1991


Western Theological Seminary

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1991-1993
Catalog

WESTERN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
# Table of Contents

President's Introduction ........................................................................................................ 3
History and Purpose ........................................................................................................... 4
  Accreditation and SCUPE ............................................................................................... 4-5
Board, Faculty, and Staff .................................................................................................... 6
Academic Programs .......................................................................................................... 17
  M.Div., M.R.E., Th.M., D.Min. .................................................................................... 17-19
  Formation for Ministry ................................................................................................. 20
Continuing Education ........................................................................................................ 23
Student Services and Community Life ............................................................................. 26
Academic Procedures ........................................................................................................ 29
  Admissions, etc. ............................................................................................................ 29
Calendar ............................................................................................................................ 63, 64, 65
Financial Information ........................................................................................................ 34
  Scholarships, Grants, Loans ......................................................................................... 36
Course Descriptions .......................................................................................................... 41
  M.Div. ........................................................................................................................... 41
    Biblical Field ............................................................................................................. 41
    Theological Field ....................................................................................................... 43
    Christian Ministry Field ......................................................................................... 48
  Th.M .............................................................................................................................. 58
  M.R.E. .......................................................................................................................... 55
  Formation for Ministry ............................................................................................... 53
Awards ............................................................................................................................... 59
Greetings from Western Seminary. Through the pages of this catalog we wish to give you a tour of Western Seminary and to introduce you to our community of faith. As a community of Jesus Christ, we are dedicated to growing in ministry with the worldwide Christian church. We introduce ourselves to you through our purposes and history, our faculty, our programs and courses, and our student and community life.

Western has described itself as a seminary catholic, evangelical, and reformed. Catholic, in that it seeks to express the one, holy, apostolic faith of the whole Christian church. Evangelical, in that it exists for the sake of making known by word and by deed the evangel—the good news that God's grace in Jesus Christ is the only answer for a sinful, lost humanity. Reformed, in that it recognizes its responsibility to be ever reforming itself according to the Word of God.

Through the pictures and text on the following pages you will see that Western is a diverse community of women and men committed to ministry in the church of Jesus Christ. Having met us on paper, please come and meet us in person.

Marvin D. Hoff
President
History and Purpose

As America surged westward, almost every denomination developed a “western” seminary in response to the need for geographical proximity and cultural affinity. The nineteenth century drama of Dutch immigration to the Midwest, begun in 1847 by Albertus C. Van Raalte and his orthodox, pious seceders from the state church of the Netherlands, gave rise to this need in the Reformed Church. Their Dutch language and their specific theological concerns, as well as the great difficulty of traveling the long distance to New Jersey for a theological education, called for a regional seminary in Michigan.

In 1866, seven members of the senior class of Hope College petitioned and received permission from the Reformed Church in America to pursue theological studies at Hope College. To their credit, all seven completed their theological educations and entered the ministry. Western theological education had begun. But even these humble beginnings could not be sustained. A disastrous fire, which destroyed the town of Holland in 1871, and hard economic times combined to cause the suspension of theological education at Hope College in 1877, after having graduated 29 students.

After a six-year suspension, the program resumed in 1884, and in 1885 Western Seminary began an existence entirely separate from Hope College. Professor Albertus Pieters left a trenchant description of Western during his student days (1888-1891): “grounds, none; recitation hall, none; maps, none; library, none; periodicals, none. This is a complete and accurate inventory of the equipment of the Western Theological Seminary at that time.”

Western Seminary survived its uncertain early years and has continued in uninterrupted service to the church for more than a century. Today, the list of facilities and equipment is somewhat longer, students and studies both more diverse, but the seminary’s purpose remains the same: excite and equip people for ministries in the church of Jesus Christ. Today men and women prepare here for a variety of ordained ministries and leadership in Christian education.

Western also provides continuing education and professional development for ministers and service to the church at large. Western therefore offers programs of specialized study and professional development, short-term study opportunities, and personnel and resources to the church where they can be of service.

ACCREDITATION

Western Theological Seminary, an institution of the Reformed Church in America, is an accredited member of the Association of Theological Schools. Its degree programs are authorized by
the Department of Education of the State of Michigan. The seminary is operated and controlled by the General Synod of the Reformed Church in America through its Board of Theological Education.

The seminary is approved for veterans' education under the provisions of the Veterans Administration.

SEMINARY CONSORTIUM FOR URBAN PASTORAL EDUCATION (SCUPE)

The seminary is a member of the Chicago-based consortium. Students may take their second year of study in the SCUPE program as part of the WTS curriculum. Arrangements can be made for a SCUPE internship.
OFFICERS OF THE BOARD
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Great Lakes
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Mid-Atlantic
Mid-Atlantic
WTS
Far West
NBTS
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Rev. Marvin D. Hoff, President of Western Seminary
Rev. Robert A. White, President of New Brunswick Seminary
Rev. Cornelius Kors, Director of the Theological Education Agency

Observers
Each seminary has one faculty observer on the Board of Theological Education. One student from the host seminary is also named as an official observer.

ADMINISTRATION
Rev. Marvin D. Hoff, D.D., President
Rev. George Brown, Jr., Ph.D., Dean of Faculty
Rev. Paul M. Smith, M.A., Librarian
Rev. John E. Schmidt, M.Div., Dean of Students
Mr. Norman Donkersloot, M.M., Business Manager
Director of Advancement
The Reverend Thomas A. Boogaart  
Professor of Old Testament  
A.B. (Calvin), M.Div. (Western Theological Seminary), Ph.D. (University of Groningen)  
"I explore the ways in which Western culture has silenced the Bible in the church."

The Reverend George Brown, Jr.  
Dean of Faculty and Assistant Professor of Religious Education  
A.B. (Central, Ia.), B.D. (Western Theological Seminary), Th.M. (Princeton Theological Seminary), Ph.D. (Michigan State University)  
"I come to theological education with an educator's mind and a pastor's heart to equip women and men for the church's teaching ministry."

The Reverend James V. Brownson  
Assistant Professor of New Testament  
A.B. (University of Michigan); M.Div. (Western Theological Seminary), Ph.D. (Princeton Theological Seminary)  
"My central concern is the interaction between the various and widely diverse articulations of Christian faith found in the New Testament, and the central gospel message that unites these different expressions of faith. I believe the exploration of both the unity and the diversity within the New Testament will help the leaders of tomorrow's church rearticulate the gospel in the rapidly changing world into which they are called."
The Reverend Donald J. Bruggink
James A. H. Cornell Professor of Historical Theology
A.B. (Central, la.), B.D. (Western Theological Seminary), Ph.D. (University of Edinburgh)
"I am interested in communicating the development of doctrine in order that pastors, by recognizing the great areas of shared faith among the Christian communions, may more effectively minister to people of all backgrounds in a pluralistic society."

The Reverend James I. Cook
Anton Biemolt Professor of New Testament
A.B. (Hope), M.A. (Michigan State University), B.D. (Western Theological Seminary), Th.D. (Princeton Theological Seminary)
"I enjoy teaching that the Bible, like Jesus the living Word, is both human and divine; that the grace of God is the supreme miracle we are asked to believe; and that great literature is theologically rich and relevant."

The Reverend Robert A. Coughenour
Cornellius Van der Meulen Professor of Old Testament
B.S. (Indiana University of Pennsylvania), B.D. (Pittsburgh Theological Seminary), M.A. (Western Reserve University), Ph.D. (Case-Western Reserve University)
"As an archaeologist, I am interested in biblical history and geography; as a biblical theologian, I emphasize the role of imagination and literature in understanding the Christian faith; and as an individual believer, I wonder with students, 'What does it all look like in practice?'"
The Reverend I. John Hesselink
Albertus C. Van Raalte Professor of Systematic Theology
A.B. (Central, la.), B.D. (Western Theological Seminary), D. Theol. (Basel University), L.H.D. (Hope), D.D. (Central, la.)

"I live in three worlds: the United States, where I grew up and had my formative training; Japan, where I spent 20 years as a missionary; and the Reformed theological world of Switzerland and the Netherlands where I pursued graduate studies and research. These places have shaped my Weltanschauung, which I describe as Catholic, evangelical, and Reformed."

The Reverend Marvin D. Hoff
President and Professor of Missiology
A.B. (Central, la.), B.D. (Western Theological Seminary), Th.M. (Princeton Seminary), Drs. (Kampen, Netherlands), D.D. (Central, la.)

"God has been doing amazing things in our day. Whether one observes the base communities in Latin America, or the amazing growth of the church of Christ in China, or the movement of God's Spirit through the Hispanic population in Holland, Michigan, or the breaking up of the Soviet Union, one senses that God's Spirit is doing wonderful things in our very day. I'm thrilled to be a part of the community of men and women—students, faculty, and staff—at Western who rejoice in the rich gifts Christ is giving throughout the world in our time."
The Reverend George R. Hunsberger
Associate Professor of Missiology
B.A. (Belhaven College), M.Div. (Reformed Theological Seminary), Ph.D. (Princeton Theological Seminary)
"It has become critical for churches in North America to recapture what it means to be missionary congregations. Our own culture is increasingly secularized, and we are compelled to communicate the gospel with a cross-cultural envisioning of personal and social transformation. But now it is not just somewhere else in the world. It is here, too."

The Reverend Christopher B. Kaiser
Professor of Historical and Systematic Theology
A.B. (Harvard University), M.Div. (Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary), Ph.D. (University of Colorado; University of Edinburgh)
"I look at the scientific and technological framework of our culture and ask what the meaning of Christian faith might be for people at work in that world."

The Reverend Diane Maodush-Pitzer
Instructor in Pastoral Ministries
B.S. (Northern Illinois University), M.Div. (Western Theological Seminary)
"As people on a journey, we are continually asked to wrestle and find meaning on the bridge that touches both the world of theological study and the world in which we live our everyday lives. My task is to be present with individuals as they encounter the journey's path."
The Reverend Stanley A. Rock
Florence M. Charavay Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling and Director of the Doctor of Ministry Program
A.B. (University of Michigan), M.A. (University of Michigan), B.D. (Western Theological Seminary), Ed.D. (Drake University)
"My academic focus is integrating experiential and theoretical learning, and my theological thrust is recognizing the Christian community as a spiritual reality rather than a structure of our choice and fashion."

The Reverend John E. Schmidt
Dean of Students and Director of Formation for Ministry
B.A. (Hope College), M.Div. (Western Theological Seminary), Ed.D. candidate (Western Michigan University)
"I am interested in how Christians are formed for ministry. I want to integrate the theory and practice of ministry in such a way that theory informs practice and practice informs theory."

The Reverend Paul M. Smith
Director of Beardslee Library and Assistant Professor of Theological Bibliography
B.A. (Hope College), M.Div. (Western Theological Seminary), Th.M. (University of Toronto; Victoria University), M.A. (University of Iowa)
"My goal as director of Beardslee Library is to provide our users access to the theological conversations of the past and present. I seek to acquire materials that reflect the wide range of Christian experience throughout the world. My academic interest centers on the ethical implications arising from the increasing use of computers."
Dr. Sonja M. Stewart  
Professor of Christian Education and  
Director of the Master of Religious Education Program  
A.B. (Muskingum College), M.R.E.  
(Pittsburgh Theological Seminary),  
Ph.D. (University of Notre Dame)  
“The exciting dimension of my work is the development of Children and Worship which is an ecumenical and cross-cultural approach to the Christian formation of young children in worship.”

The Reverend Jay R. Weener  
The Henry Bast Professor of Preaching  
A.B. (Hope College), B.D. (Western Theological Seminary), D.D. (Hope College)  
“Preaching is exciting, and dull sermons are a sin. The Holy Spirit energizes us to share the gospel in ways that are both fresh and compelling.”
FACULTY EMERITI

The Reverend M. Eugene Osterhaven
Albertus C. Van Raalte Professor of Systematic Theology
A.B. (Hope), B.D. (Western Theological Seminary), Th.D. (Princeton Theological Seminary), D.D. (Hope College), L.H.D. (Northwestern College, Ia.)

