

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding the Master of Arts in Theology

WHERE DO I OBTAIN THE APPLICATION FORMS?

You may download the application form, information questionnaire, and recommendation forms from the Master of Arts in Theology website at <http://www.stthomas.edu/spssod/sod/programs/mat/default.html> or you may call or write to our registrar, Sharen Darling. Her contact information is: Ms. Sharen Darling
The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity
2260 Summit Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55105-1094
Phone: (651) 962-5770

HOW DO I REGISTER FOR THE GRADUATE RECORD EXAM?

You may register for the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) by going to their website, which is www.gre.org, or you may call Prometric Testing Center in Edina (952- 820-5010). You only need to take the general exam, which includes a written component. There are practice tests available through the website or most libraries also carry GRE exam preparation books. It may take a couple weeks to get an appointment time and another two to four weeks for the results to get to the registrar's office, so you need to plan ahead for this component of your application.

HOW DO I KNOW WHAT PREREQUISITES I NEED AND WHERE CAN I COMPLETE THE PREREQUISITES?

The MAT brochure lists several prerequisites for admission to the program. These courses were identified as appropriate preparation for prospective students who have not studied theology or philosophy at the undergraduate level. Prospective students work directly with the MAT director to determine what prerequisites, if any, they will need for admission to the program. Although you can take your prerequisites at any accredited academic institution, we have a special arrangement with the University of St. Thomas so that you can take them through our undergraduate programs on a tuition-free basis, if you prefer.

WHAT IS THE COST OF THE PROGRAM?

Tuition for 2006-2007 is set at \$1602 for one 3-credit course per semester or \$4806 for a semester of full-time study (9 credits). Full time study is three courses per semester.

WHAT ABOUT SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID?

We have several opportunities for scholarships and financial aid. Enclosed you will find the announcement for a merit-based Graduate Studies Scholarship. Award recipients receive an 80% tuition reduction for two years of full-time study or four years of part-time study. If you wish to apply, the application deadline is June 15, 2006. We also have a needs-based 1/3 tuition reduction scholarship. Ask the registrar for the application form. In addition, you may wish to take advantage of the Stafford loan. Consult the graduate financial aid webpage at www.stthomas.edu/financialservices/graduate for more information or call (651) 952-6550 for more personal assistance.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO COMPLETE THE PROGRAM?

The program is designed so that people can study full-time or part-time, and the majority of our students do attend on a part-time basis, taking one or two courses per semester. A full load is three courses per semester. The total number of courses for the degree is twelve, so a full-time student can easily finish in two years. Students are required to complete the degree within eight years. Most of our MAT courses are scheduled in the evenings, one night per week, to accommodate part time students. However, some MAT courses are also available during the day program. MAT courses are offered in fall and spring semesters, as well as summer session.