



**MA/MSW DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM
2023-2024**

PURPOSE

The dual degree--Master of Social Work and Master in Theology and Ministry--is designed for students who are interested in serving both the pastoral and social needs of individuals, families, groups and communities. The program reflects the University's mission to educate individuals who are committed to the pursuit of social justice. A specific goal is to develop the skills and credentials necessary to plan, administer and/or provide social services within a local church or church-related agency. Students admitted to the program may expect to receive both the Master of Arts in Theology and Ministry (MA) and the Master of Social Work (MSW) degrees in approximately 3 years of full-time study (more if approved for part-time study by the SSW).

OBJECTIVES

1. To educate practitioners in social work and pastoral ministry who can effectively integrate their theological understanding with the theories and practice of social work.
2. To provide the core curriculum of each discipline while enabling students to concentrate in the specific area of knowledge and practice that corresponds to their professional goals.
3. To provide applied learning experiences with professional supervision through two field internships.
4. To prepare practitioners who have a commitment to work with the church in bringing about a human condition that is free from violence, oppression and discrimination, and one that protects and promotes the development of all peoples.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOME

At the completion of this dual degree program, graduates will be able to integrate their theological education and formation for ministry with the theories and practice of social work.

SPECIALIZED PRACTICE

In the School of Social Work students must choose an area of specialized practice: Clinical Practice or Macro Practice. Clinical students focus on practice directly with individuals, families, and groups in dealing with personal, interpersonal, and social problems. Macro students develop specific knowledge and skills to achieve change in organizational and community settings.

FIELDS-OF-PRACTICE

Prior to entering the 3rd year, students will choose a Field-of-Practice from one of the following areas: Afrocentric Social Work; Children, Youth, & Families; Health; Latinx Communities; or Mental Health. Dual degree students are not eligible to take the Global Field-of-Practice with an international placement because of the required full-time Spring field placement. However, with sufficient planning and approval, students may be able to adjust their STM and SSW class schedules to be eligible for applying for the Global Field-of-Practice.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- 1) Students must be accepted independently to the STM and to the SSW.
- 2) Students may begin their studies in either the STM or SSW or by taking courses in both programs simultaneously (see notes on program worksheets). SSW requirements are sequenced but STM requirements need not be, with the exception of the course and workshops detailed in #6 below).
- 3) The program is designed for completion in three years with extension to four years for those starting on a part-time basis. Requests for extensions must be approved by the SSW Academic Standards Review Committee and the Dean of the SSW.
- 4) The integrity of both the MA and the MSW degrees is to be maintained as follows:
 - a) SSW requires 65 credits for the MSW degree, 9 of which are taken in STM courses.
 - b) STM requires 48 credits for the MA in Theology and Ministry, 8 credits of which are taken in SSW courses.
 - c) Dual degree students complete the degrees with 96 credits rather than 113 credits if taken independently.
- 5) Students are to develop an appropriate course of study working with the designated faculty advisors at the respective schools.
- 6) During their first year of studies, all students in the dual degree program must enroll in the following STM courses/workshops:
 - a) Spiritual Formation for Ministry (TMPS7080). This year-long course begins in the Fall semester.
 - b) Professional Ethics in Ministry Workshop Series, Part I and Part II. Please consult the STM course listing for exact dates/times.
 - i) TMCE7038: Professional Ethics in Ministry I (Fall Semester)
 - ii) TMPS7096: Professional Ethics in Ministry II (Spring Semester)
- 7) Thesis Requirements: All candidates for the MA in Theology and Ministry must write and defend a thesis. Dual degree students are encouraged to draft their thesis proposal during the spring semester of their second full year of study, write their thesis during their second summer and defend their thesis during the fall of their final year.
- 8) Students must follow the relevant policies of each program in academic requirements, financial aid, registration and all other matters. For further details, refer to the Academic Policies and Procedures pages of each school's website:
 - a) [Academic Policies and Procedures - School of Social Work](#)
 - b) [Academic Policies and Procedures Page - School of Theology and Ministry](#)
- 9) Students pursuing the MA in Theology and Ministry/MSW Integrated Program (Option A) and the School-Specific Program (Option B) are expected to receive both degrees at May commencement.
- 10) The two required field internships are through the SSW. The first internship is during the student's SSW first full-time year; the second is during the final academic year.