The Reverend Richard C. Oudersluys
Professor of New Testament
A.B. (Calvin), Th.B. (Western Theological Seminary), D.D. (Hope)

The Reverend John H. Piet
Professor of English Bible and Missions
A.B. (Hope), B.D. (Western Theological Seminary), S.T.M. (Hartford Theological Seminary), Ph.D. (Union Theological Seminary and Columbia University)

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Miss Mildred Schuppert
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Adjunct Faculty 1991-93

The Reverend Andrew D. Atwood, D.Min.
Pastoral Counseling

The Reverend Dawn Boelkins, M.Div.
Greek

The Reverend Harold Englund, M.Div.
Preaching

The Reverend Ronald Geschwendt, D.Min.
Preaching, Church Leadership

Calvin Van Reken, Ph.D.,
Christian Ethics

The Reverend Jonathan White, M.Div., Ph.D.
Christian Ethics

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Historical Theology

The Rt. Reverend R. Paulraj, Th.D.,
Theology
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Holli Rook, Secretary and Hospitality Coordinator
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Vernon Hoffman, M.Div., Director for Advancement
Harold Ritsema, M.Ed., Director of Gift Planning
Sharon Van De Vusse, Administrative Assistant for Advancement
Betsy Kaylor, Advancement Writer

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS
Erwin Johnson, Superintendent
Western Seminary offers four degree programs, one leading to the ordained ministry, the second to professional leadership in Christian education, the third to advanced study in ministry, and the fourth specialized theological research for graduate students. Through these programs, Western also provides foundational training for and encourages students toward specialized ministries such as mission, evangelism, education, counseling, social service, chaplaincy, and theological research.

All programs are built on a foundation of biblical understanding, and students will become familiar with the basic message of the Bible and develop an understanding of the principles of interpretation. On this foundation they learn the history and traditions of the Christian church, its mission in the world, and its doctrine.

Western brings this education to focus in the preaching and teaching of the Word, the administration of the sacraments, and the service of God in the world. Stress is placed on worship through word and sacrament, witness in word and deed, pastoral care and counseling, use of the principles and practice of Christian education, and the exercise of leadership. A faculty/student ratio of approximately 1/10 fosters an intimate atmosphere for learning in which a great deal of personal interaction with faculty as well as other students is possible.

MASTER OF DIVINITY

The Master of Divinity curriculum ordinarily leads to the ordained ministry and requires three years to complete (four, if the student takes an internship after the second year). It is open to those who have completed a bachelor of arts degree or its equivalent from an accredited college or university.

REQUIREMENTS

The degree has a requirement of 144 credit hours. Of these, not fewer than 12 nor more than 16 must be earned in the area of Formation for Ministry (see page 20). For example, students may take 132 academic credit hours and 12 hours in Formation for Ministry for a total of 144 credit hours.

All students are required to take courses numbered 410-430 in the Biblical, Theological, and Christian Ministry fields.

Beyond the required courses, students take one advanced course in each of the following disciplines: Old Testament, New Testament, theology, history, ethics, pastoral care and counseling, Christian education, worship and preaching, and leadership.
Students also choose 12-16 hours of elective courses in one of the fields. This allows a student to concentrate on an area of particular interest, such as biblical studies, pastoral care, or theology.

MASTER OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Director—Sonja M. Stewart

The Master of Religious Education program is designed to train people in the equipping ministries of the church and such vocations as Christian education direction, youth ministry, church music, pastoral care, adult ministries, early childhood ministries, and counseling. It has two tracks: a two-year residency program and a three-year “in-ministry” program for people currently working in a ministry setting and wanting to pursue more formal education. The M.R.E. program is open to those who have completed a bachelor of arts degree or its equivalent from an accredited college or university.

M.R.E. In-Residence

This degree has a requirement of 90 term hours. Of these, the following courses are required: EM410, 510, or 610; EM471, 472, 473, 574, 575, 676; and any three of the following: EM411, 412, 513, 514, 615, and 616. Students must also complete 16 hours chosen from the Biblical Field courses and 12 hours chosen from the Theological Field. In addition, students take 16 hours of credit from elective courses.

A minimum of four credits of Formation for Ministry are required for graduation from the M.R.E. In-Residence degree program.

M.R.E. In-Ministry

This program has a requirement of 90 term hours. Of these the following courses are required: EM410, 411, 412, 413, 471, 472, 473, 510, 513, 514, 574, 575, 610, 615, 616, and 676. Students also must complete eight self-designed learning projects called ministry units. Elective courses EM711, 721, 722, and 723 may be substituted for the ministry units.

The In-Ministry program is designed for people already engaged in a ministry setting. It takes three years to complete. It consists of a one-week intensive seminar in August of each year as well as classes held on Thursdays only to accommodate work schedules.

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY PROGRAM

Director—Stanley A. Rock

The Doctor of Ministry degree program assists people in ministry to develop their pastoral skills and disciplines as
well as to integrate theological and biblical knowledge more deeply into their daily ministries. It is open to those who have completed the M.Div. or its equivalent and who have several years of professional ministry experience.

The four cornerstones of the program include the study of ministry as pastoral and educational; ministry as collegial; ministry as enabling; and ministry as God's servant role in the world. These four areas are addressed through a three-year, 48-credit hour curriculum.

The curriculum consists of two self-designed learning projects and one elective in each of the first two years and a major project related to the candidate's ministry in the third year. Three intensive two-week annual seminars constitute the residency requirements. This carefully ordered sequence of study attempts to enhance the spiritual, intellectual, psychological, and experiential formation of each candidate.

Each student granted full admission is related to a supervisory team of two faculty members who assist in the design and completion of the program.

**MASTER OF THEOLOGY**

Director—George R. Hunsberger

The Master of Theology degree is an advanced academic degree which builds on the basic theological training offered in the M.Div. program. It is open to those who have completed an M.Div. degree or its equivalent and who have at least three years of experience in the practice of ministry. This twelve-month program provides for focused research and reflection in a specific area of theological curriculum.

The Th.M. program at Western is unique in that it brings together a community of scholars who pursue advanced study in the context of cross-cultural dialogue. By design, at least half of them come from places and cultures outside of North America. Both international and North American students are admitted to the program based on their intent and ability to relate theological study to the social, cultural, and historical contexts of their ministries.

Western offers the Th.M. program in three focus areas: Ministry and Mission, Theology in Context; and Biblical Theology. The program requires 38 credit hours during one year of study in residence. The core requirements are:

- an Orientation Seminar - 2 hours
- a seminar in Contextual Analysis - 4 hours
- a seminar in Theological Method - 4 hours
- completion of a Master's Thesis - 8 hours

The remaining 20 hours of course work are taken in the student's chosen focus...
area, described below. These courses are selected in consultation with the student’s advisor and the Th.M. director and are chosen from among the 500- and 600-level courses in the M.Div. or M.R.E. curriculum. A course designed on an Independent Research basis under the guidance of a particular professor may incorporate 400-level course lectures and assignments as partial fulfillment of course requirements.

Focus Area

Ministry and Mission—Focuses on participating in the coming of God’s kingdom. This area may include coursework in missiology, preaching, education, counseling, evangelism, and courses which focus on the practical outworkings of Christian faith, commitment, discipleship, and hope.

Theology in Context—Focuses on the content and process of theological reflection on its various historical and cultural contexts. This area embraces the disciplines of historical theology, systematic theology, and hermeneutics, as well as courses which assist the student in situating theological reflection within specific historical or cultural settings.

Biblical Theology—Focuses on the biblical texts as primary resources for theological reflection, spirituality, and Christian discipleship. This area embraces the disciplines of biblical studies and hermeneutics, as well as courses which use biblical resources for theological reflection, ministry, and mission.

FORMATION FOR MINISTRY

Formation for Ministry equips men and women for mission with Jesus Christ by helping students form pastoral identities, develop ministry skills, and gain inter-cultural experience in ministry. Formation for Ministry builds on the foundations of biblical, theological, and ministry studies by engaging students in the practice of ministry.

Each year, students describe their formation for ministry within the guidelines of the program and design experiences in ministry that are most likely to enhance their formation for ministry. Prior to graduation, students develop a five-year plan of continuing education.

Western’s program of Formation for Ministry has four components: experiences in ministry, intercultural experiences, colloquy groups, and mentors. Each is described below:

Experiences In Ministry. Students come to seminary with varying degrees of experience in ministry. Their task is to assess the quantity and quality of that experience and to determine how
their experiences have or have not contributed to their formation for ministry. Students design a plan of formation for ministry for each year of seminary. Such a plan might include: Teaching churches in which students participate and observe a congregation as it engages children, youth, adults, and families in mission with Jesus Christ; Part-time Ministries in which students engage in part-time worship, education, care, and witness ministries concurrent with their academic studies; Internships in which students engage in full-time ministry in parish, parish church, clinical, or agency settings; Practicums in which students investigate through seminars and experiences significant aspects of their personal formation for ministry.

Intercultural Experience

The North American setting in which most of Western's graduates serve is characterized by increasing ethnic diversity and by growing disjuncture between the faith of the church and the dominant cultural values. This setting requires a sensitivity to the dynamics of the interaction of gospel and culture and the ability to lead congregations in a culturally plural world.

We use the term "intercultural" in recognition that these issues not only affect the transmission of the Christian faith from its historic home to the other cultures of the world, but also that they affect the way the church lives and believes within the cultures that were once called Christendom. This component of Formation for Ministry affirms the interdependence of Christians of all cultures and emphasizes our need in North America to address our own culture from the standpoint of the gospel, with the help of the global, multicultural church.

This intercultural component of a student's formation for ministry comes by means of experience in intercultural settings and through mentors drawn from a broad range of cultures. Western stresses this intercultural component when helping students select teaching churches, part-time ministries, internships, and practicums. Intercultural immersion experiences form an essential part of Western's intercultural experience. It is expected that by graduation each student will have participated in either an intercultural internship or immersion experience.

Colloquy

"Colloquy" is a Latin word meaning dialogue. At Western, colloquy groups of five to eight students meet regularly to reflect on issues of mission, pastoral identity, ministerial skills, and vocational direction. Colloquy groups engage students in praxis between the theory and practice of ministry.

The first-year colloquy meets weekly to examine the mission of the church and
how the church both enhances and arrests the spiritual development of children, youth, adults, families, and society. Students are also introduced to classical Christian disciplines of spiritual formation.

The second-year colloquy meets weekly to reflect on ministerial tasks involved in missions, worship, education, pastoral care and counseling, leadership, and service. Spiritual exercises engage students in the personal and liturgical use of the weekly lectionary and celebration of the Christian year.

In the final year, colloquy students prepare for and participate in a weekend experience entitled "Launching Your Ministry" which helps them integrate the seminary experience and prepare for the transition to post-graduate ministry settings.

Mentors

Formation for Ministry is enhanced as students reflect theologically with mentors in ministry. Theological reflection helps students become aware of how their beliefs and attitudes affect their actions as ministers. Mentors help students learn to reflect theologically, to analyze their ministry experiences, and to find new ways to minister.

Each ministry and intercultural experience provides a student with a mentor, be it the pastor of a congregation in which the student is serving, a parochurch professional, colloquy group leader, member of the faculty, or interested layperson. Students meet regularly with their mentors, and mentors receive training and support from the seminary, including regular meetings with members of the faculty for theological reflection.

FORMATION FOR MINISTRY IN THE CURRICULUM

Master of Divinity Degree

In order to graduate with an M.Div. degree, a student shall complete a minimum of twelve credits in Formation for Ministry. Up to sixteen credits may be applied to the 144 required credits for graduation. The course "Gospel, Culture, and Ministry," a part-time ministry, an internship, an intercultural experience, and three colloquy experiences are required.

Master of Religious Education Degree

A minimum of four credits of Formation for Ministry are required for graduation from the M.R.E. In-Residence degree program.
Western’s commitment to continuing education for ministers and lay leaders is expressed in a number of special events throughout the year. Several of these are components of the Henry Bast Memorial Preaching Program. They include:

Annual preaching fellowships—grants provided to ministers who wish to design a learning program for themselves which will deepen their commitment to biblical preaching and creative worship leadership. Six such fellowships are provided annually.

A five-week resident preaching program enabling students and working ministers to learn directly from the insights and experiences of a practicing preacher.

The Bast Festival of Preaching which brings to the campus preacher/scholars who have made significant contributions in homiletics. Lecturers in this series have included Fred Craddock, Professor of Preaching and New Testament at Candler School of Theology (1989) and Thomas Long, Jr., Professor of Preaching and Worship at Princeton Theological Seminary (1991).

In addition, the seminary sponsors other visiting lecturers throughout the year, as well as short-term learning experiences such as day-long workshops and seminars led by experts in various fields of interest to the seminary community. During the 1991-92 academic year, lectures included: Sonja M. Stewart, Professor of Christian Education and Director of the Master of Religious Education program at Western Seminary; C.M. Kao, former General Secretary of the Presbyterian Church of Taiwan; Eugene Taylor Sutton, Assistant Professor of Homiletics and Worship at New Brunswick Theological Seminary; Allen Verhey, Professor of Religion at Hope College; Helko Oberman, Professor of Medieval, Renaissance, and Reformation History at the University of Arizona presented the M.E. Osterhaven Lectures in Theology.

