and support to serve the hungry and homeless, the disabled and destitute (ex: food pantry, clothing bank).
- Offer multi-cultural support appropriate to the community’s population.
- Refer people to community agencies and social service organizations.

Education

- Teach and assist with confirmation instruction.
- Supervise the selection and training of Sunday School teachers.
- Develop and teach Bible classes for women and children.
- Coordinate a small group Bible study program.
- Coordinate Vacation Bible School.
Administration

- Supervise and coordinate community programs for women.
- Supervise and coordinate community programs for youth.
- Direct and manage the operation of a Lutheran school.
- Direct and manage the operation of a Recognized Service Organization (RSO) or a department within an RSO (ex: hospitals, nursing homes, hospice organizations).
- Coordinate activities and information exchanges between congregation and school.

Women’s Programs

- Support and provide resources for the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League and Ladies Guild.
- Train and supervise the Altar Guild.
- Encourage and help to implement group activities and projects.
- Provide unmarried mothers and women who have experienced miscarriage, stillbirth or abortion with appropriate resources.
- Coordinate programs to address women’s wellness issues.
- Support opportunities for hospitality toward both church and world.

Youth Programs

- Be a resource for the Youth Board.
- Organize and lead well-rounded retreats and service projects.
- Develop and lead Bible studies.
- Be a leader, mentor and motivator of our youth in Christian living.

Evangelism

- Develop and lead evangelism groups and teams in order to call on visitors.
- Make follow-up calls on interested contacts.
- Develop and keep current a welcome packet for visitors and newcomers.
- Organize a team to visit newcomers to the community.
- Make contact with unchurched families of the school.
- Develop a child evangelism program within the Sunday School.
- Develop public relations materials in order to promote the life and activity of the congregation to the community.
- Develop activities, open to the community, in the areas of family education, fellowship, youth, social issues, family activities and Christian education.

Parish Nurse

- Provide resources and assistance with physical care needs.
- Develop and implement wellness and exercise programs.
- Support ongoing home and hospice care.

Music

- Direct vocal choirs and ensembles.
- Direct instrumental choirs and ensembles.
- Play organ/piano for services.
Approximate Costs for the 2013–2014 Academic Year

Full-Time Student in the M.A. Leading to Deaconess Certification

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<td>Total COA</td>
<td>$37,587</td>
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* Tuition cost (no financial aid) based on 12 credits/quarter for Fall, Winter and Spring Quarters.

** Room and board for student only. Does not include food cost for family members.

*** Cost for student only based upon CTS student health plan for 12 months (rates are as of 3/8/12). Additional health insurance costs for family members not included in Cost of Attendance (COA) (rates are for 12 months as of 3/8/12):

- $3,312 for spouse only
- $3,060 for children only
- $6,360 for spouse and children

**** Estimated based on Federal Student Loan origination fee of 1%.

***** If needed for attending classes, study time or other required educational activities.
Academic Catalog Information

Master of Arts Leading to Deaconess Certification

Purpose
The Master of Arts (M.A.) Program, with a modified curriculum focused on a Theology of Mercy, is one of the two programs at Concordia Theological Seminary designed to provide capable women with in-depth theological education at the Master’s level. Students who fulfill successfully the requirements of this M.A. Program are eligible to seek additional courses for deaconess certification in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

Admission Requirements
- A bachelor’s degree from a regionally accredited institution or the equivalent with a minimum GPA of 2.25 on a 4.0 scale.
- Be a member in good standing of a congregation in The Lutheran Church—Missouri (LCMS), ordinarily for a minimum of two years prior to admission.

Admission Procedure
Students who wish to be considered for deaconess certification must:

1. Submit an application for admission to the M.A. Program, including a $35.00 non-refundable application fee.
2. Include a letter from their pastor as one of the three letters of recommendation submitted prior to admission.
3. Undergo a criminal background check prior to admission. Protect My Ministry, an agency contracted by the LCMS and recommended by the Synod’s Board for Pastoral Education, will be used. The Admission Department will submit this on the applicant’s behalf, but the applicant is responsible for the fee. Applicants will be required to sign a waiver release.
4. Confirmation of Admission: After the applicant receives a letter of acceptance, a $250 tuition deposit indicates confirmation of the offer of admission and the intention to enroll at Concordia Theological Seminary. The tuition deposit deadline is 30 days after the acceptance of the application for admission. After receipt of the deposit, financial aid applications will be processed and registration will occur. Cancellations after July 15 are not refundable. Failure to make a tuition deposit by the deadline may result in the cancellation of the offer of admission, and scholarships and grants may be offered to other students.

