The M.A. in Pastoral Care with Concentration in Trauma-Informed Care

Course | Title | Credits
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PCGR 6386 | Pastoral Counseling Theory | 3
PCGR 6310 | Human Growth and Development | 3
PCGR 6384 | Professional Ethics in Pastoral Counseling | 3
PCGR 6380 | Theology of Pastoral Counseling and Spiritual Care | 3
PCGR 6440 | Pastoral Counseling Skills | 3
PCGR 6382 | Social and Cultural Foundations of Pastoral Counseling | 3
PCGR 6610 | Trauma & Trauma-Informed Care | 3
PCGR 6620 | Trauma and Society | 3
PCGR 6630 | Trauma, Religion & Spirituality | 3

Electives

One pastoral counseling elective:

Choose two courses from the below categories:

Religious Education courses

Choose two courses from the below categories:

Spirituality courses

Total Credits: 36

1 These courses are part of the Advanced Certificate in Trauma-Informed Care.
2 Each of the two courses must be from a different area of study (Religious Education, Scripture, or Spirituality).

Final Paper

All Master of Arts degree (M.A.) in pastoral care students are required to complete a final paper as part of the degree requirement. The final paper allows students the opportunity to integrate, reflect, expand, and apply their coursework. It should be noted that there is no registration fee for this component of the program. Additionally, no credits are awarded for the paper. However, students are required to register for maintenance and matriculation if not currently registered for classes.

All students in the 36-credit program have two options for the final paper. Students are to choose the option in consultation with a final project mentor of their choosing. A mentor can be chosen at any point during the program.
**Option 1: Complete a 30- to 40-page pastoral care project with a for-ministry focus.**

Students choosing this option are asked to draw upon their current or future pastoral care ministry and, informed by psychological and spiritual scholarship, write a final project that addresses an identifiable issue/concern. The paper is to include three parts:

1. A written discussion of the purpose of the project, including a description of the pastoral care need that will be addressed by your project and your goals for the project
2. A detailed description of the pastoral care project
3. A reflection on the psychological and spiritual dynamics of your project

**Option 2: Complete a 30- to 40-page major paper.**

Students choosing this option will have the opportunity to explore a pastoral care issue and the implications of this issue in depth. The major paper may take the following form:

1. Identify a significant pastoral care issue
2. Provide an account of why this is an important issue today
3. Discuss the issue drawing from psychological and spiritual resources
4. Explore some of the pastoral, clinical, and ethical dimensions or implications of the issue

**Mentorship**

Ordinarily, mentors of the final project are any of the full-time faculty in the Graduate School of Religion and Religious Education in pastoral care and counseling that the student chooses. With permission, students may work with contingent faculty. It is the role of the mentor, who need not be one's faculty advisor, to help the student develop a proposal for the paper, to approve that proposal, to offer suggestions, to give feedback on the writing as needed, and to approve the final copy. It is not the role of the mentor to correct for grammar, spelling, and the manual of style.

**Manual of Style**

The final paper needs to be written according to the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (APA style).