CONTINUING EDUCATION EVENTS were led by: George Brown, Jr., Dean of Faculty and Assistant Professor of Christian Education at Western Seminary (Strengthening Adult Christian Education), James I. Cook, Anton Biemolt Professor of New Testament at Western Seminary (Preaching in Advent), Diane Maodush-Pitzer, Instructor in Pastoral Ministries at Western Seminary and James V. Brownson, Assistant Professor of New Testament at Western Seminary (The Challenge and Promise of Lent, Amy Van Gunst, Organist and Church Musician (Music: Program or Ministry?); Marla Harris, who teaches in the Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education at Fordham University and at New York University (Jubilee Time: Exploring Adulthood and the Education of Adults).
Katherine Doob Sakenfeld, Professor of Old Testament Literature and Director of Ph.D. Studies at Princeton Theological Seminary presented the annual alumni lecture and commencement address.

**Visiting Lecturers and Continuing Education Events 1992 - 1993**

**Guest Lecture Series**

**September 8**  Christopher Kalser, Professor of Historical and Systematic Theology at Western, will speak on "The Integrity of Creation and the Social Nature of God."

**September 22**  Donald Bruggink, James A.H. Cornell, Professor of Historical Theology at Western, will reflect on the work of his recent sabbatical in a lecture entitled, "How Architecture Enhances Worship." Churches from a variety of communions will be used to illustrate how, despite a recent convergence in worship practices, architecture still reflects varieties in theological emphasis. Architecture is still capable of detracting from or enhancing worship, confusing or clarifying faith.

**October 20**  Andrew Kilk, Theologian Missioner with the Church Missionary Society in England, will present the lecture, "The Mission of Theology and the Theology of Mission."

**November 17**  John E. Schmidt, Dean of Students and Director of Formation for Ministry at Western, will present the lecture, "Transforming Leadership."

**January 18**  Toinette Eugene, Associate Professor of Practical Theology and Culture at Chicago Theological Seminary, will present the Annual Martin Luther King, Jr., Lecture.

**March 2**  Harvey Smit, Editor in Chief of the Education Department of the Board of Publications of the Christian Reformed Church in North America, will explore the role of the Heidelberg Catechism as a discipling tool for today's congregations in, "Discipling Through the Heidelberg Catechism."

**March 23**  I. John Hesselink, Albertus C. Van Raalte Professor of Systematic Theology at Western, will deliver the annual M.E. Osterhaven Lectures in Theology, "Sovereign Grace and Human Freedom."

**Continuing Education**

**October 6**  Sonya M. Stewart and George Brown, Jr. "Religious Educator's Seminar." Dr. Stewart, Professor of Christian Education and Director of the MRE Program, and Dr. Brown, Dean of Faculty and Assistant Professor of Religious Education, both at Western, will conduct a day-long event designed to keep religious educators, pastors, and other interested persons abreast of current issues and emerging trends in the field of Christian religious education. Themes include intercultural education; religious education and the public
church; emancipatory education; and a worship model for church education. Drs. Stewart and Brown will share the growing edges of their teaching and learning.

November 3 Diane Maodus-Ritzler, "Advent: Worship and Preaching." The Rev. Maodus-Ritzler, Instructor in Pastoral Ministries at Western, will explore the lectionary texts as resources for liturgy and sermon preparation. A workshop for worship leaders as well as preachers.

February 2 Jay Weener - "Preaching in Lent." How can Jesus's journey to the cross so long ago affect God's people as we approach the 21st century? Dr. Weener, Henry Bass Professor of Preaching at Western, will focus on the preaching values to be found not only in the lectionary texts for Lent, but also in other ways of imagining the events leading to and surrounding Christ's death and resurrection.

February 16 Thomas A. Boogaart - "Genesis One: The Creation Story You Never Read." The beginning of a book is generally crucial to understanding the whole, and this is especially true of the Bible. Dr. Boogaart, Associate Professor of Old Testament at Western, will argue that our appreciation of the first chapters of Genesis has been dulled by a combination of familiarity and decades of arguments about its scientific accuracy. Workshop participants will look again at Genesis One and see perhaps a story they never read before.

March 9 Stanley A. Rock and Marcia Zwier - "Sex, Power, and Ministry." Dr. Rock, Florence M. Charavay Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling and Director of the Doctor of Ministry Program at Western, and Dr. Zwier, Clinical Psychologist, will lead participants in an exploration of relationships between the pastor's own sexuality and the dynamics of pastoral care and counseling, especially in male-female settings. Special attention will be given to issues of crossing sexual boundaries and the use and misuse of pastoral power.

April 13 George R. Hunsberger and James V. Brownson - "Evangelism Beyond Formulas: Fresh Biblical Ways to Hear and Tell the Gospel in the 90's." A hands on workshop, dialogical in format, which will address critical issues for faithful evangelism in contemporary America. How does the gospel lead to an experience of both grace and discipleship? How does the gospel speak not only generally but specifically to concrete human situations? How does the gospel enable irreligious people to live again with God? How should changes in cultural setting affect the way we hear and tell the gospel? Dr. Hunsberger, Associate Professor of Missiology, and Dr. Brownson, Assistant Professor of New Testament, both at Western, will address the topic of evangelism.

April 27 Keith Krebs - "Picture Windows and Peepholes: A Strategy for Youth Ministry in Today's Ministry in Today's Culture." Keith Krebs, Minister for Youth for the Reformed Church in America, will present a strategy for evaluating our popular culture and ministering to youth in it. This workshop will contain practical program ideas. He will also discuss creating a vision for youth ministry, designing a specific plan, and finding resources to carry it out.

May 17 Annual Alumni/ae Lecture and Commencement
Student Services and Community Life

ORIENTATION

An orientation for all students is held at one of the Reformed Church campgrounds at the beginning of each school year. Students, faculty, and staff meet for discussion and social and athletic activities. New students are introduced to the seminary's history and traditions, various aspects of seminary life, and the use of the seminary facilities. The orientation concludes with a worship service in Mulder Chapel on the Sunday prior to the beginning of the fall term.

SOCIAL LIFE

In order to promote Western's social life, faculty, students, and staff enjoy a coffee hour together every morning after chapel. An all-seminary luncheon is held periodically in Semelink Hall. Committees of the student council and faculty also plan events such as parties, suppers, and athletic activities away from the campus.

SPIRITUAL LIFE

The seminary community develops its spiritual life through communal worship and service, as well as through accent on the spiritual development of individuals. Students are urged to pray if they would learn the mind and spirit of Christ. Chapel services, led by faculty, students, and visitors to the campus, are held each morning. Special preaching services, conducted by visiting ministers and others, are held from time to time for the benefit of the whole community.

COUNSELING AND PERSONAL SUPPORT

Western provides personal and family counseling to students and their spouses through the services of Dr. Stanley Rock. He counsels students enrolled in the degree programs. Students taking fewer than three courses each term may use the counseling service at a negotiated fee as time is available.

STUDENT COUNCIL

The Student Council provides the structure through which the goals of student life and community can be realized. It leads the community in addressing such issues as fellowship, academic concerns, common worship, involvement in mission, social action, and interseminary exchange. The council is composed of representatives from each class and two faculty advisors. It meets biweekly during the academic year.

ADELPHIA SOCIETY

The Adelphia Society unites all the women of Western for the purposes of making Christ known in the world, deepening the spiritual life of each member, and developing a sense of personal responsibility for the whole mission of the church, a program of prayer, education, giving, and service. At least one meeting a month of the
entire group is held in the seminary commons. Meetings of smaller groups are conducted in the homes of the women.

PUBLICATIONS

*Poiema* is a publication of the student body, under the auspices of the Student Expression Committee.

The *Reformed Review* is published three times a year by Western Seminary. It features articles of biblical and theological interest and has a circulation of 2,400 readers.

*Westermews* is a newsletter to inform and stimulate the interest of members of the Reformed Church in America and other interested friends in programs, people, and events at Western Seminary.

BEARDSLEE LIBRARY

The John Walter Beardslee Library is a system of information, equipment, and people. Its informational resources include more than 90,000 books and files of more than 600 periodicals, 500 of which are current subscriptions. A large collection of photographic slides depicts archaeology, church history, church art, and architecture.

The Kolkman Memorial Archives preserve letters and papers which document the history of the Reformed Church in America and of Western Seminary. (The Kolkman Archives are combined with the archives of the Holland Historical Trust and those of Hope College to form the Joint Archives of Holland. They are housed in the Van Wylen Library on the campus of Hope College, adjacent to Western Seminary). The library’s resources also include resources for the Bast Preaching Program, which contains a growing collection of sermons and homiletical aids.

The library is housed in the Cook Center for Theological Research, an environment planned to enhance serious theological study. Each floor is equipped with study carrels, tables for cooperative study, lounge chairs for reading, a seminar room, and an enclosed study. The center has video-education studios, a control room, and a microform reading room. From computer terminals to paper cutters, video-cassette recorders to pencil sharpeners, the center is equipped with hardware that can facilitate learning.

The center staff views the service they provide as ministry; their goal is to make available whatever information and assistance is necessary to assure library users fast, effective access to the information most useful to them.

A library can be a door that opens the bibliographic universe for its patrons, providing access to resources beyond its own collection. Beardslee Library
does this through automation with Van Wylen Library (providing access to an additional 250,000 volumes); through cooperation with other area libraries; and through its membership in the American Theological Library Association, the American Library Association, and the Michigan Library Consortium. These relationships provide library patrons with virtually unlimited access to the information they need.

BOOKSTORE

The seminary bookstore is in operation during the school year. Required textbooks are available, most of them at a discount. A maximum line of credit of $200 is available to students and can be arranged at the business office.

HOUSING

Western Seminary provides apartments for students. Apartments are available as single bedrooms, communally sharing kitchen and living rooms; efficiencies; or as one-, two-, or three-bedroom units. Students can make their own arrangements for these or contact the business manager for assistance. Students are advised to plan early for suitable housing. The business manager helps students locate housing in the greater Holland area.

Worship in the Seminary Chapel
ADMISSIONS

The pre-seminary student should seek a balanced liberal arts program in the college studies. The following is suggested as a general guide:

ENGLISH — literature, composition, and related studies. At least four semesters.
SPEECH — at least two semesters.
HISTORY — ancient, modern European, and American. At least three semesters.
PHILOSOPHY — orientation in history, content, and method. At least three semesters.
NATURAL SCIENCE — psychology, sociology, economics, political science, and education. At least six semesters, including a minimum of one semester of psychology.
MANAGEMENT — principles of administration and organization. At least two semesters.
FOREIGN LANGUAGES — Four semesters of Greek should be taken, including two of New Testament Greek. The study of a modern European language such as German or French is desirable, though not required.
RELIGION — Several courses in the study of Christian and non-Christian religions are desirable.

The student should choose a major in a liberal arts subject, giving preference to one of the principal areas above. Majors in specifically scientific or technical subjects sometimes make it difficult for the student to secure the balance needed for theological studies.

The applicant for admission to Western Seminary should request an application form for admission from the dean of students. That form contains a listing of the various items which must be submitted before the faculty's admissions committee can act on the application.

A student coming from another denomination must present a letter from his or her board of ministerial training endorsing theological study whenever such endorsement is part of the standard procedure of that denomination.

A bachelor of arts degree or its academic equivalent from an accredited college or university is required for admission. The transcript of the applicant should evidence the kind of academic achievement that indicates ability to undertake study at the seminary level. An average grade of C plus (2.5 on the four point scale) is used as a minimum standard. In exceptional cases, a student with a lower grade point average, but with compensatory qualification, may be admitted on probation. If satisfactory work is done in the first quarter, the status becomes one of good standing. A graduate of a non-accredited college may be admitted on probation and become a student in
good standing upon satisfactory completion of the first quarter's work.

Western Seminary admits men and women of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin, in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

The student must pass an examination in New Testament Greek during the spring of the senior year of college. Failing this, a concentrated seven-week summer course in Greek may be taken at Western Seminary. Application forms for the non-credit course may be secured from the dean of the faculty's office.

**RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS**

Western Theological Seminary accepts credits secured at other ATS accredited schools. Candidates who seek the M.Div. degree from Western Seminary, however, must earn at least 38 academic quarter credit hours (a nine course equivalent) and at least two hours of formation for ministry credit in residence during the senior year.