STUDENT ADVISEMENT

The SSW and the STM assign each student an advisor in their respective schools. Students are encouraged to meet with advisors at each school to plan their individual programs.

The SSW and the STM each have a Liaison for the MA/MSW Dual degree Program. They can help answer your questions regarding the program in general and will serve as your primary contact in each of the schools throughout the course of your studies. The Liaisons for the Dual Degree Program are:

- **STM:** Heather M. DuBois, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, 617-552-6680, heather.dubois@bc.edu
- **STM:** Jennifer L.S. Bader, Ph.D., Associate Dean, Academic Affairs, 617-552 4478, jennifer.bader@bc.edu.
- **SSW:** Teresa Schirmer, Associate Dean, 617-552-0743, touheyt@bc.edu.

For information concerning adding or dropping a course, course scheduling and availability, etc., please contact:

- **STM:** Donna DeRosa, Assistant Director, Financial Aid and Academic Services, 617-552-8440, derosado@bc.edu.
- **SSW:** Teresa Schirmer, Associate Dean, 617-552-4762, touheyt@bc.edu.

FIELD EDUCATION

The dual degree requires two field placements during the two years of social work study. Both are under the auspices of the School of Social Work. The first-year social work placement is designed to be a broadening experience, and can be done in a religious setting or a placement setting that honors the spiritual dimension of the person. The second year of field education affords the student the option of being placed within an agency that is consistent with the student's pastoral goals. These include hospital-based placements, mental health centers, hospice programs, various programs with Catholic Charities, women's shelters, etc. There are opportunities for working with children, families, the aging, teens, etc., in clinical, community organizing, and administration settings.

In planning for your second placement, students should meet with the Field staff at the SSW before finalizing the placement application.

Field Placements: Joe McLaughlin, Assistant Director of Field, (617) 552-0831, joe.mclaughlin.2@bc.edu .

TUITION AND FINANCIAL AID

Tuition is paid to the school in which the dual degree student is currently enrolled. For Options A & B, tuition is paid to the STM in Academic Year I and for all summers and to the SSW in Academic Years II and III.

Students are eligible for financial aid only from the school to which their enrollment has been assigned. Thus, when enrolled at the STM students are eligible to apply for and receive aid from the STM. When they transfer their enrollment to the SSW, they are only eligible for aid from the SSW. Each school has unique financial aid policies so it is important to check in with the financial aid counselors at both the STM and the SSW, and with the Boston College financial aid office.

COURSE WORK

Students may begin their studies in either the STM or SSW or by taking courses in both programs simultaneously. SSW requirements are sequenced, while many of the STM course requirements are not. Dual Degree students should follow the recommended process at both schools. SSW course progression can be found in the guides on the following pages. On the final page of this booklet is a program of study to track course work through the STM.

Option A: Integrated Program

Students begin their course of studies in both schools simultaneously. Course selections for the SSW are sequenced and should be taken as instructed on the SSW program of study. Course selection at the STM should be made in consultation with the STM faculty advisor; however, a few recommendations follow for the first year of theological studies:

First Semester: Fall Courses

- Theological Foundations in Practical Perspective
- Introduction to Old Testament
- Spiritual Formation for the Practice of Ministry*
- Professional Ethics in Ministry Workshop I

Second Semester: Spring Courses

- Introduction to the New Testament
- STM Course: TMXX_____
- Spiritual Formation for the Practice of Ministry*
- Professional Ethics in Ministry Workshop II

**this is a year-long course and students register for the same section each semester.*

Option B: School Specific Program

Students start their course of studies in one school. If students begin at the STM their faculty advisor can provide strong recommendations for how to sequence courses to their best advantage. Spiritual Formation for Ministry and the Professional Ethics in Ministry Workshops should be completed during the first year.

