The M.A. in Christian Spirituality provides preparation for work in general Christian ministry, in Spiritual Direction, or in preparation for an academic career in teaching. The program can also assist those who wish to complement their personal spiritual journey with an academic foundation in scripture, theology, and spirituality. Graduates of the program will have a competent understanding of methods of studying Christian spirituality along with its biblical, scriptural and theological foundations.

Each student must pick one of three concentrations: Spiritual Direction, Research, or Generalist. Research and Generalist concentrators may complete their degree entirely online, on campus, or as a hybrid program. Spiritual Direction concentrators must complete their degree on campus or as a hybrid program. Intensive summer courses are also available. Scholarships and grants are available for qualified applicants.

Programs in Christian Spirituality are also available at the Certificate and Doctor of Ministry levels.

Requirements

The M.A. in Christian Spirituality requires 36 credits for completion, including selection of a concentration. Online and on-campus program options are specific to the concentration, and described in the next tab.

Concentrations

Spiritual Direction Concentration

Coursework in the Spiritual Direction Concentration prepares you for work in retreat/campus ministry and spiritual direction settings. It allows students to use electives to prepare for their certification as a Spiritual Director. Students also have access to Fordham’s excellent retreat and campus ministry programming. In addition, it may be completed on campus or as a hybrid program. Some direction courses will require a residence on campus, as well as a year-long field practicum in the NYC area (one Saturday per month - plus online meetings).

In addition to the general requirements for the Christian Spirituality M.A., students must also complete:

- **SPGR 7740 & SPGR 7741**: Spiritual Direction Practicum I and Spiritual Direction Practicum II  
  Total Credits: 9

  1. The practicum is a year-long experience, students gather one Saturday per month from September-May and also complete field placements and phone/hybrid meetings between campus visits.

In addition, concentrators must complete a Comprehensive Examination.

Generalist Concentration

This concentration allows for a broad program of study on Christian Spirituality for those who do not wish to focus on research or spiritual direction. This concentration may be completed entirely online, entirely on-campus or through a mix of both.

In addition to the general requirements for the Christian Spirituality M.A., students must also complete:

- **RLGR 6032**: CHURCH AND SOCIETY (Ecclesiology)  
- **SPGR 6720**: SACRAMENTAL SPIRITUALITY  
  Two Spirituality electives  
  Total Credits: 15

  1. Spirituality electives are listed below.

  2. A free elective is any class within the GRRE department. A list of these can be found on our course listing page.

In addition, concentrators must complete a Comprehensive Examination.

Spirituality electives

- **SPGR 7870**: Spiritual Direction: Theology and Practice  
- **SPGR 7888**: SPECIAL TOPICS: SPIRITUALITY  
- **SPGR 7760**: Christian Spirituality and Leadership  
- **PCGR 6380**: Theology of Pastoral Counseling and Spiritual Care  
- **PCGR 6410**: Psychology and Religion/Spirituality  
- **PMGR 6617**: LATIN@ SPIRITUALITY  
- **REGR 6170**: SPIRITUALITY AND ARTS

  Total Credits: 36

Research Concentration

The Research concentration prepares students for doctoral programs and careers in higher education teaching Christian Spirituality. Students have access to renowned faculty and all the resources of Fordham’s other schools, centers and institutes. In addition, this concentration may be completed entirely online, entirely on-campus or through a mix of both.

In addition to the general requirements for the Christian Spirituality M.A., students must also complete all the requirements for the Generalist concentration, with the following additions:

Completion of an MA Thesis

Requires students to complete a Master’s Thesis, which would take the same form as the current research-oriented, MA-RE 60-page "Major Paper."
Demonstrated Ability in a second language
Requires students to demonstrate competency in a second language in preparation for the research of the Thesis. The Master’s Thesis must employ a language which is relevant to the subject being researched, and a language which is a second language for the student. Language competency is demonstrated by the successful completion of a language examination.