**ENGLISH PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENT**

Students must meet the seminary's English language proficiency requirement prior to graduation. They must pass an English language proficiency test in their first year or successfully complete a no-credit course in English offered by the seminary.

**GRADING**

Academic grades are a permanent part of the student's seminary record. The work of the student is evaluated on the following grading scale: A—4 grade points per quarter; B—3 points; C—2 points; D—1 point; F—0. For grades with +, add .3 point per quarter hour; — subtract .3 point per quarter hour. At the end of each quarter, the student receives a grade report from the registrar.

**PASS/NO CREDIT**

The pass/no credit is limited to elective courses, and its use is at the option of the professor. Students may elect to take such courses on a graded or on a pass/no credit basis. The decision must be made during the first week of the course and the choice is irrevocable. A pass grade represents a grade of C or better.
INCOMPLETES

A student not able to complete all the requirements of a course may submit to the instructor, prior to the end of the quarter, a written request for an incomplete. The request shall state clearly the reasons justifying it. The instructor determines whether or not the request may be approved. If it is not approved, the student is graded on the basis of course work completed by the end of the quarter. Should the incomplete work constitute a major component of the course requirements, the grade is an F. If the request is approved, the student’s work is to be completed within thirty days after the end of the quarter. The course grade is reduced one letter grade, except when the instructor adjudges the reason(s) for the incomplete to be due to circumstances beyond the student’s control.

NEW TESTAMENT GREEK REQUIREMENT

Normally, satisfactory completion of the Greek entrance exam is a prerequisite for matriculation in the M.Div. program.

Prospective students who have some training in Greek are strongly urged to take the entrance exam in the spring, so that arrangements can be made to take summer Greek if the student does not pass the entrance exam.

Normally, students who have had no prior training in Greek or who have failed the Greek entrance examination are expected to enroll in the Western Seminary Greek program in the summer before matriculation in the M.Div. program.

Students admitted to the M.Div. program who have not passed the Greek entrance exam prior to matriculation must submit to the dean of faculty, within the first five weeks after matriculation, a written plan of action which will bring their competency in Greek up to entrance standards by the beginning of their middle year. This plan must be approved by the Dean of Faculty. Students will not be allowed to register for more than 48 M.Div. credit hours at Western Seminary before passing the entrance exam. Failure to pass the entrance exam after 48 M.Div. credit hours are completed will result in the termination of a student in the M.Div. program.

PROBATION

A student entering seminary with an academic grade average of less than 2.5 in undergraduate work, or whose grade average falls below a 2.5 in any quarter while in seminary, is considered a marginal student. A grade average below a 2.5 is unsatisfactory, placing the student on probation. If work is of probationary quality in any three of the first seven quarters of enrollment, or in two quarters in addition
to the probationary status upon entrance, the student is asked to terminate work at the seminary.

Any student receiving Veterans Administration benefits will not be certified to the VA as eligible for financial aid if the student remains on academic probation beyond two terms, or beyond one term if the student has been admitted on probation. The Veterans Administration recertification is possible if the student veteran has obtained a cumulative 2.5 in the next quarter after the two terms of probationary status.

A student on probation is expected to devote all available time to studying, and is therefore relieved from such activities as preaching, teaching, and other responsibilities. The status of the student on probation is reviewed by the faculty at the close of each quarter.

STUDENT CONDUCT

Students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the purposes and goals of the seminary. The Standard of Student Tenure recommended by the Association of Theological Schools, as well as the conduct outlined in *The Government of the Reformed Church in America*, Part II, Art. 8, Sec. 1-6 are the standards of the seminary. Should a student be dismissed for reasons of unsatisfactory conduct, reinstatement is possible by renewing application to a degree program according to the policy stated in Section V.11 of the Faculty and Administration Handbook.

WITHDRAWAL AND REFUNDS

Formal application for withdrawal from courses or from the seminary during the course of any term must be made to the dean of the faculty. A student withdrawing from school must also have an exit interview with the business manager. A student who withdraws from the seminary without the consent of the dean of the faculty is not entitled to receive any refund of tuition or issuance of transcript.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

A student who does not continue enrollment for a term or more must officially withdraw. Former students not enrolled in the current academic year must apply to the dean of the faculty for permission to reenroll.

STUDENT CODE NUMBERS

Each student receives a number from the dean of the faculty's office to be used in place of his or her name on major tests and examinations or at the discretion of the teacher.

THE CERTIFICATE OF FITNESS FOR MINISTRY

The candidate for the ministry in the Reformed Church in America is required to secure, in addition to the degree of Master of Divinity, the
Certificate of Fitness for Ministry. That certificate, granted by vote of the faculty, is awarded at commencement to those Reformed church candidates who, having received the academic degree, are found to be qualified and are adjudged to be fit candidates for the gospel ministry (The Government of the Reformed Church in America, Part II, Art. 9, Sec. 1). The certificate entitles the candidate to an examination for licensure and ordination in the Reformed Church in America.

**PLACEMENT**

Graduates of the seminary are assisted by the dean of students in securing their first fields of service. The Government of the Reformed Church stipulates, however, that those graduates who have secured the Certificate of Fitness for Ministry and have been licensed by their classes remain under the immediate direction of such classes until ordination is completed (Part II, Art. 11, Sec. 2). The seminary is assistant, then, to the classes and such denominational agencies as have a primary responsibility in the matter of placement.

*Students at coffee break*
# Financial Information

## TUITION AND FEE SCHEDULE

**M.Div., M.R.E., TH.M.**  
(for 1992-93 year only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charge per credit hour</td>
<td>88.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charge per credit hour - auditing</td>
<td>25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English course (non-credit)</td>
<td>150.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application fee (non-refundable)</td>
<td>30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matriculation fee</td>
<td>15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration fee</td>
<td>15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduation fee</td>
<td>30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities fee</td>
<td>25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noon luncheon fee (quarterly)</td>
<td>15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Greek (non-credit)</td>
<td>350.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Churches in which interns serve pay an internship fee of $200.00.

Each quarter the dean's office publishes a drop date for courses. Any course discontinued by a student prior to that date bears no academic penalty. Tuition is refunded if a course is dropped prior to, but not after, that date.

Free audits for certain courses are permitted to spouses of full-time degree students by application to the dean of the faculty.

## D.MIN. PROGRAM

The tuition charge is $4,500 for the three-year program, plus three fees of $30 for application, registration, and graduation. The student makes an agreement with the business manager concerning a schedule of payments.

A continuation fee of $400 is charged for each additional year beyond the first three years in the program.

The seminary does not provide financial aid for students in the Doctor of Ministry program.

## DEPARTURE

The student who leaves the seminary is required to pay all outstanding financial obligations, which include bookstore bills, housing rent, tuition and fees, library fines, and group insurance premiums. A repayment agreement for any outstanding loans with the seminary must also be executed prior to departure. Diplomas of graduating students are withheld until all financial obligations with the seminary have been discharged.

## INSURANCE

Students should carry adequate hospitalization and life insurance for themselves and their families. A program with Blue Cross and Blue Shield is available at the seminary. Term group life insurance of $125,000 is also available to new and transfer students by application. Students who want to participate in these programs must fill out application cards in the business office within 30 days of the first day of class.
Descriptive brochures are available upon request.

**STUDENT AID**

The programs of student aid at Western Seminary are designed to help students meet their minimum educational expenses as they prepare for Christian ministry. Students should carefully plan their finances in order to meet the cost of attendance. Students and their families are expected to provide a major share of their expenses. The estimated total cost of educational and living expenses for nine months ranges from $10,500 for single students to $16,450 for married students.

If a student cannot match the total expected expenses for the year with equivalent income, savings, and assistance from the church congregation, the student should write to the seminary, requesting financial analysis and GAPSFAS forms. Based upon need as indicated by the analysis, a program of financial aid will be arranged.
Scholarship Funds, Grants, and Loans

DOMESTIC SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

George C. and Clara Arnold Memorial Fund
Tuition scholarships based on academic excellence and demonstrated need.

Cornelia Dalenberg Scholarship Fund
Overseas students or students committed to mission service.

Robert and Martha De Bruyn Internship Fund
This fund was established to provide for student internships in creative churches in metropolitan communities. Emphasis will be placed on selecting gifted students who would benefit by working in a changing urban environment with a church showing growth and an intercultural ministry.

Steve Driesenga Memorial Scholarship Fund
This fund was established by Ken and Fran Driesenga along with the people of Ottawa Reformed Church in memory of the Driesenga's son Steve. Tuition scholarships are awarded to male students preparing for gospel ministry from the Zeeland Classis first, RCA Churches secondarily, on the basis of financial need.

Elton M. Eenigenburg Memorial Scholarship
Tuition scholarship awarded to a male student preparing for the gospel ministry in preaching in the Reformed Church in America and demonstrating financial need.

Faith Reformed Church of Zeeland, Michigan Scholarship Fund
Scholarship granted to students from Faith Reformed Church or of the Zeeland Classis, or as named by the administration.

Gano, Trinity, and United Reformed Churches Scholarship Fund
Tuition scholarships based on academic excellence and demonstrated need.

John W. Grooters II Memorial Scholarship Fund
On behalf of John W. Grooters II, John and Luella Grooters have started this fund. Awards will be granted for students preparing for full-time positions in ministry.

H.E.S. Inc., Los Angeles, Theological Scholarships
Tuition scholarships granted each year by the administration to full-time M.Div. students committed to the ministry, based on demonstrated need.
Hoffman Family Scholarship
A fund created by members of the extended Hoffman family which has sent 13 ministers into the RCA pastorate. Eleven of these individuals attended or graduated from Western Theological Seminary. The award is to be granted to an RCA member planning to serve in this denomination. Hoffman family members include: Benjamin 1898, Benjamin Jay 1938, Bruce 1964, Craig, Donald 1955, Harold 1934, Harvey 1935, James, John 1874, Justin 1925, Milton 1914, Robert 1977, Vernon 1959.

Ella Jungllng Scholarship Fund
Tuition scholarships granted each year by the administration.

Adrian Klepper Memorial Scholarship
Thomas, Steven, Gregory, and Donald Thomas through Consumer Concrete Corporation funded this scholarship to honor their grandfather, Adrian Klepper. Scholarships are granted to students demonstrating academic excellence and financial need. Preference is given to students from the Southwest Michigan Classis.

The Benjamin and Lucille Lemmen and Oliver and Angeline Kraay Scholarship Fund
A scholarship created by Russell J. and Gwendolyn L. Kraay in honor of their parents. The award is to be granted for academic excellence and demonstrated need.

The Sena, Gertrude, and Margaret Lievense Scholarship Fund
In memory of Sena and Gertrude Lievense, Margaret established this fund to provide assistance to married students, preferably with children.

Lawrence W. and Kathryn Middlebush Ver Sluis Scholarship Fund
A scholarship created by Mr. and Mrs. Ver Sluis. Awards will be based on financial need and intent to serve the Reformed Church in America. First consideration will be given to a member of North Park Reformed Church, Kalamazoo, Mi. Second consideration to RCA member from Southwest Michigan Classis. If no one qualifies or is interested, the award will be given a needy RCA member.

Linnea Nelson Scholarship Fund
Tuition scholarships based on academic excellence are granted to the highest ranking students in the entering junior class, and/or in the middler and senior classes.

Cornelius and Della Ooms Memorial Scholarship Fund
Tuition scholarships, granted to students of the Ross Reformed Church, Gary, Ind., or of the Illiana Classis, or as named by the administration.
John M. Osterhaven Memorial Scholarship Fund
Tuition scholarships granted annually by the administration.

Jacob J. Prins Memorial Fund
Tuition scholarships granted to students from backgrounds such as Annville, Kentucky; Brewton, Alabama; Hispanic, Black, American Indian; physically handicapped or educationally restricted; and who have demonstrated financial need.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Ridder, Sr. Fund
Presidential tuition scholarships based on academic excellence are granted each year to the highest ranking students in the middle and senior classes.

The Southgate Community Church Scholarship Fund, Classis of Lake Erie
Funded by proceeds of the disbanded Southgate Community Church, awards will be granted for seminary students with financial need. Students from the Classis of Erie shall receive first consideration.

Paul H. Tanis Scholarship Fund
Scholarship granted to students preparing for youth ministry, domestic missionary service, international missionary service, or parish ministry.