A few helpful hints as you work your way through STM courses:

- Theological Foundations in Practical Perspective (TMST7057) should be taken during their first year of studies with the STM. This class is always offered in the fall and occasionally in the summer.
- Introduction to Old Testament (TMOT7067) and Introduction to New Testament (TMNT7023) are recommended for anyone with no previous courses in scripture. Alternate courses can be considered in conversation with one's faculty advisor.
- Spiritual Formation for Ministry is a year-long course. Students must register for the same section in the fall and the spring. Students are strongly encouraged to take this during their first year of studies with the STM.
- Professional Ethics for Ministry workshops are a graduation requirement for STM students. Students are strongly encouraged to complete this requirement during their first year of studies.
- STM Thesis is required of all MATM students. Dual Degree students are encouraged to draft their thesis proposal during the spring semester of their second full year of studies, write their thesis during their second summer, and defend in the fall of their final year.

OPTION A
Integrated Program

Academic Year I: STM & SSW

FALL SEMESTER			SPRING SEMESTER		
Course #	Course Name	Credits	Course #	Course Name	Credits
SCWK7721	Human Behavior in the Social Environment	3	SCWK7701	Social Welfare System	3
SCWK7723	Re-thinking Diversity: Systems of Oppression and Privilege	3	SCWK7722 or SCWK8889	Psychosocial Pathology (Clinical) or Social Innovation (Macro)	3
TMCE7038	Professional Ethics for Ministry Workshop	0	TMPS7096	Professional Ethics for Ministry Workshop	0
TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3	TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3
TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3	TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3
			TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3
TMPS7080	Spiritual Formation for the Practice of Ministry**	0	TMPS7080	Spiritual Formation for the Practice of Ministry**	1
	Total	12		Total	16

SUMMER I: STM *(NINE CREDITS TAKEN WITH PERMISSION OF STM ADVISOR)

TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3
TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3
TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3
	Total	9

Academic Year II: SSW & STM

FALL SEMESTER			SPRING SEMESTER		
Course #	Course Name	Credits	Course #	Course Name	Credits
SCWK7762	Basic Skills in Clinical Social Work	3	SCWK8855 or SCWK8833	Clinical Practice with Children and Families (Clinical) or Leadership and Social Transformation (Macro)	3
SCWK8800	Basic Skills in Macro Practice	3	SCWK8856 or SCWK8888	Clinical Practice with Adults (Clinical) or Community Engagement for Social Change (Macro)	3
SCWK9921	Field Education I	3	SCWK9932 or SCWK9942	Field Education II (Clinical) or Field Education II (Macro)	3
TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3	TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3
TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3	TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3
	Total	15		Total	15

SUMMER II: SSW

SCWKxxxx	SSW Elective	3
SCWKxxxx	SSW Elective	3
	Total	6

ACADEMIC YEAR III: SSW AND STM

FALL SEMESTER			SPRING SEMESTER		
Course #	Course Name	Credits	Course #	Course Name	Credits
SCWK7747	Research Methods	3	SCWK8841	Program Evaluation	3
SCWKxxxx	Advanced Practice from Field-of-Practice	3	SCWKxxxx	Advanced Policy	3
SCWK9933 or SCWK9943	Field Education III (Clinical) or Field Education III (Macro)	4	SCWK9934 or SCWK9944	Field Education IV (Clinical) or Field Education IV (Macro)	4
TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3	STM	Thesis Project	0
	Total	13		Total	10

** Yearlong course

OPTION B
School-Specific Program

Academic Year I or II: STM

FALL SEMESTER			SPRING SEMESTER		
Course #	Course Name	Credits	Course #	Course Name	Credits
TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3	TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3
TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3	TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3
TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3	TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3
TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3	TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3
TMPS7080	Spiritual Formation for the Practice of Ministry**	0	TMPS7080	Spiritual Formation for the Practice of Ministry**	1
TMCE7038	Professional Ethics in Ministry Workshop, Part I	0	TMPS7096	Professional Ethics in Ministry Workshop, Part II	0
	Total	12		Total	13