Qualified Admission
A “Qualified Admission” may be granted to those applicants whose undergraduate GPA is below 2.25, which may indicate that the applicant may be a marginal student and may not be prepared for the demands of the Master of Arts Degree Program. This qualified admission will consist of the student completing at least three seminary courses. This probationary period will be lifted and full admission status will be granted if, at the completion of the three seminary courses, the student has earned a grade of “C” or higher in all three courses. This would then demonstrate the student’s ability to meet the basic expectations of the Master of Arts Degree Program. However, if any of the three courses do not have a grade of “C” or higher, the student will be discontinued from the Master of Arts Degree Program.
## Degree Requirements

Students must complete successfully either 72 or 48 hours of the Master of Arts modified curriculum with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale. Students with 30 or more quarter hours of credit in religion or theology on the Bachelor’s or Master’s level may be eligible for the 48 hour program. Enrollment in the 48 hour program must be approved by the Registrar in consultation with the Academic Dean in advance of beginning the M.A. Program.

### M.A. (Modified Course Requirements)  

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<th>Exegetical Theology</th>
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<td>EXT 212 Pauline Epistles</td>
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<tr>
<td>PMM 233 Catechetics</td>
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<tr>
<td>PMM 432 Theological Ethics</td>
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<td>SYT 142 Theologia I: Baptism</td>
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<tr>
<td>SYT 241 Lutheran Confessions II</td>
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<tr>
<td>SYT 260 Theology of Diakonal Care</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SYT 290 Theology of Mercy I</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>SYT 291 Theology of Mercy II</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>SYT 441 Lutheran Confessions III</td>
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<td>SYT 442 Theologia III: Lord's Supper</td>
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<td>Total for M.A.</td>
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### Deaconess Certification

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<tr>
<td>PMM 151 Deaconess Field Education I</td>
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<td>PMM 251 Deaconess Field Education II</td>
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<td>PMM 301 Deaconess Internship</td>
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<td>PMM 302 Deaconess Seminar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total for M.A. (Deaconess Certification)</td>
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Deaconess Field Education

Deaconess students will engage in field education concurrent with seminary studies. During the Fall Quarter of the first year of studies, each student will be placed in a local congregation under the supervision of the pastor. This will become the student’s ‘home congregation’ during their time at the seminary. During the first year, students will get to know the congregation’s members and needs, while also conducting fieldwork activities in an institutional setting, such as jail ministry, rehabilitation programs, hospice, elder care, work with immigrant populations, work with Christian youth centers. During the second year the pastor will assign fieldwork activities based on congregational need. Typical deaconess congregational fieldwork may include shut-in home visits and/or hospital visits, women’s Bible studies and teaching children and/or youth. Verbatim assignments and discussion will be completed and shared during the Field Education hour.

Deaconess Internship

Following completion of course work, deaconess students are placed in a congregation or institution in a deaconess internship position for a period of one year. This opportunity for application of studies and skills is overseen by the supervising pastor and supported by the Deaconess Internship Coordinator. Evaluations and periodic reviews provide guidance in the professional development and growth process.

Termination of an internship by the seminary, or abandonment of an internship by an intern, shall result in dismissal of the intern from the seminary. A dismissed intern has any right of appeal specified in this catalog or in the seminary’s Student Handbook.

Theological Interview and Project

In place of a thesis, students enrolled in the M.A. Program who wish to apply for Deaconess Certification are required to complete a theological interview with two faculty members and one deaconess. This is a comprehensive oral exam which addresses all of the theological disciplines. Students will also complete a major project in Theology of Mercy II that addresses a topic on theology for mercy in the LCMS today. This major project will incorporate theological knowledge acquired from the student’s academic study.

Deaconess Certification and Placement Requirements

In addition to the academic requirements listed, students must successfully complete two years of field education for the 72 credit hour program (or one year of field education for the 48 hour program), a deaconess internship and a post-internship deaconess seminar.

Deaconess certification is granted by the faculty to students who fulfill these requirements and display dedication and readiness for service as a deaconess. Upon endorsement by the faculty, students are placed in their call by the Council of Presidents as the Synodical Board of Placement.

Leave of Absence and Withdrawal from the Seminary

Deaconess students may apply for a voluntary leave of absence from the seminary for a period of time not to exceed one calendar year. Applications are obtained at the Registrar’s Office. Such applications are approved by the Director of Deaconess Studies. Deaconess students who wish to withdraw from the seminary are requested to consult with their advisor and the Dean of Students. To be entitled to an honorable withdrawal from the seminary, students must have a satisfactory conduct record and must request withdrawal in writing to the Registrar’s Office.