Richard C. Oudersluys Scholarship
A fund created by the congregation of Third Reformed Church in Holland, Michigan to honor one of its long-standing members, Dr. Oudersluys taught at Western Seminary for more than 35 years. Preference is given to Third Reformed Church members or candidates from the Holland Classis.

Van Hamersveld Scholarship Fund
Tuition scholarships for women based on academic achievement and prospective Reformed Church in America ordination. This fund was created by Dale and Dorothy Van Hamersveld.

Lucille B. Van Heest Memorial Fund
Tuition scholarships based on academic excellence and demonstrated need.

Rev. and Mrs. J.B.H. Van Llerop Memorial Scholarship Fund
Tuition scholarship based on academic excellence and demonstrated need.

Dick J. and Ethel Vanden Heuvel Scholarship Fund
A fund to provide scholarship assistance to RCA students based on demonstrated need. Preference will be given to women students and secondary to older students with families.
Robert L. Wade and Lyda H. Wade Memorial Scholarship Fund
Tuition scholarships are granted each year by the administration.

James and Margaret Wayer Fund
Presidential tuition scholarships based on academic excellence, are granted each year to the highest ranking students in the middler and senior classes.

Edward and Vera Wolfert Memorial Fund
Financial aid is given based on academic excellence and demonstrated need.

OTHER DOMESTIC SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Gertrude Dosker Meyer Memorial Fund; Hispanic Scholarship Fund; Marble Scholarship Committee of the Marble Collegiate Church, New York; Mr. and Mrs. Lyle De Haan Scholarship Fund; Woodmar Reformed Church Memorial Scholarship Fund; Brockville Reformed Memorial Scholarship Fund; James E. Hibma Scholarship Fund; Joe Hoffs Memorial Fund.

ENDOWED INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS
These endowed funds have been established by the following people to provide scholarship assistance to international students while studying at Western Seminary.

Gilbert, Mina and Margaret Vanden Broek Memorial Fund
Nelis and Pearl Wagner Overseas Graduate Student Scholarship Fund
John Rose Foreign Scholarship Fund
Wilma Piet Memorial Scholarship Fund
Agnes VanderHart Memorial Scholarship Fund

OTHER INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS
First Reformed Church of Holland, Michigan Foreign Student Scholarship Funds; Dr. and Mrs. Ben Hekhuis Foreign Student Scholarship Fund; World Alliance of Reformed Churches, Geneva, Switzerland.

GRADUATE STUDY FUNDS

Erwin and Edith Bach Scholarship for Pastoral Care and Counseling
A fund established by sons David, Paul and Philip to be used as an annual scholarship for a Western graduate who has (1) shown promise in pastoral care and counseling and (2) is seeking graduate training in counseling or psychotherapy.

Henry J. Beukema Graduate Scholarship
This scholarship funded by Rev. and Mrs. Henry J. Beukema provides Western graduates with financial assistance while preparing for a ministry in theological education. The recipients shall
show promise for advancing Reformed theological scholarship, either by teaching or by publications, or both, in their chosen discipline. Financial need will be considered.

**Osterhaven Graduate Scholarship**

This scholarship created by John and Mattie L. Osterhaven shall be used to provide a graduate fellowship award. These awards shall be determined by the faculty and administrative staff of Western Seminary.

**PETER C. COOK MANAGEMENT SEMINAR GRANTS**

Grants to senior students underwriting their travel expenses to attend the annual Institute for Successful Church Leadership at the Crystal Cathedral Congregation, Garden Grove, California.

**LIBRARY MEMORIAL FUNDS**

Lena Kolkman Memorial Fund (for archives); John P. Luidens and G. John Kooiker Memorial Fund (for books); Lewis Scudder Memorial Fund (for books on Middle East study and missions); Menno and Ida Smith/Frank and Christine Mastenbroek Memorial Fund.

**STUDENT LOAN FUNDS**

Church Agency Loan Fund; The Reverend Donald Boyce Memorial Loan Fund; John De Haan Student Loan Fund; Perkins Loan Program (formerly NDSL); Western Theological Seminary Memorial Loan Fund, including the following memorial funds in the names of: John Benes, George R. Brandt, Francis and Reina De Jong, Nettie De Jong, Clarence Denekas, John Den Ouden, Mr. and Mrs. H. John Hoffs, Henry Huenemann, Marguerite E. Kinkema, Fanny Ludwig, Herman and Helen Meurs, Henry Mollema, Albertus Pieters, Rens-Van Westernburg, Randy Rosenberg, Henry and Minnie Ten Clay, Sr., Fanny Vande Bunte, Robert and Samuel Vander Ploeg, Lucille B. Van Heest, First Reformed Church, Ravenna, Michigan; Anonymous Donor.
Master of Divinity
Course Descriptions

All courses receive four credit hours, except where otherwise indicated in the course description.

BIBLICAL FIELD REQUIRED COURSES

BF410 REVIEW GREEK/Brownsen
A survey of difficult elements in New Testament Greek, vocabulary growth, and Greek reading. Designed especially for the student who has taken summer Greek, but open to others who have passed the Greek entrance examination.

BF411 INTRODUCTION TO EXEGESIS/Cook, Brownsen
Introduction to principles and tools of exegesis and the development of an exegetical method. Experience with principles, tools, and method is provided by an exegetical study of selected texts.

BF412 ADVANCED EXEGESIS/Cook
A workshop approach to exegetical practice based on the Gospel by Mark.

BF414 HEBREW I/Coughenour
An inductive study of the fundamentals of biblical Hebrew grammar and reading.

BF415 HEBREW II/Coughenour
A continuation of biblical Hebrew grammar and reading and an introduction to exegetical methodology.

BF417 BIBLICAL HISTORY AND INTRODUCTION I/Boogaart
Geography, history, and introduction to the study of the Old Testament.

BF418 BIBLICAL HISTORY AND INTRODUCTION II/Brownsen
As an introduction to New Testament scholarship, this course surveys the literature of the New Testament and explores the social, historical, and religious context in which the New Testament documents are situated.

ADVANCED COURSES

Old Testament

BF510 SEMINAR IN PENTATEUCH/Coughenour
An exegetical and historical study of selected portions of the Pentateuch.

BF513 STUDIES IN MINOR PROPHETS/Boogaart
A study of the twelve so-called minor prophets and showing their relevance in the 20th century.

BF514 SEMINAR IN PSALMS/Coughenour
An exegetical and historical study of selected Psalms.

BF516 LITERATURE BETWEEN TESTAMENTS/Coughenour
The Judaisms and their literary products in the so-called second temple period of two centuries prior to the Christian era, provide background for New Testament and church history studies. Readings include such works
as the apocalypse and wisdom writings, the Wisdom of Solomon, Baruch, Sirach, the Apocalypse of Moses, the Enoch literature.

**BF517 WISDOM LITERATURE OF THE BIBLE/Coughenour**
A study of the forms, vocabulary, and concepts of wisdom in the Bible, emphasizing Proverbs, Job, and Ecclesiastes.

**BF518 ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE BIBLE/Coughenour**
The most recent discoveries in Syria, Egypt, and Palestine, from pre-history through the Islamic periods with special attention to their impact on biblical understanding.

**BF522 OLD TESTAMENT NARRATIVES/Boogaart**
Studies of the function, literature, and theology of key leaders in Israelite society.

**BF523 OLD TESTAMENT THEOLOGY/Coughenour**
A study of content and method in Old Testament theologies, with an emphasis on theological themes of the Old Testament.

**BF526 BEYOND TEN WORDS: CURRENT ISSUES IN OLD TESTAMENT ETHICS/Coughenour**
Sources of Old Testament ethical inquiry (e.g., prophets, law, and wisdom) are probed and application made to contemporary ethical issues. (1991-92)

**New Testament**

**BF530 EPISTLE TO THE ROMANS/Cook**
Introduction and overview of the letter, together with exegetical study of selected portions.

**BF531 SEMINAR IN THE SYNOPTICS/Brownson**
A study of major approaches to interpreting the synoptic gospels, along with a more in-depth study of one synoptic gospel.

**BF532 THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN/Brownson**
A study of important historical, literacy, hermeneutical and theological issues in the Gospel of John.

**BF534 ACTS OF THE APOSTLES/Cook**
Introductory material combined with an understanding of the entire book and the exegesis of selected passages.

**BF535 INTERPRETING THE PARABLES/Brownson**
A survey of recent interpretative approaches to the parables of Jesus provides the context for a consideration of basic hermeneutical problems in preaching and teaching. Prerequisite: BF418 or equivalent.

**BF536 BIBLICAL THEOLOGY IN MINISTRY/Cook**
A senior seminar integrating themes of biblical theology with the practice of ministry. Open to seniors only.
BF537 NEW TESTAMENT THEOLOGY/Cook

BF538 NEW TESTAMENT CHRISTOLOGY/Brownson
Explores how the dynamic unfolding and development of christological thought in the New Testament period may provide resources and strategies for contemporary christological reflection.

ELECTIVE COURSES

BF610 BIBLICAL ARAMAIC/Coughenour
A study of the grammar and vocabulary of biblical Aramaic from the Old Testament and other documents, including the Qumran scrolls and the Targums. (on request)

BF612 SYRIAC/Coughenour
Syriac grammar is studied. Selected passages are translated, including Syriac New Testament reading. (on request)

BF616 CHRISTIANITY IN LITERATURE/Cook
A study of biblical and theological motifs in selected literary pieces.

THEOLOGICAL FIELD REQUIRED COURSES

TF011 ORIENTATION TO THEOLOGICAL RESEARCH/Smith
This non-credit course meets twice during the first quarter to orient new students to the resources of the Cook Center for Theological Research and the methods of theological bibliography.

TF411 INTRODUCTION TO THEOLOGY/Hesselink/Brown
An introduction to the role of pastor as theologian and to the Reformed confessions, especially the Heidelberg Catechism. Students will learn to relate theology to their work as pastors, to worship, and to homiletics.

TF412 DOCTRINE OF GOD/Kaiser
What do we believe on the basis of God's self-revelation in Scripture, and how has the church understood that faith through the ages? This course covers the divine attributes, the doctrines of the Trinity, Christology, and the Atonement.

TF415 EARLY AND MEDIEVAL CHURCH/Bruggink, Hunsberger
The growth and mission of the church from the Apostolic Fathers through the Middle Ages, with particular emphasis on the development of doctrine.
TF416 REFORMATION CHURCH/
Bruggink, Hunsberger
The development of doctrine, polity, liturgy, and mission in the Reformation church.

TF417 THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE/Bruggink, Hunsberger
Particular attention is paid to the Reformed Church in America and its mission within a context of ecumenism, growing pluralism, and civil religion.

TF418 INTRODUCTION TO
CHRISTIAN ETHICS
A study of the basic principles of Christian ethics, beginning with its foundations in the Bible and theology.

TF419 CHRISTIAN EXISTENCE:
PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE/
Hesselink
In this course three traditional loci of systematic theology—soteriology, ecclesiology, and eschatology—are treated in a new way, showing the relationship of both the personal and the corporate aspects of the Christian faith as they relate to the three tenses of Christian existence. Classical Reformed as well as contemporary sources are used as texts.

TF420 INTRODUCTION TO
MISSIOLOGY/Hunsberger
An examination of the nature and mission of the church. Attention is given to biblical, theological and sociological foundations, historical and contemporary perspectives, and the global and local dimensions of the church's mission. Special attention is given to the missionary ecclesiology of the RCA and its companion churches.

ADVANCED COURSES
Systematic Theology

TF510 THE DOCTRINE OF THE
HOLY SPIRIT/Hesselink
A biblical, theological study of the work of the Holy Spirit in relation to the individual, the church, and the world. Special attention is given to the role of the Holy Spirit in the Christian life, and to the charismatic movement.

TF511 BIBLICAL AND SECULAR VIEWS OF HUMANITY/Kaiser
A review of the origin, nature, and corruption of humanity as seen from biblical, classical theological, scientific, and contemporary cultural viewpoints.

TF512 BIBLICAL AND SCIENTIFIC VIEWS OF CREATION/Kaiser
A review of the present scientific account of the origin and evolution of the universe as well as the biblical teaching about creation.

TF513 CALVIN'S LIFE AND
THEOLOGY/Hesselink
An introduction to Calvin’s life and thought, indicating their relationship at various points, as well as the relevance of Calvin’s theology to various contemporary issues. The principal texts are Calvin’s first catechism (1538) and a
commentary on this text by the instructor. The Institutes will be used to supplement the catechism.

