# Master of Arts in Church Development

## Program Overview

This program overview is a brief summary of the MACD degree program. WTS reserves the right to make revisions to the program at any time without prior notice.
(Effective Spring 2009)

# Master of Arts in Church Development (M.A.C.D.)

**Purpose**
The Master Master of Arts in Church Development (MACD) degree program is designed to deliver vital theological education in a cohort-based learning environment integrating (individuals-in-community) intensive and distance learning courses, allowing students to remain resident within their particular local and congregational contexts. (Valuing indigenous mission and discipleship is a central stimulus for this program.) The MACD program – blending foundational theological learning with spiritual formation – assists servant-leaders in discovering and effectively responding to God's will, gifting, and calling in correspondence with God's mission and kingdom.

**Outcomes for M.A.C. D. graduates:**
1. Integrate a basic understanding of the biblical, historical, missional, spiritual, and theological disciplines in a spirit of generous evangelicalism.

2. Embody Christian spiritual formation marked by greater self-awareness and understanding of their calling, gifting, strengths, and limitations.

3. Engage in leading the Church to impact their ministry context as prepared servants of the Lord Jesus Christ.

4. Demonstrate servant leadership in guiding the Church to manifest Christian discipleship, character, and practice.

**Description**
The MACD is a 60-credit, four-year graduate degree program designed with a hybrid delivery system. Students complete 30 credits in one-week intensive courses at WTS or a contiguous retreat center. The remaining 30 credits are completed via distance education (online or correspondence).

*Cohort Format.* The first "cohort" of the church – The Twelve – serves as our primary educational model (Matt. 10:1-42). Learning in cohort groups has proven integral to spiritual formation, mentoring, coaching, ministry skills, and theological development that are nurtured primarily in community. We seek to cultivate holistic learning environments with an organic connection to student congregations and denominations.

*Theological Basis.* The mustard seed garden of the kingdom of God (Luke 13:18-19) serves as the paradigm for the MACD program; the church is called to kingdom expansion through faithful service in the power of the Spirit (Heb. 11:8-10; 1 Pet. 2:9-12). This vision of ministry leads to theological and spiritual formation shaped by the cross and expressed both personally and communally. Worshipping God and serving others is seen in the form of the cross itself – its vertical and horizontal dimensions – calling us to worship, Word, prayer, instruction, edification, and spiritual direction. Servant leaders who live faithfully, learn cooperatively, and lead humbly (2 Tim. 2:2) provide a vital foundation for kingdom ministry.

**Class Standing**
M.A. students will be classified as juniors until they have completed 30 hours; they will then be listed as seniors. Students must successfully complete a minimum of 60 hours of approved coursework.

**Requirements for Graduation**
The Seminary will confer the Master of Arts in Church Development on those students, who have met the requirements for graduation, have a minimum cumulative 2.5 grade point average, have been recommended by the faculty, and are approved by the Board of Trustees.

**Areas of Concentration**

The MACD offers four areas of concentration in which they complete four, 3-credit courses (12 credits). Each focused area of study is directed by a WTS professor. The four concentrations are listed below with the required and recommended courses indicated:

- Biblical Studies [Pentateuch, Synoptic Gospels, Prophets, & Gospel of John]
- Counseling [Pastoral Care & Counseling, Family Foundations & Dynamics, Crisis Intervention in the Family, & Marital Counseling]
- Leadership [Character of a Leader, Christian Leadership, Leadership Competencies, & Leadership Practicum]
- Pastoral Ministry [Discipleship Ministries, Pastoral Care & Counseling, Homiletics, & Christian Worship, plus a recommended elective in Christian Leadership]