SUMMER I: STM *(NINE CREDITS TAKEN WITH PERMISSION OF STM ADVISOR)

TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3
TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3
TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3
	Total	9

Academic Year I or II: SSW (Clinical or Macro)

FALL SEMESTER			SPRING SEMESTER		
Course #	Course Name	Credits	Course #	Course Name	Credits
SCWK7721	Human Behavior in the Social Environment	3	SCWK7722 or SCWK8889	Psychosocial Pathology (Clinical) or Social Innovation (Macro)	3
SCWK7723	Re-thinking Diversity: Systems of Oppression and Privilege	3	SCWK8855 or SCWK8833	Clinical Practice with Children and Families (Clinical) or Leadership and Social Transformation (Macro)	3
SCWK7762	Basic Skills in Clinical Social Work	3	SCWK8856 or SCWK8888	Clinical Practice with Adults (Clinical) or Community Engagement for Social Change (Macro)	3
SCWK8800	Basic Skills in Macro Practice	3	SCWK7701	Social Welfare System	3
SCWK9921	Field Education I	3	SCWK9932 or SCWK9942	Field Education II (Clinical) Field Education II (Macro)	3
	Total	15		Total	15

SUMMER II: SSW

SCWKxxxx	SSW Elective	3
SCWKxxxx	SSW Elective	3
	Total	6

ACADEMIC YEAR III: SSW AND STM

FALL SEMESTER			SPRING SEMESTER		
Course #	Course Name	Credits	Course #	Course Name	Credits
SCWK7747	Research Methods	3	SCWK8841	Program Evaluation	3
SCWKxxxx	Advanced Practice from Field-of-Practice	3	SCWKxxxx	Advanced Policy	3
SCWK993 3 or SCWK994 3	Field Education III (Clinical) or Field Education III (Macro)	4	SCWK9934 or SCWK9944	Field Education IV (Clinical) or Field Education IV (Macro)	4
TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3	TMxxxxxx	STM Course	3
			STM	Thesis Project	0
	Total	13		Total	13

** Yearlong course



Course Area	Course #	Course Name	Credits	Semester/Year
Foundations	TMST7057	Theological Foundations in Practical Perspective ¹	3	
Christology	TMST		3	
Ecclesiology	TMST		3	
Old Testament²	TMOT		3	
New Testament²	TMNT		3	
Choose one: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sacraments ● Theology of Ministry ● Theological Anthropology ● Church History 	TM		3	
Christian Ethics	TMCE		3	
Religious Education	TMRE		3	
Pastoral Care & Counseling	TMPS		3	
Spirituality	TM		3	
Choose one: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Liturgy ● Practical/Pastoral Theology 	TMPS		3	
STM Elective (choose one): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pastoral/Practical ● Religious Education 	TM		3	
STM Elective	TM		3	
Ministry Formation	TMPS 7080	Spiritual Formation for Ministry (Year long course) ³	1	
Ministry Formation	TMCE 7038	Professional Ethics for Ministry, I (Fall Semester) ⁴	0	
Ministry Formation	TMPS 7096	Professional Ethics for Ministry, II (Spring Semester) ⁴	0	
Capstone	TMST 8101	STM Thesis ⁵	0	
Credits from STM Courses			40	
Credits transferred from MSW			8	
Total Credits			48	

Students are strongly encouraged to take TMST7057 during their first year of studies with the STM.

² Introduction to Old Testament and Introduction to New Testament are recommended for anyone with no previous courses in scripture. Alternate courses can be considered in conversations with one's faculty advisor

³ Spiritual Formation for Ministry is a year-long course. Students are strongly encouraged to take this during their first year of studies with the STM.

⁴ Professional Ethics for Ministry workshops must be completed prior to graduation. Students are strongly encouraged to complete this requirement during their first year of studies. Please see handbook for detailed information

⁵ STM Thesis is required of all MATM students. Dual Degree students are encouraged to draft their thesis proposal during the spring semester of their second full year of studies, write their thesis during their second summer and defend in the fall of their final year.