TF514 THE THEOLOGIES OF KARL BARTH AND EMIL BRUNNER/Hesselink
An examination and comparison of selections from some of the key works of two major theologians of the twentieth century. In each case a brief theological biography will be read followed by major sections from their dogmatics and another seminal work. (1991-92)

TF515 THE SACRAMENTS/Hesselink
An opportunity for an in-depth investigation of the meaning of baptism and the Lord’s Supper. Traditional views will be compared with more recent approaches as well as a biblical-theological evaluation.

TF517 CONTEMPORARY LIBERATION THEOLOGIES/Hesselink
The course focuses on works of Black, Feminist, and Latin American theologians. (1991-92)

TF520 GLOBAL MISSION/ Hunsberger
An examination of the way mission is envisioned and practiced by ecumenical, evangelical, Roman Catholic, Orthodox, pentecostal and Third World churches in the various contexts of the modern world. Special attention is given to the issues and challenges confronting the church as it faces the latter part of the twentieth century.

Historical Theology

TF530 EARLY CHRISTIAN THEOLOGIANS/Kaiser
Readings from primary sources of the second century. Five weeks; two credit hours. TF412 or TF415 prerequisite.

TF531 ANTE-NICENE THEOLOGIANS/Kaiser
Readings from primary sources of the third century. Five weeks; two credit hours. TF530 prerequisite.

TF532 ATHANASIUS/Kaiser
Selected readings featuring the classic On the Incarnation of the Word. Topics covered include the doctrine of the Trinity, creation, Christology, and the atonement. TF412 or TF415 prerequisite.

TF533 POST-NICENE THEOLOGIANS/Kaiser
Selected readings trace the development of patristic theology from the Council of Nicea to Augustine. Two credit hours. TF532 prerequisite.

TF534 LIFE AND TIMES OF AUGUSTINE/Kaiser
Readings in the Confessions and Augustine’s other early writings provide an historical basis for understanding Augustine’s theology. Five weeks; two credit hours. TF412 or TF415 prerequisite.
TF535 THEOLOGY OF AUGUSTINE/ Kaisers
Readings in Augustine's later theological works, especially those that influenced the Protestant Reformation. TF 534 prerequisite.

TF536 POST-REFORMATION CONFLICTS AND CONTROVERSIES (1560-1648)/Kaiser
The modern world was born in an age of polemics and war. This course examines the effect of theological conflict on the emergence of modern science, philosophy, and politics.

TF537 THE CHURCH IN THE AGE OF REASON (1648-1900)/Kaiser
The development of modern theology is traced from the rise of classical mechanics to the industrial revolution and the origins of the theory of evolution.

TF538 EASTERN CHRISTENDOM (600-1700 A.D.)/Bruggink
The Orthodox churches are linguistically and geographically closest to the origins of Christianity. The course studies their history together with the development of their rich theology and spirituality.

TF539 THE LIFE AND THOUGHT OF TODAY'S GLOBAL CHURCH/ Hunsberger
A survey of the churches of the world and the variety of patterns of life and mission they exhibit, with particular emphasis on churches of the Third World. Special attention is given to the ecumenical movement in its various forms, the contributions of Third World theologies, and the emergence of Third World mission initiatives.

Ethics

TF550 CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ETHICS
Christian responsibility in the areas of war and peace, uses of atomic energy, social justice, politics, and race. Each student selects an area for special concentration.

TF551 HISTORICAL CHRISTIAN ETHICS
A survey of the major Christian answers to the question concerning the ideal Christian life from biblical times to the present.

TF552 PIETY AND POLITICS/Japinga
This course explores the relationships between American churches and the social order during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Topics include revivalism, evangelical social reform, the social gospel, neo-orthodoxy, pacifism, the civil rights movement, and contemporary Christian models of church and culture.

TF553 FEMINIST THEOLOGY/Japinga
An analysis of the historical and contemporary relationships between women and the church, using the writings of feminist theologians, particularly their readings of biblical texts and their critiques and revisionings of traditional doctrines. (1991-92)
TF555 THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY IN THE COMPUTER AGE/Smith
The course will focus on the issue of how the church proclaims the gospel in a world pervaded by computer technology. Through readings, discussion, media presentations, and visits to the work place, the class will explore questions related to human self-understanding and develop a theological framework for addressing specific situations created by the use of computers.

TF556 RELIGION, SEXUALITY AND POWER
This course will examine biblical and theological views of sexuality and power. The course will explore implications of these themes on preaching, pastoral care, images of God, professional ethics, and the quest for social and ecclesiastical justice for women and men.

TF610 TRAVEL SEMINAR STUDIES: THE CITIES OF JOHN AND PAUL/Bruggink
Guided research in preparation for participation in the seminar at the cities of the Philippi, Thessaloniki, Athens, Corinth, Ephesus, and Patmos, the island of the Apocalypse. (1991-92)

TF611 TRAVEL SEMINAR: THE CITIES OF JOHN AND PAUL/Bruggink
Following St. Paul to the cities where he ministered in Greece and Asia Minor: Neapolis, Philippi, Amphipolis, Thessaloniki, Beroea, Athens, Corinth, and Ephesus; and the island of John, Patmos. There is also extended contact with living Orthodoxy at the Orthodox Academic of Crete. (Summer, 1990)

TF612 TRAVEL SEMINAR STUDIES: ROME/Bruggink
Guided research in preparation for participation in the seminar at Rome, with its treasures of art and architecture from pre-Christian times to the present, as well as the varied institutions of the living church. (1990-91)

TF613 ROME: CITY OF PETER AND PAUL/Bruggink
Twenty centuries of Christian history can be seen in Rome. The course takes full advantage of the art and architecture of Rome to communicate the history of the church through the centuries, as well as contact with contemporary Roman Catholic leaders and institutions. (Summer, 1993)

TF614 HYMNODY, LITURGY, AND ARCHITECTURE/Bruggink
Leadership in hymnody, liturgy, and architecture as helping to build the community of faith as we worship God.

TF616 RELIGIOUS CLASSICS/Hesselink
This course provides an opportunity to read several classics in Christian literature and theology not covered elsewhere in the theological curriculum. This includes some of the best known
works of Augustine, Francis of Assisi, Aquinas, Thomas à Kempis, Schleiermacher, John Wesley, Bunyan, and Jonathan Edwards.

TF617 ECCLESIASTICAL LATIN/ Hesselink
An introductory course for students who have had little or no Latin. Initially there is a study of classical Latin grammar and syntax. Ecclesiastical Latin readings. (On request)

TF618 THEOLOGICAL GERMAN
Inductive study of selected texts in contemporary German theology. (On request)

TF622 MISSION AND MINISTRY ACROSS CULTURES/Hunsberger
An introduction to the intercultural dimension of the church's life and mission, including insights drawn from the fields of cultural anthropology, communications theory, mission history, biblical hermeneutics, and mission theology. Special attention is given to the development of a theology of cultural plurality with implications for witness, conversion, and ministry.

TF623 CHRISTIAN WITNESS AMONG PEOPLE OF OTHER FAITHS/ Hunsberger
An investigation of the historical forms of encounter between Christianity and other religions and the current models of witness and dialogue. The philosophies of religion, missiological convictions, and personal attitudes involved in various approaches will be explored.

TF624 CURRENT ISSUES IN MISSIOLOGY/Hunsberger
A seminar research course on a particular facet of mission theory or strategy of contemporary importance. The course is offered and the topic chosen based upon the interest and needs of students and the identification of a critical area of concern in the church's life and mission.

TF626 THEOLOGICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY AND RESEARCH METHODS/Smith
A study of research methodology, library use, and basic reference works for theological research. Designed both for persons planning to enter the pastoral ministry and those going on to graduate study.

CHRISTIAN MINISTRY FIELD REQUIRED COURSES

CM011 ORAL COMMUNICATION LAB/Weener
A non-credit requirement for juniors.

CM410 PASTORAL THEOLOGY/ Schmidt/Maodush-Pitzer
A foundation course on the nature and styles of ministry from an historical as well as contemporary perspective, with an emphasis on the leadership dimension. Five weeks; two credit hours.
CM411 THE CONGREGATION WORSHIPING/Bruggink/Maodush-Pitzer
Biblical and Reformed understandings of worship are studied, with particular emphasis given to the components of the liturgy. Five weeks; two credit hours.

CM412 INTRODUCTION TO PREACHING/Weener/Maodush-Pitzer
A study of the biblical concept of preaching, the principles of communication, and the development of expository sermons.

CM413 THE EQUIPPING MINISTRY OF THE PASTOR/Stewart
An examination of a theology and praxis for equipping the congregation for discipleship, ministry, and mission.

CM414 PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING/Rock
The fundamental counseling course in the ministry field. The lecture, demonstration, and laboratory approach are designed to enable the person in ministry to articulate a pastoral-theological framework for counseling, to develop skills in helping relationships, and to make effective decisions regarding referral.

ADVANCED COURSES
Pastoral Care and Counseling

CM510 ORIENTATION TO MARRIAGE AND FAMILY COUNSELING/Rock
This course is designed to increase the participant’s ability to build effective communication patterns in marital or premarital relationships, and to enable the person in ministry to develop counseling and enrichment strategies for couples and for families. Spouses are encouraged to take the course with the students. Students without spouses should consult with the instructor prior to registration. CM414, or permission of the instructor, is a prerequisite for all students.

CM511 ADVANCED PASTORAL COUNSELING/Atwood
A course for developing skills in the integration of theology, psychological theory, and pastoral counseling relationships, utilizing seminar discussions, reality practice, and actual case material. CM414 is prerequisite.

CM512/EM473 MINISTRY IN GROUP RELATIONSHIPS/Rock
An exploration of the way people learn to live and work together in the covenant community. The pastor, director of religious education, or church worker develops theory and skill as an enabler of ministry by the laity in the contemporary world through experiences in group relationships.

CM513 BASIC CLINICAL PASTORAL MINISTRY/Schmidt
A pastoral ministry practicum which integrates the theory and practice of ministry in a clinical setting with special attention given to the person in ministry. A basic practicum accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education receives six hours of credit.
Other approved practicums in clinical settings receive four hours of credit. One quarter of a clinical pastoral ministry experience is granted four or six credits of CM513 and two credits of FM661. (See statement under Formation for Ministry in the catalog.)

CM514 MINISTRY WITH THE AGING/
An explanation of the dynamics of aging with emphasis on the abilities of older persons within the life of the church. An experience-based component includes involvement in local nursing homes and congregations. Five weeks; two credit hours.

CM515 FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY/
Maodush/Pitzer
An examination of various programs and models for family enrichment, growth, and counseling in the local parish. Five weeks; two credit hours.

CM516 PSYCHOLOGY OF THE
RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE/
An examination of the psychological processes inherent in various religious experiences and practices, beginning with a survey of classical studies in the field and focusing on the need for religion in contemporary society. (1991-92)

CM517 MINISTRY IN ADDICTION
AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE/Rock
An examination of the nature of addictive patterns of behavior with special attention to understanding alcoholism and drug dependency and effective pastoral care. Five weeks; two credit hours.

Religious Education

CM530/EM676 EQUIPPING FOR THE
CELEBRATION OF THE CHURCH
YEAR/Stewart
A practicum on how Christian faith is nurtured and developed through the celebration of the church year in worship, education, and mission.

CM531/EM711 CURRICULUM
EVALUATION AND DESIGN/Brown
An analysis and evaluation of Christian education resources and curricula designs. Students develop skills for evaluating and designing a Christian education program. (1989-90)

CM532/EM574 EQUIPPING FOR
TEACHING AND LEADERSHIP/Brown
Students learn to recruit, train, and support teachers and leaders for the equipping ministries of the church.

Worship and Preaching

CM550 PREACHING THE HEALING
WORD/Weener
Meeting the reality of human need through focused biblical preaching, exploring the tie between preaching and pastoral counseling, and highlighting examples and potential hazards of life situation preaching. Five weeks; two credit hours.
CM551 PREACHING, SPEAKING, AND READING
Focus on learning to speak well in public with few notes or without notes. Exposure to various impromptu speech situations, public reading of Scripture and liturgical forms, and the oral manuscript as one method of sermon preparation. Five weeks; Two credit hours.

CM552 PREACHING THE GREAT DOCTRINES OF SCRIPTURES/Weener
Theological themes of Scripture examined for contemporary relevance. Special attention given to a creative use of the Heidelberg Catechism in doctrinal preaching. Five weeks; Two credit hours.

CM553 PREACHING THE CHURCH YEAR/Weener
Attention is given to the holy days of the Christian liturgical year as they impact lectionary and series preaching. Five weeks; Two credit hours.

