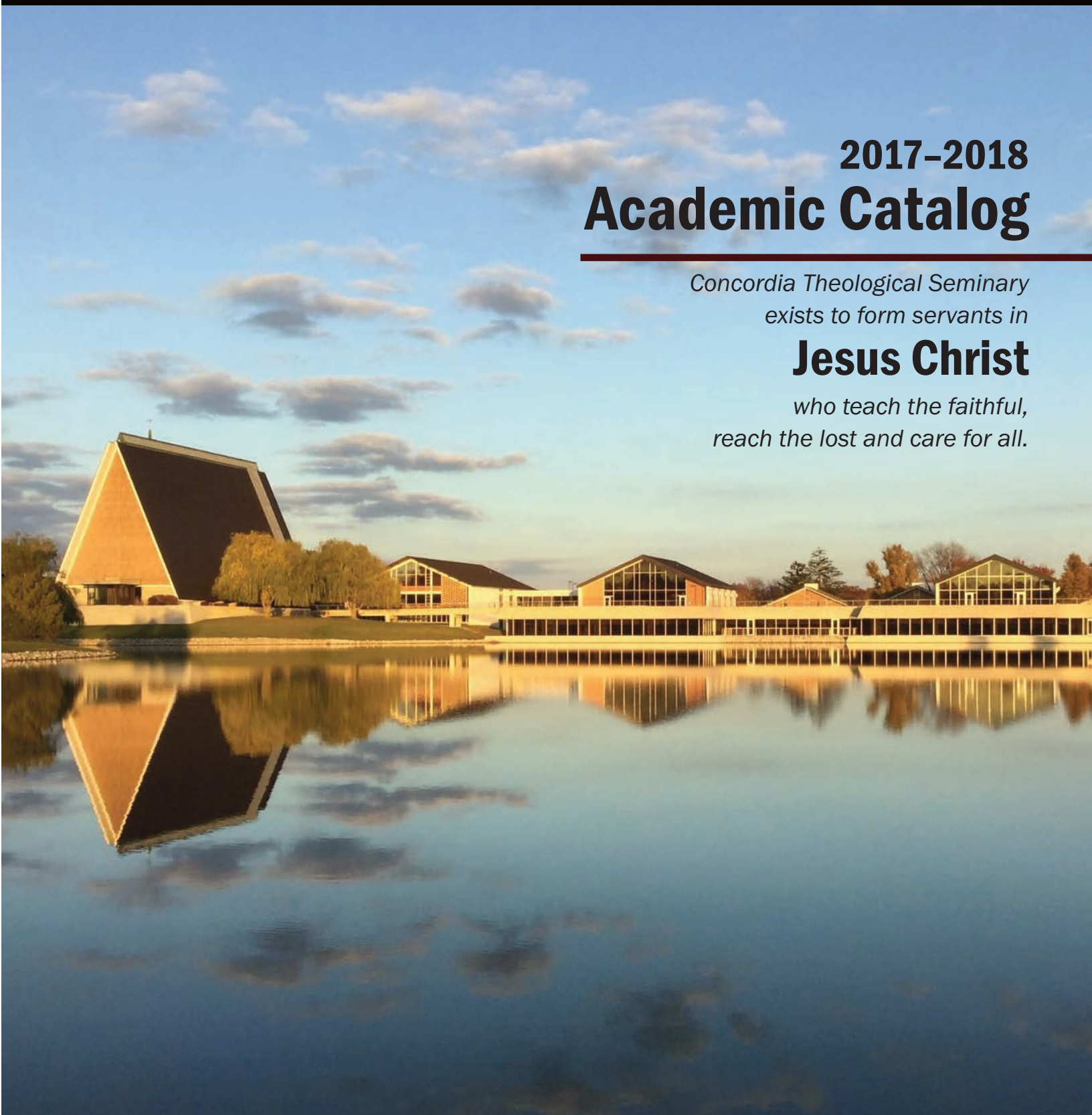


2017-2018 Academic Catalog

*Concordia Theological Seminary
exists to form servants in*

Jesus Christ

*who teach the faithful,
reach the lost and care for all.*



Master of Arts

Purpose

Concordia Theological Seminary offers a Master of Arts degree in religion (M.A.). The M.A. degree is designed for those students who seek a level of professional competence in theology but who are not preparing for the pastoral office. The M.A. degree would be suitable for parochial school teachers, deaconesses and others with a B.A. or B.S. who are interested in formal theological study.