Completion Requirement

Requirements for the M.A. Degree Program must be completed within 10 years of the student’s admission into the program.
Advanced Standing and Transfer Credit

All advanced standing (based on undergraduate courses) and transfer credit (based on graduate courses) must be approved in advance of beginning the M.A. Program and will be determined by the Registrar in consultation with the Academic Dean, taking into account the content and level of each course. Students who wish to be considered for advanced standing or transfer credit must submit a detailed written request to the Registrar, including course descriptions from the institution at which they originally completed the course(s). Courses ordinarily must have been completed less than 10 years prior to the date that the student is to begin the program in order to be considered for advanced standing or transfer credit.

**Advanced Standing**

Undergraduate course work in religion or theology completed at a regionally or ATS accredited educational institution may be eligible for advanced standing, either:

1. without credit, in which case students will be exempted from some courses but the total number of academic credits required for the degree will not be reduced, or

2. with credit, in which case the number of hours required for the degree will be reduced.

In either case, a maximum of 9 quarter hours of advanced standing credit may be granted to applicants to the 72 hour M.A. Program; advanced standing credit will not be granted to applicants in the 48 hour M.A. Program. Furthermore, advanced standing will not be granted on the basis of vocational or other life experience.

**Transfer Credit**

A maximum of 24 quarter hours of Master degree level course work in religion or theology completed at a regionally or ATS accredited educational institution may be transferred into the 72 hour M.A. Program or a maximum of 16 quarter hours into the 48 hour M.A. Program. If advanced standing credit is granted to a student in the 72 hour program, the number of quarter hours that can be transferred will be reduced proportionately in order that no more than a total of 24 quarter hours in advanced standing and transfer credit will be granted.
Course Descriptions

Exegetical Theology

EXT 110  GOSPELS I  4 credits
Because of the centrality of Jesus Christ in the revelation of God, this will serve as a foundational course for the entire theological curriculum. After an introduction to Gospel literature as well as the history and practice of biblical interpretation, major portions of the Greek text of the Gospel of Matthew will be studied. Significant teachings such as the Nature of the Scriptures, Interpretation of the Old Testament, the Identity of Christ, the Kingdom of God, the Trinity and Baptism, the Apostolic Mission and Ministry, the Return of Christ, the Lord's Supper, Jesus' Death as Atonement and the Resurrection will be examined. Faithful interpretation of the Gospel of Matthew for preaching and teaching will be modeled in lectures and mentored in exegetical groups.

EXT 111  GOSPELS II  4 credits
As a continuation of the focus on the centrality of the revelation of God in Jesus Christ begun in Gospels I, major portions of the Greek text of the Gospel of Luke and some portions of the Greek text of the Gospel of Mark will be studied. Special attention will be given to content and teaching in these Gospels that is unique from Matthew. Faithful interpretation of the Gospel of Luke and the Gospel of Mark for preaching and teaching will be modeled in lectures and mentored in exegetical groups.

Prerequisite: Gospels I.

EXT 210  PENTATEUCH I  3 credits
After an introduction to the first five books of the Old Testament, major portions of the Hebrew text of Genesis will be studied because of its foundational role in all theology. Creation, Marriage, the Fall into Sin, the Promise of Salvation, the Presence of the Son with the Patriarchs and other biblical themes in Genesis will be examined. Commentaries, sermons, liturgies and hymnody from the history of the church that deal with Genesis will also be considered. Integration of the Genesis narratives and teachings into the life of the church today will be accentuated.

Prerequisites: Gospels I, Gospels II.

EXT 212  PAULINE EPISTLES  4 credits
After an introduction to the life of the Apostle Paul, major portions of the Greek text of Galatians and Romans will be studied. Important central teachings in the Greek text of Paul's other epistles will also be examined, such as the Person and Work of Christ, the Church, Baptism and the Lord's Supper, the End Times and Pastoral Ministry. The importance of the Apostle Paul's teaching for the life of the church will be highlighted.

Prerequisites: Gospels I, Gospels II.

EXT 411  PSALMS  3 credits
The liturgical life of the Church and the devotional life of her pastors have been shaped and influenced by the Psalter. This course approaches the study of the Psalter from an interdisciplinary perspective by incorporating both exegetical and pastoral ministry concerns. Selected Psalms will be closely examined on the basis of the Hebrew text with specific attention not only to their grammatical issues but also their theological content. The Psalms will also be examined as rich resources for the worshipping community and for the spiritual formation of ministers of the Word and Sacraments.

