The M.P.S. is a 48-credit program that focuses on training for persons in ministry. The curriculum offers broad flexibility in consultation with the faculty advisor. The program offers several professional development tracks: African-American Ministries, Church Development, Counseling, Chinese Ministries, Hispanic Ministries, Korean Ministries, and Urban Ministries. There are specified requirements for Counseling and Mission (PR only) tracks at the Puerto Rico campus, with designated course-work for each. Overall, the assessment program remains the same for all campuses. The professional development tracks are not intended to furnish the student with technical expertise for purposes of professional employment, certification, or licensure, but rather to provide training for enhancing one’s ministry focus in the local church setting.

**Purpose**

The Master of Professional Studies degree is designed to produce whole people for specific leadership in Christian service, whether in their own or in another culture, by bringing into dialogue the various dimensions of theological education. These dimensions are (1) church and academy, (2) theology and social science inquiry, (3) the biblical world and the contemporary world, (4) classroom and experience, (5) character and competence, and (6) wisdom and skill.

**Student Learning Goals**

- Students will lay a foundation for ongoing spiritual formation including personal development, moral integrity, and spiritual maturity.
- Students will gain knowledge and be able to apply methodology in biblical studies, theology and cultural understandings.
- Students will gain an appreciation of the relational nature of ministry through the experience of being mentored and mentoring others, and through learning and practicing interpersonal ministry skills.
- Students will be able to understand and practice integration of the personal, theological, and practical components of holistic ministry.
- Students will gain ministry skills for specific leadership in Christian service, and will be able to demonstrate competency in classroom and internship environments.

**Program Assessment Plan:**

The following assessments are used to assess program effectiveness.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Context</th>
<th>Location in Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Attend Weekly Small Mentoring Group</td>
<td>SF 503 Initiation in SF</td>
<td>First Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Spiritual Growth Covenant</td>
<td>SF 503 Initiation in SF</td>
<td>First Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. OT Methodological Essays</td>
<td>OT503 Reading OT</td>
<td>First Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Bible Storyline Paper</td>
<td>TH501 Biblical Theology</td>
<td>First Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Integrative Project</td>
<td>SF505 PPTFM</td>
<td>First Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Interns &amp; Mentors Final Field Ed Reports</td>
<td>SF603 Field Education</td>
<td>Second Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Field Ed Disposition Assessment</td>
<td>SF603 Field Education</td>
<td>Second Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Field Ed Director’s Exit Interview</td>
<td>SF603 Field Education</td>
<td>Second Year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**General Prerequisites**

1. A baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university.
2. A minimum grade point average of 2.5.

**Degree Requirements**

1. Satisfactory completion of 48 credit hours for the designated program. A final grade point average of 2.5 is required. Transfer students must take the last 30 credits at ATS.
2. Passing grade of 85% on the Bible Tutor Proficiency Exam within the first two semesters of the program (except Puerto Rico campus, see Bible Tutor Program).
3. Satisfactory completion of an approved Field Education experience (SF 603).
4. Approval by faculty.
Master of Professional Studies

5. Complete payment of all financial obligations with ATS.

Master of Professional Studies – Christian Ministry
(Rockland and Puerto Rico Campuses only)
Professional Development Tracks offered include Church Development, Counseling, Chinese Ministries (Rockland), Korean Ministries (Rockland), and Missions (Puerto Rico)

First Year
OT 503 Reading the Old Testament (SUB: OT 504)*………………. 3
SF 503 Initiation in Spiritual Formation…………………………. 3
SF 505 Personal, Prof & Theol Foundations for Ministry………… 3
TH 502 Theology in the Global Context………………………. 3
NT 503 Reading the New Testament (SUB: NT 504)*……………… 3
TH 605 History of Christianity (SUB: TH 721 Historical Theology)*……. 3
Professional Development Course .................................. 3
Professional Development Course .................................. 3
Professional Development Course .................................. 3
Professional Development Course .................................. 3

Second Year
SF 603 Field Education (Pre-Req SF503)………………………. 3
TH 501 Biblical Theology………………………………………. 3
CS 502 Church as a Social & Cultural Inst……………………. 3
Professional Development Course .................................. 3
Professional Development Course .................................. 3
Professional Development Course .................................. 3
Professional Development Course .................................. 3

*Substitutions are approved only for those with documented coursework in the respective subject at the undergraduate level.

Master of Professional Studies – Urban Ministries (Manhattan Campus)
Professional Development Tracks offered include African-American Ministries, Church Development, Counseling, Hispanic Ministries, and Urban Ministries

First Year
NT 505 Hermeneutics…………………………………………… 3
OT 503 Reading the Old Testament (SUB: OT 504)*………………. 3
SF 503 Initiation in Spiritual Formation…………………………. 3
TH 601 Systematic Theology I: God & Humanity……………..….. 3
NT 503 Reading the New Testament (SUB: NT 504)*……………… 3
TH 602 Systematic Theology II: Christ & the Church ………………… 3
Professional Development Course .................................. 3
Professional Development Course .................................. 3
Professional Development Course .................................. 3
Professional Development Course .................................. 3

Second Year
SF 603 Field Education (Pre-Req SF503)………………………. 3
UR 601 Church in the Urban World…………………………….. 3
SF 505 Personal, Prof & Theol Foundations for Ministry………… 3
Professional Development Course .................................. 3
Professional Development Course .................................. 3
Professional Development Course .................................. 3
Professional Development Course .................................. 3

*Substitutions are approved only for those with documented coursework in the respective subject at the undergraduate level.