**Suggested Course Sequence-*Master of Arts in Church Development***

*(4-year Full-time Schedule)*

| Year | Summer | Fall<br>[First week of October] | Spring<br>[Online] |
|---|---|---|---|
| **1** | CM 581 Ministerial Person*<br>OT 500 Old Testament Foundations# | NT 520 New Testament Foundations# | IS 500 Hermeneutics**<br>Concentration Course** |
| **2** | CM 688 Spiritual Formation*<br>TH 672 Biblical Worldview & Christian Life Views** | NT Core# | Elective**<br>Concentration Course** |
| **3** | CH 540 Turning Points*<br>Church History & Polity# | TH 500 Christian Theology# | Supervised Ministry**<br>Concentration Course** |
| **4** | CM 590 Christian Leadership & Communication*<br>CM 582 Church in Mission** | CM 594 Church Development & Emergence# | Elective**<br>Concentration Course** |

*One-week intensive courses held at a contiguous retreat center on the third week of June.

**Distance education courses delivered via online or by correspondence.

#One-week intensive courses held on the WTS campus.

**MACD Academic Year 2008-09**

The following chart depicts the course schedule for MACD courses for the current academic year. In early October there is one intensive course at the WTS campus in Findlay, Ohio, in the spring trimester students will complete two courses in their local context via distance education delivery format (online or correspondence with the exception of the CM 587-CD intensive at WTS), and in late June there is one intensive course at Our Lady of the Pines Retreat Center in Fremont, Ohio, and another intensive course at WTS campus or an online course.

| Fall 2008 | Spring 2009 | Summer 2009 |
|---|---|---|
| **One Intensive Course,<br>October 6-10**<br><br>***Year 1:***<br>NT 520-CD New Testament Foundations, Dr. Staats<br><br>***Year 2:***<br>NT 630-CD Spirituality in Luke, Dr. Resseguie<br><br>***Year 3:***<br>TH 500-CD Christian Theology, Dr. Withrow | **Two Intensive Courses<br>January 13-March 31**<br><br>***Year 1:***<br>CM 589-CD Denominational History & Polity (if student's denomination requires two history & polity courses)<br>***OR***<br>Elective chosen from Concentration Courses listed below<br>Concentration Course (see below)<br><br>***Year 2:***<br>CM 786-CD Supervised Ministry, Dr. Nissley<br>Concentration Course (see below)<br><br>***Year 3:***<br>CM 589-CD Denominational History & Polity (CM 587-CD for CGGC)<br>Concentration Course (see below)<br><br>***Concentration Courses:***<br>CH 543-CD The Globalization of Modern Christianity *(Christianity & Culture*), Dr. Withrow<br>CM 501-CD Leadership Competencies *(Christian Leadership)*, Mr. Henson<br>CM 505-CD Missional Interpretation & Praxis *(Missiological Studies)*, Rev. Dennison<br>CM 508-CD Developing Prayer Ministry *(Spiritual Formation)*, Dr. Nissley<br>CM 597-CD Crisis Intervention *(Counseling)*, Rev. Stanifer<br>OT 502-CD Prophets *(Biblical Studies)*, Dr. Staats<br>TH 671-CD Diversity & Unity in Evangelical Thought *(Theology & Ethics)*, Dr. Withrow<br>TH 669-CD World Religions *(Integrative Studies)*, Dr. Fry | **Two Intensive Courses**<br><br>***Year 1:***<br><br>June 15-19 at OLP Retreat Center:<br>CM 581-CD Ministerial Person, Dr. Sandstrom<br><br>June 22-26 at WTS:<br>OT 500-CD Old Testament Foundations, Dr. Staats<br><br>***Years 2-3 (Alternating):***<br><br>May 12-July 28 online class:<br>TH 672-CD Biblical Worldview & Christian Life Views,<br>Dr. Withrow<br><br>June 15-19 at OLP Retreat Center:<br>CM 688-CD Spiritual Formation, Dr. Nissley<br><br>***Years 3-4 (Alternating):***<br><br>May 12-July 28 online class:<br>CM 582-CD Church in Mission, Rev. Dennison<br><br>June 15-19 at OLP Retreat Center:<br>CM 590-CD Christian Leadership & Communication, Mr. Henson |