Prerequisite: Pentateuch I.
Historical Theology

**HIT 120  CHURCH HISTORY I  3 credits**
This course introduces the student to the study of church history and offers an introduction to the thought and life of the church through the first eight centuries of its history. Emphasis is given to the emergence of institutional, theological and ethical patterns in the light of the contemporary social, cultural and intellectual environment. The student is introduced to the thought of major fathers such as Irenaeus, Tertullian, Origen, Cyprian, Athanasius, Cyril of Alexandria, Augustine and Maximus the Confessor. Attention is given to the theological controversies and church councils of the 4th through 8th centuries. Note is taken of the transition from the patristic to the medieval periods, the rise of the Carolingian Empire, the emergence of the early papacy and early forms of monasticism.

**HIT 121  CHURCH HISTORY II  3 credits**
A survey of the history of the church, chiefly in the west, from the 9th to early 16th centuries (the high Middle Ages to the beginning of the Reformation). Emphasis is given to the institutional and theological development of the church in its social and intellectual context, as well as the specific manner in which the church helped shape these realities. The course introduces the student to the life and thought of significant figures such as Anselm, Bernard of Clairvaux, Peter Abelard, Albertus Magnus, Thomas Aquinas, Duns Scotus and William of Ockham; and attends to such movements as the rise of the papal monarchy, monastic reform movements, missions in the medieval church, popular piety, medieval heresies, mysticism, the Renaissance, the Avignon papacy, the rise of universities, the conciliar movement and the relationship between church and state.

Prerequisite: Church History I.

**HIT 122  CHURCH HISTORY III  3 credits**
This course surveys western Christianity from the Reformation to the present. Particular attention is given to the origins of Lutheran, Reformed and Anglican forms of Christianity in the 16th century and to Roman Catholicism in the same period. This course introduces students to broad historical developments such as pietism, liberalism and ecumenism and to prominent theologians from Luther to Bultmann.

Prerequisites: Church History I, Church History II.

**HIT 125  HISTORY OF THE OFFICE OF DEACONESS  3 credits**
A survey of the history of the Office of Deaconess. The course will study the origins, development and ministries of the deaconess with special emphasis on the deaconess vocation as a ministry of mercy and care. Special attention will be given to the description and activities of the deaconess in the early church to the 19th century revival of the office under Fliedner and Lohe and to the ministry of the deaconess in the 20th century. Required course for Deaconess Certification and M.A. in Deaconess Studies students.
Systematic Theology

**SYT 141 LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS I**  
The first in a three-course sequence is a study of the *Book of Concord*, which will examine the Augsburg Confession and its Apology. Emphasis will be on the basic teachings and issues which define the theology of the Lutheran Church in its historic context.

**SYT 142 THEOLOGIA I: BAPTISM**  
The Theologia courses are intentionally inter-disciplinary and integrative. As the constituting sacrament of the Church’s life, baptism provides the focus and emphasis of Theologia I. Using the Scriptures, historic baptismal liturgies, sermonic baptismal catechesis and dogmatic elaboration, this course uses the Church’s own ways of speaking and ways of baptismal administration as paradigms for theological thinking and pastoral practice. The course consists of plenary classes and small group workshops.

**SYT 241 LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS II**  
Second course in the study of the *Book of Concord*, which will focus on the Small and Large Catechisms, the Smalcald Articles and the Treatise. This course will show the connection between the Confessions and catechesis, providing an appreciation of Luther’s contribution to the *Book of Concord*.  
Prerequisite: Lutheran Confessions I.

**SYT 260 THEOLOGY OF DIAKONAL CARE**  
This course seeks to assist the student in understanding the theological foundation of the office of deaconess by accenting the christological basis for diakonia. A major focus will be the interpretation of human suffering through the suffering of Christ. The theological basis for seeing Christ in those who suffer and for the embodiment of Christ in the deaconess will be emphasized. This course will instill a biblical-based understanding of the relation of the deaconess to the Office of the Holy Ministry.  
Enrollment limited to Deaconess Certification students.

**SYT 290 THEOLOGY OF MERCY I**  
This course provides a systematic approach to the biblical understanding of mercy, helping to educate students in matters of sin, suffering and shame which often are brought before the deaconess. Drawing on teachings of the church throughout the ages, students will learn biblical principles which will help them to display the mercy of Christ through the works of their hands. Concentration is placed on the mercy extended freely by God irrespective of worthiness or faithfulness, and exemplified in the life and work of Christ.  
Enrollment limited to Deaconess Certification students.