Student Learning Outcomes

By completing the requirements of the Master of Arts degree program, students will be able to:

1. Understand and articulate the prophetic and apostolic faith of the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions.
2. Interpret the biblical text in a manner that is christological.
3. Articulate Lutheran teaching in various churchly and public settings.
4. Understand and articulate the history of the church and the place of Lutheranism within that history.
5. Demonstrate research and writing competence in theology.
6. Evaluate and respond to cultural trends that affect American and global Christianity.
7. Recognize that theological study is an ongoing pursuit of the truth and an engagement with the world.

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.

Admission Procedures

1. Application forms should be requested from and returned to the Office of Graduate Studies. Each application must include a \$35.00, non-refundable, application fee before it will be processed.
2. Applicants must submit official transcripts of all previous academic work beyond high school.
3. Three letters of recommendation are required from individuals who are to address the candidate's character, scholarly intent and ability.

Provisional Admission

A Provisional 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 provisional 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 course work with a cumulative GPA of 2.00 on a 4.0 scale. Courses in the M.A. Program are chosen from the M.Div. curriculum. 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. Course Requirements	72 Hour Program	48 Hour Program
<i>Exegetical Theology</i>		
EXT 110 Gospels I	4	4
EXT 210 Pentateuch I	3	3
EXT 211 Pentateuch II	3	
EXT 212 Pauline Epistles	4	4
EXT 410 Major Prophets	4	4
EXT 412 Gospels III	3	
<i>Historical Theology</i>		
HIT 120 Church History I	3	3
HIT 121 Church History II	3	3
HIT 122 Church History III	3	3
HIT History Area Elective	3	
<i>Pastoral Ministry/Mission Courses</i>		
PMM 432 Theological Ethics	3	3
PMM 434 Ministry in Pluralistic Context	3	
<i>Systematic Theology</i>		
SYT 140 Dogmatics I	4	4
SYT 142 Theologia I: Baptism or		
SYT 442 Theologia III: Lord’s Supper	3	3
SYT 240 Dogmatics II	3	3
SYT 440 Dogmatics III	4	4
SYT 540 Seminar: Luther Text	3	
<i>Electives</i>	15	6
<i>M.A. Essay</i>	1	1
Total:	72	48

Biblical Languages

Both Greek (six credit hours) and Hebrew can be used towards the M.A. degree as electives. Greek is a prerequisite to Gospels I and Hebrew I and II are prerequisites to Pentateuch I. M.A. students who do not meet the prerequisites for Gospel I and Pentateuch I may be exempted from these prerequisites upon application to and with the permission of the academic dean. Prerequisite requirements can be met by taking and passing a competency exam, which is administered by the Registrar’s Office.

Essay Requirement

Students must write a 30-40 page essay in the major field. This essay shall conform to Kate L. Turabian's *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, latest edition. The essay shall be supervised by a faculty advisor of the student's choice (ordinarily from the major department) and in addition shall be read and approved by a second faculty reader who is chosen by the registrar. When students are ready to write the essay, they will register for M.A. ESSAY HOURS for one credit per quarter. Students will automatically be re-registered for an additional one credit M.A. ESSAY HOUR each quarter until the essay is complete. The essay must be complete with all necessary revisions at least two weeks before the end of the quarter in order to graduate.

Completion Requirement

Requirements for the M.A. degree program must be completed within 10 years of the student's admission into the program.

Course Restrictions

Regular M.A. students may not take those courses that are listed for Master of Divinity (M.Div.) and Alternate Routes (A.R.) students only. However, A.R. students who have been accepted into the M.A. Program may use these courses toward their M.A. degree requirements.

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 nine 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 advance standing credit is granted to a student in the 72 credit 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.

Alternate Route Program—M.A. Relationship

Students who complete the Alternate Routes (A.R.) Program may at the same time fulfill the requirements for the Master of Arts (M.A.) Program. However, the requirements for each program are considered separately when evaluating the transcripts of the student, either for the M.A. or the A.R. Program. A.R. students need to apply and be admitted to the M.A. Program.

