



# MA Theological and Pastoral Studies

Grow your ministry.

Make  
Your World  
More

Ursuline College 



The Master of Arts in Theological and Pastoral Studies at Ursuline College prepares women and men for **professional work in religious lay leadership and in society**. Grounded solidly in the Catholic and Ursuline tradition, the program has, from its inception, welcomed students of all Christian denominations, and in recent years, has been increasingly deliberate in reflecting a more broadly ecumenical approach in its course content and curricular offerings, as well as in the makeup of its leadership team.



## Exploring Theology, Ministry, and Social Justice.

### Program Goals

The Theological and Pastoral Studies program provides theological and ministerial preparation for those individuals interested in professional ministry.

Theological and Pastoral Studies creates opportunities for:

- The development of personal ministerial goals
- The reflective assessment of those goals
- Practical skills to achieve the goals in a ministerial setting

The program fosters an environment in which participants can integrate academic preparation (content) with practical application (praxis) through supervised ministry (context).

### What can I expect from a graduate education in theology at Ursuline College?

- **Rigorous yet practical:** The curriculum includes a 36 credit-hour course of instruction that provides students with a broad and deep academic foundation in scripture, doctrine, theology, pastoral care and counseling, church history and ethics, as well as with hands-on experiences in pastoral ministry.
- **Integrative:** There is a constant conversation taking place in our classrooms between the body of tradition we study critically, and the many and varied experiences each of us brings with us into that same classroom.
- **Transformative:** Leading women and men into deeper, more mature and more authentic relationships with one another, with their religious communities, with the world and with God.
- **Theological & Pastoral Studies students seeking a degree receive a 40% tuition reduction.**



**A program for  
those interested in  
professional ministry.**

**Apply at [ursuline.edu/apply](https://ursuline.edu/apply)**



## Course of Study

### Curriculum

#### Required Coursework (15 credit hours)

Foundations of Theology  
Christian Scriptures  
Hebrew Scriptures  
Final Practicum/Master's Thesis  
Church History

#### Electives (21 credit hours)

Pastoral Care and Counseling  
Ministry and Spirituality  
Christology  
Christian Anthropology  
Ecclesiology  
Liturgy and Sacraments  
Christian or Hebrew Scriptures  
Social Justice  
Moral Theology  
Feminist Theology  
Religion and American Culture  
Canon Law  
Special Topics/Independent Study

**Total credits 36**

## Admission Requirements

Students applying for admission must meet both the general requirements for admission to all graduate programs and the specific requirements of the particular program of study. For the Master of Arts in Theological and Pastoral Studies, admission requirements are as follows:

1. Application for Graduate Studies including the essay of 500 – 1,000 words. Application for admission may be submitted in paper form or online at [ursuline.edu](http://ursuline.edu).
2. Non-refundable \$25 application fee.
3. All official transcript(s) for baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution and any additional undergraduate or graduate academic coursework whether or not credit was earned, the program was completed, or the credit appears as transfer credit on another transcript. These must be forwarded to the Office of Graduate Admission directly by the issuing institution.
4. Evidence of ability to do graduate work as indicated by a recommended 3.0 GPA shown on the applicant's transcript(s). Students may be asked to take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or provide other evidence of academic ability if their GPA is below 3.0. At the discretion of the dean, students may be admitted conditionally if their GPA is below 3.0.
5. Three recommendations utilizing the required recommendation form. Recommendations should be written by appropriate professionals attesting to the suitability of the applicant for graduate work in the particular field. One recommendation should be from a professional with whom the applicant has worked in a service/ministry setting. The recommendation form is available online at [ursuline.edu](http://ursuline.edu) or by request from the Office of Graduate Admission.
6. Satisfactory completion of an interview with the program director.
7. Commitment to ongoing ministry.



## What can I do with a master's in Theological and Pastoral Studies?

Our graduates pursue a variety of paths following the completion of their degrees including doctoral studies, campus ministry, social justice ministries, youth ministry, parish ministry, Christian education, chaplaincy and hospice.



Make  
Your World  
More

Ursuline College 

**Graduate Admission**

440.646.8119

[graduateadmissions@ursuline.edu](mailto:graduateadmissions@ursuline.edu)

2550 Lander Road,  
Pepper Pike, OH 44124

[ursuline.edu/grad](https://ursuline.edu/grad)