**SYT 291 THEOLOGY OF MERCY II**  
This seminar will focus on incarnational mercy. The Church, like Christ Himself, has a ministry to people in need, body and soul. Students will receive instruction in research principles and will then select a research topic on theology for mercy in the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod today. They will conduct a major research project on this topic, focusing on the biblical principles of mercy and incorporating theological knowledge acquired from their academic study. Their research will culminate in a presentation and report.  

**SYT 441 LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS III**  
The last course in the study of the *Book of Concord*, which will be devoted to the Formula of Concord. It will emphasize the rich heritage of mature Lutheran theology in its historical context and its application to our contemporary world.  
Prerequisites: Lutheran Confessions I, Lutheran Confessions II.

**SYT 442 THEOLOGIA III: LORD’S SUPPER**  
The Theologia courses are intentionally inter-disciplinary and integrative. As the sacrament through which the life of the Church is sustained, the Lord’s Supper provides the focus and emphasis of Theologia III. Using the Scriptures, historic eucharistic liturgies, eucharistic homily and dogmatic elaboration, this course uses the Church’s own ways of speaking and ways of eucharistic administration as paradigms for theological thinking and pastoral practice. The course consists of plenary classes and small group workshops.  
Prerequisites: Theologia I.
Pastoral Ministry and Missions Theology

PMM 130  LITURGICS I  3 credits
An introduction to the theology and practice of Lutheran liturgy. This course will acquaint the student with the biblical and confessional foundations of the Lutheran liturgy, the structure and components of the Divine Service and the daily office, and provide her with opportunity to develop skills as a servant of the liturgy.

PMM 233  CATECHETICS  3 credits
This course will examine the biblical and confessional foundations for catechesis in the Lutheran congregation and seek to assist students in acquiring skills and developing practices that are consistent with these foundations. Special attention will be given to the content and pattern of catechesis reflected in the Catechism of Martin Luther.

PMM 432  THEOLOGICAL ETHICS  3 credits
Theological ethics, understood from a distinctly Lutheran perspective, are contrasted with contemporary pluralistic approaches to ethics. The place of ethics is defined in relation to the doctrine of justification within a trinitarian framework. Key Lutheran themes such as the Law/Gospel distinction, two governments in relation to creation and redemption and vocation are put in conversation with current issues, especially those related to sexuality, marriage, beginning of life and end of life.
Research

RES 100  BIBLIOGRAPHY AND TECHNOLOGY  0 credits

The purpose of this course is to introduce all beginning students to the way the texts, tools, monographs and periodicals used for theological study are arranged in the library and how to access these using a variety of computer-based tools. Research skills and coping with information overload will also be emphasized. This course is required for all incoming students.
Deaconess Field Education

**PMM 151 & PMM 251  DEACONESS FIELD EDUCATION I & II**  
0 credits

Deaconess students will engage in field education concurrent with seminary studies. During the Fall Quarter of the first year of studies, each student will be placed in a local congregation under the supervision of the pastor. This will become the student’s ‘home congregation’ during their time at the seminary. During the first year, students will get to know the congregation’s members and needs, while also conducting fieldwork activities in an institutional setting, such as jail ministry, rehabilitation programs, hospice, elder care, work with immigrant populations, work with Christian youth centers. During the second year the pastor will assign fieldwork activities based on congregational need. Typical deaconess congregational fieldwork may include shut-in home visits and/or hospital visits, women’s Bible studies and teaching children and/or youth. Verbatim assignments and discussion will be completed and shared during the Field Education hour.

**PMM 301  DEACONESS INTERNSHIP**  
0 credits

Following completion of coursework, deaconess students are placed in a congregation or institution in a deaconess internship position for a period of one year. This opportunity for application of studies and skills is overseen by the supervising pastor and supported by the Deaconess Internship Coordinator. Evaluations and periodic reviews provide guidance in the professional development and growth process.

**PMM 302  DEACONESS SEMINAR**  
0 credits

A post-internship course designed to assist the deaconess student in processing her internship challenges, struggles and successes. Will include student-led case studies and other exercises toward evaluating and improving the effectiveness of her service. Intended to foster the transition between student learner and rostered deaconess. Enrollment limited to Deaconess Certification students.
Concordia Theological Seminary
6600 North Clinton Street
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46825

www.ctsfw.edu