CM554/EM723 CHILDREN AND WORSHIP/Stewart
A practicum treating the development and religious needs of the young child (ages 3-7), and ways to design an environment that enables children to worship God.

CM556 PREACHING WITH IMAGINATION/Weener
An advanced practicum to blend faith and imagination into a vivid and compelling preaching style. Exploration of a wide variety of sermons, story telling, narrative preaching, humor, illustration, and components of prophetic preaching.

CM563 PREACHING FOR RESPONSE/Englund
In the rapidly changing culture of the 1990s, what is needed for preaching? What is of enduring value and what needs to be contextualized? What is happening to those who are listening to preaching—as a result of television, as a result of New Age influence, as a result of biblical illiteracy? How can preaching be related to liturgy? What kinds of response should the preacher look for? A diversity of preaching models will be offered for analysis and discussion.

Leadership

CM570/EM575 EQUIPPING FOR EVANGELISM/Hunsberger
The course develops a theology of evangelism as the announcement of the Kingdom of God and cultivates patterns of practice which give living form to that announcement in the life of "missionary congregations." It includes an assessment of contemporary models and an examination of the forms of leadership which stimulate the dynamic of evangelism in a congregation.

CM571 CHURCH LEADERSHIP/
Principles and practice of organization, management, and leadership in the church; principles and practice of
church government, and leading effective meetings.

CM572 ADVANCED GROUP LEADERSHIP/CM Field
Selected students are invited by the instructors to assist in facilitating courses in group dynamics, religious education, and Formation for Ministry reflection groups. While assisting the instructor, participants in this course engage in their own study and/or research of group dynamics, leadership, and participant roles. (By permission of instructor)

CM573 ADVANCED PRACTICUM IN MINISTRY/
An opportunity for advanced students to integrate biblical, theological, and historical understandings with their grasp of pastoral and pedagogical principles, and to express this integration in the actual practice of ministry.

CM574 SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND GUIDANCE/
A course with an experiential focus, in which students develop the disciplines necessary for growth in the Spirit through journal writing, prayer and meditation, and learn ways to act as spiritual directors for others. (1991-92)

Elective Courses

CM610 ADVANCED CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION/Schmidt
All clinical pastoral education beyond the first quarter receives four hours credit.

CM611 GUIDED RESEARCH IN COUNSELING/Rock
An opportunity to focus in depth on some area of pastoral counseling. A largely independent study. (On request)

CM620/EM721 CHRISTIAN MINISTRY WITH YOUTH/Schmidt
A practicum treating the development and religious needs of youth and ways to design, implement, and support youth ministry in the congregation.

CM621/EM722 CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OF ADULTS/Brown
A practicum enabling students to design and administer an adult educational program in a congregation in the light of developmental and religious needs of adults.

CM622 SEMINAR IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION RESEARCH/Stewart
Students doing exceptional work in Christian education are invited to engage in research.

CM650 GUIDED RESEARCH IN PREACHING/Staff
An opportunity to focus in depth on some area of preaching. A largely independent study. (On request)

CM651 PREACHING'S NEW PATHWAYS/Weener
An advanced seminar exploring new patterns of preaching in the 20th century by Fosdick, Craddock, Lowry,
Buttrick, Long, and others. Limited to ten students. Two credit hours.

CM670 THE URBAN CHURCH: A STUDY OF ITS MISSION/Beukema
Leadership training for those working with congregations facing the challenge of ministry in urban areas. Included are dimensions of understanding and coping with change, congregational and demographic analysis, educational and resource development, and alternatives for mission.

CM671 PRINCIPLES OF CHURCH GROWTH/Ridder
An introduction to starting a new church in North America. Students will become familiar with the factors involved in church growth by identifying, planning, and strategizing for church growth in a particular local context. Attention will be given both to new church starts, and to established churches situated in circumstances of potential growth.

FORMATION FOR MINISTRY COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

FM410 GOSPEL, CULTURE, AND MINISTRY
Introduces students to the dynamic interactions between the gospel message, particular cultural contexts, and ministerial leadership. Four credit hours.

FM411 THE MINISTER AS SPIRITUAL LEADER
Engages students in an intentional program of spiritual formation; acquaints students with the variety of ways the church engages children, youth, adults, and families in spiritual formation; involves students in ministerial leadership of worship, education, care, and witness; and discusses the nature of ministry and development of ministerial identity. One credit hour.

FM412 MINISTER AS PASTORAL LEADER
Explores, critiques, and develops ministerial leadership skills involved in worship, education, care, and witness. One credit hour.

FM413 LAUNCHING YOUR MINISTRY/Weener
Discusses styles and strategies for making a positive transition from theological student to person in ministry. One credit hour.

FM414 STUDENT PREACHING
During the middler and senior years the student preaches in twelve worship services. These are evaluated by lay persons and the professor of preaching. One credit hour at the end of the senior year.

FM510 THE TEACHING CHURCH
Engages students in a process of actively observing the worship, education, care, and witness ministries of a faith community. One credit hour.
PART-TIME MINISTRIES
FM511 (5-9 hours per week) One credit hour
FM512 (10-15 hours per week) Two credit hours
Engages students in the part-time practice of ministry concurrent with their academic studies. Ministry experiences take place in parish, para-church, or agency settings.

INTERNSHIPS
FM541 (three months) Two credit hours
FM542 (six months) Four credit hours
FM543 (nine months) Six credit hours
FM544 (twelve months) Eight credit hours
Students engage in the full-time practice of ministry in a parish, para-church, clinical, agency, or intercultural setting. Ministry settings are selected on the basis of the church's or agency's commitment to the ministerial formation of students and the opportunities for learning within the setting.

PRACTICUMS IN MINISTRY
FM611 One credit hour
FM612 Two credit hours
Practicums provide opportunities for students to explore and develop important skills in their individual formation for ministry. Exploratory models include: missions, church growth, rural ministry, urban ministry, and pastoral chaplaincy. Skill areas include: worship, education, care, evangelism, social ministry, conflict resolution, leadership, and administration.

FM661 CLINICAL PASTORAL MINISTRY
The supervised field education component of Clinical Pastoral Ministry integrates the theory and practice of ministry in a hospital setting. Two credit hours. One quarter of a clinical pastoral ministry experience is granted two FM661 credits and four or six CM513 credits.
Master of Religious Education
Course Descriptions

EM410 ORIENTATION SEMINAR: CHRISTIAN FORMATION AND DISCIPLESHIP/Brown
An introduction to the program dealing with six foundational issues of Christian formation and discipleship. Reading is required before the seminar. Meets annually the third of August. Two credit hours.

EM510 HISTORY OF THE THEORY AND PRAXIS OF CHRISTIAN FORMATION/Stewart
A survey course treating the various theories and praxis of Christian formation through the church and parachurch organizations. Meets third of August. (1992)

EM610 CANDIDATES SEMINAR II: DESIGN AND ADMINISTRATION OF EQUIPPING MINISTRIES/ A theology of equipping for shared ministry, developing skills for evaluating, designing, and administering an equipping ministry. Meets the third of August. (1993)

EM411 STUDIES IN OLD TESTAMENT TRADITIONS/Boogaart
Studies of the function, literature, and theology of key leaders in Israelite society.

EM412 KINGDOM AND PARABLES/ Developing skills for interpretation of the Gospels with particular attention to the person and work of Christ, and the proclamation of the Kingdom of God through parables.

EM413 THE HOLY SPIRIT IN ACTS AND EPISTLES/Brownson
An exegetical, inductive approach to an understanding of the person, work, and function of the Holy Spirit in the individual, the Christian community, and the world, as demonstrated in the early church. (1991-92)

EM513 PSALMS, PROPHETS, AND SOCIAL MINISTRIES/Boogaart
A reading and exegesis of some of the prophets and psalms, with implications for social ministries.

EM613 ROMANS/Hesselink
An exegesis of Romans with attention to its nature, purpose, and theology.

EM614 INTERPRETATION OF THE COMMON LECTIONARY PASSAGES/ Brownson
A study of the Common Lectionary passages as foundation for the course, “Equipping for Worship and Celebration of the Church Year.”

EM645 TRANSFORMATIONAL LEARNING WITH ADULTS/Brown
An introduction to the educational philosophies of Paul Freire and Myles Horton and an exploration of their contribution to the religious education of adult learners. (1991-92)

EM441 to EM648 MINISTRY UNITS I-VIII/Stewart/Brown
Eight ministry units, or their equivalents, are required for In-Ministry MRE degree students. Ministry units are independent, self-designed units of study that are related to students' jobs.
They are designed in consultation with a faculty director and approved by a faculty committee. EM647 and EM648 will focus on a cross-cultural experience.

EM471 EQUIPPING FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND CHURCH RENEWAL/Atwood
Students develop disciplines for spiritual formation and learn ways of guidance that enable personal and church renewal. The class designs models for equipping congregations in spiritual growth.

EM472 EQUIPPING FOR PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELING/Rock
Through lab and congregational experiences, students learn skills for pastoral care and counseling, and models for equipping others in this ministry toward wholeness in God.

EM473/CM512 EQUIPPING FOR SMALL GROUP MINISTRIES/Rock
An exploration of the way people learn to live and work together in the covenant community. The pastor, director of religious education, or church leader develops theory and skill as an enabler of ministry by church members in the contemporary world through experiences in group relationships.

EM574/CM532 EQUIPPING FOR TEACHING AND LEADERSHIP/Brown
Students learn to equip teachers and leaders for enabling the Christian formation and ministry of a congregation.

Attention is given to forming a koinonia of teachers and leaders and training for faith sharing, telling the Hebraic-Christian story, and enabling others to discern their gifts for ministry. Attention to administrative skills is given. (1993-94)

EM575/CM570 EQUIPPING FOR EVANGELISM/Hunsberger
Students experience different approaches to evangelism and learn how to administer a ministry of evangelism in a congregation. They learn a theology of evangelism and how to equip others for witnessing in word and deed.

EM676/CM530 EQUIPPING FOR WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION OF THE CHURCH YEAR/Stewart
Students develop skills for equipping others for worship leadership and for the celebration of the church year through worship, education, and mission. Attention given to the sacraments.

EM71/CM531 CURRICULUM EVALUATION AND DESIGN/Maodush-Pitzer
An analysis and evaluation of Christian education resources and curricula designs. Students develop skills for evaluating and designing a Christian education program. (1993-94)

EM721/CM620 CHRISTIAN MINISTRY WITH YOUTH/Schmidt
A practicum treating the development and religious needs of youth, and ways to design, resource, and implement
youth ministry in the congregation. Alternate years (1992-93)

EM722/CM621 CHRISTIAN MINISTRY WITH ADULTS/Brown
A practicum enabling students to design and administer an adult education program in a congregation in the light of developmental and religious needs of adults. Alternate years (1993-94)

EM723/CM554 CHILDREN AND WORSHIP/Stewart
A practicum treating the development and religious needs of the young child (ages 3-7), and ways to design an environment that enables children to worship God.
Master of Theology
Seminar Course Descriptions

MT710 ORIENTATION SEMINAR/
Hunsberger and Team
A one-week intensive seminar which introduces the Th.M. program by forming a "cross-cultural community of scholars" as a new matrix in which scholarly reflection will be done, by creating new configurations of self-understanding for theological reflection in community, and by introducing the philosophy, format and thesis requirement of the Th.M. program as the structures through which this academic pursuit will be achieved. Meets annually the last week of August. Two credit hours.

MT720 SEMINAR IN CONTEXTUAL
ANALYSIS/Hunsberger and Team
The development of theoretical orientations and methodological skills for contextual analysis, with three foci: sociological, cultural, and psychological. The seminar also provides guidance for the development of the thesis proposal. Fall term.

MT730 SEMINAR IN THEOLOGICAL
METHOD/Hunsberger and Team
The exploration and application of methodologies in contextual, inter-cultural theological reflection, with three foci: hermeneutics, issues of gospel and culture, and alternative theological models. The seminar also assists in the development of thesis research methodology. Winter term.

MT740 INDEPENDENT RESEARCH
Independent study in a particular field of inquiry within a student's focus area. It is done with the consent of an individual professor who provides guidance and evaluation and with the approval of the Dean of Faculty. It may combine course materials of a 400-level course with additional independent work, at a professor's discretion.

MT750 THESIS
A major research paper which builds upon and extends in a focused area the knowledge and critical ability gained in the basic divinity degree. The topic and plan are subject to the approval of the Th.M. Academic Committee. Guidance for the research is provided by the student's advisor in conjunction with a second reader. Eight credit hours.
The awards described below are presented to their recipients at an annual Awards Assembly in May. Award winners are determined by the faculty.

**BIBLICAL FIELD**

The George Nathan Makely Awards in New Testament Language and Literature are given to those students who have secured the highest grades in BF411 and BF412. First and second prizes.

The George Nathan Makely Awards in Old Testament Language and Literature are given to those students who have secured the highest grades in BF415. First and second prize.

The Lewis De Kleine Awards in English Bible are given to those students who have secured the highest grades in BF417 and BF418.

The American Bible Society Award is given to the graduating student who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in biblical studies.

The Seminary Award in Advanced New Testament Language and Exegesis is given for the best exegetical paper submitted to the field for this award.

The Seminary Award in Advanced Old Testament Language and Exegesis is given for the best exegetical paper submitted to the field for this award.

**THEOLOGICAL FIELD**

The Samuel Vander Ploeg Awards in Church History are given to the students who have submitted the best papers of high merit on a subject selected by the Field. First and second prizes.

The George Nathan Makely Awards in Systematic Theology are given to the students who have submitted the best papers of high merit on a subject selected by the Field. First and second prizes.

The Seminary Award in Missiology is given to a midder or senior student who submits the best paper on a missiological theme (the paper may be written for either a missiological or other course, or for some other occasion or purpose).

The Seminary Award in Christian Ethics is given to the student who has submitted the best paper of high merit on a subject selected by the Field.

Competition for the above areas is open to students who have completed their first year of seminary studies. Papers must be submitted by March 15 of the current academic year and must meet the requirements set by the Field.

The Baker Book House Award is given to the graduating student who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in the study of theology.
CHRISTIAN MINISTRY FIELD

The George Nathan Makely Awards in Worship Content (first and second prizes) and in Worship Leadership (first and second prizes) are given to those graduating students in the M.R.E. and M.Div. programs who have done outstanding work in chapel leadership, preaching courses, and formation for ministry assignments.

The Seminary Award in Christian Education is given to the student who has best executed the task or project selected by the Field.

The Seminary Award in Pastoral Care and Counseling is given to the student who has best executed the task or project selected by the Field.

SPECIAL SENIOR AWARDS

The Henry J. Pietenpol Senior Excellence Award is given to the graduating student in the M.Div. and M.R.E. programs who demonstrates unusual promise of effectiveness in ministry. The decision is made by the seminary faculty.

The John and Mattie Osterhaven Graduate Fellowship Award is given to a graduating student, or students, for post-graduate work in a branch of the theological curriculum. Such study is to be entered upon in the academic year following graduation from the seminary.

The applicant must intend to serve the Reformed Church in America in some form of ministerial or missionary activity. The applicant must have spent a minimum of five quarters in study at this seminary and achieved a grade point average of at least 3.5. An application must be submitted in writing to the secretary of the faculty. It shall state how the award is to be used, where the study will be done, and the branch of study projected.

In selecting a recipient, or recipients, of the award, the faculty bases its decision on the applicant’s scholarship, personal character, and potential usefulness in the church. If an award is not made, its monetary value may be added to the award in the following year. The recipient of an award shall receive the grant at the time graduate study is begun.
Degrees Conferred

May 14, 1990

MASTER OF DIVINITY

Ronald G. Amos
Mary Ellen De Koning Bos
Michael S. Bos
Donald J. Christensen
James W. Cornell
Joseph L. Cusack, Jr.
John M. Daniels
James E. De Bruyne
John M. Delger
Dirk M. de Waard
Cynthia J. Veldheer DeYoung
Matthew W. Draffen
Carol A. Faas
Robert A. Grysen
Gerald P. Hekhuis
Lisa Greene Henderson
Nancy R. Herlein
Karen F. Jacobsma
Wayne A. Jansen
Abraham D. Kist-Okazaki
John R. Kleinheksel, Jr.
Bruce R. Kuiper
Judith K. VandenBerg Kuiper
Sandra L. Mast
Jennifer S. Minier
George H. Montanari
William J. Morris
Bruce E. Osbeck
Jill L. Sanders
Scott R. VanArendonk
David H. Van Donkelaar
John A. Veldman

MASTER OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Kevin L. Roos
Satoru Itoh
Beverly Jean Kelly

MASTER OF THEOLOGY

Rueben R. Richards
Fumihiro Tanaka

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

Peter Borgdorff
Michael A. Danner
James D. Lester

May 13, 1991

MASTER OF DIVINITY

David A. Bassett
Mark T. Berndt
Valerie F. Doka
Marcia L. Elders
Jonathan J. Etterbeek
Leon R. Fikse
Shirley Bylsma Heeg
Mitchell G. Kinsinger
Larry W. Klaaren
Stephen J. Love
Michael L. Molenaar
Blaine C. Newhouse
Scott D. Nichols
Gerald H. Norman
F. Scott Petersen
Milton D. Sikkema
Janice E. Thorsen
Gregory A. Vander Meer
Jayne A. Hoekstra Yonkman
Degrees Conferred

MASTER OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Diane Duncan Bieber
Mary A. Evans-Justin
Celia M. Hastings
Judith A. Mejeur
Karen L. Mulder
Kevin D. Otrhalik
Veronica R. Persenaire

MASTER OF THEOLOGY
Roger A. Arendse
Lientje Pangaila-Kaunang
Paul Teh-Lai Shen
Irene Tay
Shin Nomura

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY
John C. Hutt

May 18, 1992

MASTER OF DIVINITY
Donald W. Battjes
Paul H. Boersma
Richard R. Christy
Kathryn Sneller Davelaar
Patricia J. Elzinga
Vance R. Elzinga
Jeffrey T. Gowan
Kama S. Jongerius
Bradley R. Olson
Barbara A. Pekich
Janet E. Thomas
Johnathan H. Tice
David A. Van Dyke
James J. Vander Roest
Arthur R. VanSlageren
Jonathan R. White

Stephen E. Yon
Patricia A. Young

DIPLOMA OF THE SEMINARY
David Ellis

MASTER OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Judith L. Betten
Peter C. Boogaart, III
Barbara A. Boss
Jacqueline M. Christy
Jean Attwood Norris
Deborah D. Swanson
Joyce Van Dyk
Todd A. Van Grouw
George C. Vanderhyde

MASTER OF THEOLOGY
Jack L. Doorlag
Manabu Ishida
Ntlaweni Nchongi Joshua Ngwenya

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY
George D. Beukema
Timothy L. Brown
Michael L. Fry
SUMMER 1991
May 20 - June 7
July 3 - 31
July 8 - August 23
August 19 - 23
August 26 - 30

1991-92 ACADEMIC YEAR
September 4, 5, 6
September 9

October 14 - 18
November 22
November 25 - 29
December 2
December 20
January 6
February 21
February 24 - 28
March 2
April 6 - 10
April 17
May 14
May 18

D.Min. Seminars
Travel Seminar Studies: Rome
Summer Greek Program
M.R.E. Seminars
Th.M. Orientation Seminar

M.Div. Fall Orientation
Convocation Worship
First Quarter Begins
Fall Reading and Reflection Week
First Quarter Ends
Thanksgiving Recess
Second Quarter Begins
Christmas Recess Begins
Classes Resume
Second Quarter Ends
Winter Recess
Third Quarter Begins
Spring Reading and Reflection Week
Good Friday, Seminary Closes at Noon
Third Quarter Ends
Commencement
Academic
Calendar 1992-1993

**SUMMER 1992**
May 25 - June 12
June 17 - July 6
June 22 - 26
July 6 - August 21
August 24 - 28

D.Min. Seminars
Cities of Paul & John Travel Seminar
Children and Worship Training
Summer Greek Program
M.R.E. Seminars
Th.M. Orientation Seminar

**1992-93 ACADEMIC YEAR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>2, 3, 4</td>
<td>M.Div. Fall Orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Convocation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>October 12 - 16</td>
<td>First Quarter Begins</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>October 12 - 14</td>
<td>Fall Reading and Reflection Week</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>November 20</td>
<td>Bast Festival of Preaching</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>November 23 - 27</td>
<td>First Quarter Ends</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>November 30</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Recess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>December 18</td>
<td>Second Quarter Begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>January 4</td>
<td>Christmas Recess Begins</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>January 19 - 29</td>
<td>Classes Resume</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>February 19</td>
<td>El Salvador Intercultural Immersion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>February 22 - 26</td>
<td>Los Angeles Intercultural Immersion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>Second Quarter Ends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>April 5 - 9</td>
<td>Winter Recess</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>May 13</td>
<td>Third Quarter Begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>May 17</td>
<td>Spring Reading and Reflection Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Third Quarter Ends</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Commencement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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# Academic Calendar 1993-1994

## SUMMER 1993
- May 24 - June 11
- June 15
- June 15 - 18
- June 24 - July 8
- July 12 - August 27
- August 27
- August 23 - 27

## 1993-94 ACADEMIC YEAR
- September 1, 2, 3
- September 7
- October 11 - 15
- November 19
- November 22 - 26
- November 29
- December 17
- January 3
- February 18
- February 21 - 25
- February 28
- April 4 - 8
- April 11
- May 12
- May 16

- D.Min. Seminars
- Greek Entrance Examination Deadline
- Children and Worship Training
- Rome Travel Seminar
- Summer Greek Program
- Greek Placement Examination Deadline
- M.R.E. Seminars
- Th.M. Orientation Seminar

- M.Div. Fall Orientation
- Convocation
- First Quarter Begins
- Fall Reading and Reflection Week
- First Quarter Ends
- Thanksgiving Recess
- Second Quarter Begins
- Christmas Recess Begins
- Classes Resume
- Second Quarter Ends
- Winter Recess
- Third Quarter Begins
- Spring Reading and Reflection Week
- Classes Resume
- Third Quarter Ends
- Commencement
## Index

| Academic Programs | 17 |
| Accreditation | 4 |
| Adjunct Faculty | 14 |
| Administrative Staff | 15 |
| Admissions | 29 |
| Annual Alumni Lecture | 25 |
| Awards | 59 |
| Beardslee Library | 27 |
| Board of Trustees and Administration | 6 |
| Bookstore | 28 |
| Continuing Education | 23 |
| Annual Preaching Fellowships | 23 |
| Five Week Resident Preaching Program | 23 |
| Bast Lecture Series | 23 |
| Guest Lecture Series | 24 |
| Continuing Education Events | 24 |
| Course Descriptions | 41 |
| Master of Divinity | 41-53 |
| Master of Religious Education | 55 |
| Master of Theology | 58 |
| Degrees Conferred | 61, 62 |
| Doctor of Ministry | 18-19 |
| Faculty | 7 |
| Faculty Emeriti | 13 |
| Financial Information | 34 |
| Tuition and Fee Schedule | 34 |
| D. Min. Program | 34 |
| Departure | 34 |
| Insurance | 34 |
| Student Aid | 35 |
| Formation for Ministry | 20 |
| Experiences in Ministry | 20 |
| Intercultural Experience | 21 |
| Colloquy | 21 |
| Mentors | 22 |
| History and Purpose | 4 |
| Housing | 28 |
| Librarian Emerita | 13 |
| Library | 27 |
| Master of Divinity | 17 |
| Master of Religious Education | 18 |
| Master of Theology | 19 |
| Publications | 27 |
| Scholarship Funds, Grants, and Loans | 36 |
| Student Services and Community Life | 26 |
| Orientation | 26 |
| Social Life | 26 |
| Spiritual Life | 26 |
| Counseling and Personal Support | 26 |
| Student Council | 26 |
| Adelphia Society | 26 |
PRELIMINARY APPLICATION
FOR ADMISSION
WESTERN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
HOLLAND, MICHIGAN 49423

Date _________________________ Phone _________________________

Name in Full _________________________

Home address _________________________

Present address _________________________

Educational institutions attended:

______ (College or University) 19__ to 19__

______ (Theological Seminary) 19__ to 19__

______ (other) 19__ to 19__

I make preliminary application for admission to the

☐ Junior ☐ Middler ☐ Senior (class) ☐ Special Student status

I wish to matriculate in the:

a. Master of Divinity degree program ☐
b. Master of Religious Education In-Residence degree (two-year) program ☐
c. Master of Religious Education In-Ministry degree (three-year) program ☐
d. Doctor of Ministry degree program ☐
e. Master of Theology program ☐

(Signed) _________________________

(DETACH AND SEND TO THE OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS, WESTERN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY)