



CONCORDIA
UNIVERSITY OF EDMONTON

Religious Studies (Applied Emphasis)

12.0 RELIGIOUS STUDIES (APPLIED EMPHASIS)

The Religious Studies (Applied Emphasis) program offers courses which show students how to integrate academic studies in Christianity with practical applications in church, para-church and other professional ministerial and volunteer roles.

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12.1 RELIGIOUS STUDIES (APPLIED EMPHASIS) DEGREE

Note: The Religious Studies (Applied Emphasis) Degree is suspended at Concordia University of Edmonton starting in 2015-2016. Students presently enrolled in the program will be able to complete their studies; however, no new applications will be received.

The four-year Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies (Applied Emphasis) degree prepares undergraduate students in a variety of ministerial roles.

- Some may seek to serve full-time within a church setting as a Director of Parish Services (DPS). Some graduates of the program will seek DPS certification through Lutheran Church–Canada (LCC) or from the church body within which they wish to serve.
- Others will seek to serve within their own church body as a dedicated volunteer or employee. Students from synodical and denominational bodies other than LCC should contact their appropriate church office regarding the suitability of the program and placement opportunities.
- The BA in Religious Studies (Applied Emphasis) program may also be used by anyone seeking to enrich their Christian vocation and ministry, in a variety of settings (employed or volunteer).

12.1.1 DIRECTOR OF PARISH SERVICES

A Director of Parish Services (DPS) is a life span educational leader within Lutheran Church–Canada (LCC) prepared for team ministry in a congregational setting and serves with the pastor, other staff, and the members of a congregation. A DPS offers skills in parish education, evangelism and outreach, hospital and home visitation, and youth/young adult ministry.

A. ADMISSION

Undergraduate students interested in the Director of Parish services program Lutheran Church–Canada (LCC) consult the Coordinator of Religious Studies (Applied Emphasis) and apply to Concordia University of Edmonton through the appropriate admission track described in *Undergraduate Admission*, section 3.0. When applying for admission, students choose the four-year Bachelor of Arts degree program with a Religious Studies (Applied Emphasis) major and a Religious Studies (Applied Emphasis) minor.

B. REGISTRATION

Students who plan to seek certification from LCC as a Director of Parish Services are advised to receive academic counsel early in their program to discuss course sequencing.

Students complete the program requirements for the four-year Bachelor of Arts with a Religious Studies (Applied Emphasis) major (section 10.1.1.D.5) including credits toward the Religious Studies (Applied Emphasis) minor.

C. LUTHERAN CHURCH–CANADA CERTIFICATION

To receive certification from LCC, students complete a one-year internship after earning the four-year Bachelor of Arts degree in Religious Studies (Applied Emphasis).

Graduates who are members of LCC congregations receive their initial placements from the Council of Presidents of LCC.

12.1.2 DIRECTOR OF PARISH SERVICES COLLOQUY PROGRAM

The intent of the Director of Parish Services Colloquy Program is to equip individuals who already hold undergraduate degrees for full-time service in Lutheran Church–Canada (LCC) congregations as certified Directors of Parish Services.

A. ADMISSION

Individuals with undergraduate degrees who are members of an LCC congregation and are presently serving in, or have a desire to serve in an LCC congregation may apply for the Director of Parish Services Colloquy Program through their District President.

Students entering the colloquy program with the approval of their District President consult the Coordinator of Religious Studies (Applied Emphasis) and apply to Concordia University of Edmonton for admission (section 3.0).

B. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Candidates for the DPS Colloquy program and for placement by the Council of Presidents of LCC must:

1. complete 45 credits, to include:
 - a) 6 credits chosen from REL 101, 102, or 248
 - b) REL 252 and 253
 - c) REL 359, 375, and 376
 - d) EDPS 200
 - e) RELA 288, 301, 302, 303, 304, 444, and 445

Documented life-experience and educational experience of individual candidates may be credited toward requirements in lieu of course work.

2. complete RELA 501. The Director of Parish Services internship is required if applicant has served fewer than three years in full-time team ministry in one congregation.
3. achieve a minimum overall GPA of 2.3 in the required courses.
4. take an oral examination.

12.2 LUTHERAN TEACHER EDUCATION

Note: The Lutheran Teacher Education program is suspended at Concordia University of Edmonton starting in 2015-2016. Students presently enrolled in the program will be able to complete their studies; however, no new applications will be received.

The intent of Concordia University of Edmonton's Lutheran Teacher Education program is to equip teachers to nurture and educate children within the context of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Lutheran Confessions. The program is designed for students who wish to teach in the elementary or high schools of Lutheran Church-Canada (LCC).

Students typically enter this program with differing educational backgrounds:

1. They wish to complete their first undergraduate degree and the Education (After Degree) program at Concordia University of Edmonton. These students consult the Coordinator of Religious Studies (Applied Emphasis) and apply to Concordia University of Edmonton for admission to a three- or four-year Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree program (section 3.2). After earning their undergraduate degrees, they then apply to Concordia University of Edmonton for admission to the Bachelor of Education (After Degree) program (section 3.4.1). For important information about undergraduate planning, these students need to consult section 12.2.1.
2. They have already earned an undergraduate degree and wish to enter the Bachelor of Education (After Degree) program at Concordia University of Edmonton. These students consult the Coordinator of Religious Studies (Applied Emphasis) and apply to Concordia University of Edmonton for admission to the Bachelor of Education (After Degree) program (section 3.4.1). For important information about meeting LCC requirements, these students need to also consult section 12.2.2.
3. They have earned a Bachelor of Education degree and wish to enter the Lutheran Teacher Colloquy Program (section 12.2.2). These students consult the Coordinator of Religious Studies (Applied Emphasis) and apply to Concordia University of Edmonton for admission (section 3.0).

12.2.1 UNDERGRADUATE PLANNING FOR LUTHERAN TEACHER EDUCATION

Concordia University of Edmonton students who plan to complete an Arts or Science degree for admission to Concordia University of Edmonton's Bachelor of Education (After Degree) program and who wish to become teachers in LCC elementary or high schools are advised to contact the Coordinator of Religious Studies (Applied Emphasis) regarding their undergraduate programs and the LCC certification requirements.

To become eligible for placement by the Council of Presidents, LCC requires Concordia University of Edmonton teacher candidates to:

1. complete the following courses, normally as part of their first degree:
 - a) REL 101 and 102
 - b) REL 252 and 253
 - c) REL 359, 375, and 376
 - d) RELA 301 and 303
2. achieve a minimum overall GPA of 2.3 in the required courses.
3. participate in an interview process beginning in their first year of the Bachelor of Education (After Degree) program.
4. successfully complete the Bachelor of Education (After Degree) program.

12.2.2 LUTHERAN TEACHER COLLOQUY PROGRAM

The Lutheran Teacher Colloquy program prepares provincially certified teachers who are members of LCC congregations to meet the certification requirements of the Church. Such teachers may be presently serving in, or desire to serve in LCC elementary or secondary schools. The intent of the program is to equip teachers to nurture and educate children within the context of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the Lutheran Confessions.

A. ADMISSION

Individuals who are provincially certified teachers and members of an LCC congregation apply to the Lutheran Teacher Colloquy Program through their District President.

Students entering the colloquy program with the approval of their District President consult the Coordinator of Religious Studies (Applied Emphasis) and apply to Concordia University of Edmonton for admission (section 3.0).

B. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Candidates for the Lutheran Teacher Colloquy program and for placement by the Council of Presidents of LCC must:

1. complete 27 credits, to include:
 - a) 6 credits chosen from REL 101, 102, or 248
 - b) REL 252 and 253
 - c) REL 359, 375, and 376
 - d) RELA 301 and 303
2. achieve a minimum overall GPA of 2.3 in the required courses.
3. take an oral examination.

12.3 PRE-SEMINARY

Note: The Pre-Seminary program is suspended at Concordia University of Edmonton starting in 2015-2016. Students presently enrolled in the program will be able to complete their studies; however, no new applications will be received.

Through Concordia University of Edmonton's Pre-Seminary program students earn an undergraduate degree for entrance into a seminary and for eventual ministry within Lutheran Church-Canada (LCC) or other synodical and denominational church bodies. While most pastoral candidates from a seminary become parish pastors, some continue their studies to specialize in other ministries, including institutional, military, and campus

chaplains, teaching, foreign missions, ethnic ministry, and ministry to the deaf.

For further information about pastoral ministry and seminary admission requirements, students should contact Concordia University of Edmonton Lutheran Seminary in Edmonton, Alberta, Concordia University of Edmonton Lutheran Theological Seminary in St. Catharines, Ontario, or another seminary of their choice. Students should also ask seminaries for information regarding undergraduate course selection.

A. ADMISSION

A broad liberal arts program, including courses in English, public speaking, humanities, philosophy, history, psychology, religious studies, social sciences, and natural sciences, is a great asset for entry into seminary studies. Therefore, students are advised to apply to Concordia University of Edmonton for admission into a three- or four-year Bachelor of Arts degree program, choosing a concentration or major according to their area of interest. Pre-Seminary students should seriously consider completing the Pre-Seminary minor (section 10.4.22), which includes introductory Greek and Hebrew courses necessary for admission to a seminary as well as other courses that are ideally suited to students who wish to enter a seminary.

B. REGISTRATION

Students are advised to discuss their course selections with the Coordinator of Religious Studies (Applied Emphasis) to facilitate eventual admission into seminary. Pre-Seminary students are also advised to meet with Registration Advisors to determine how the Language Other than English course selections fit into their undergraduate programs.

12.4 CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

12.4.1 CHURCH MUSIC CERTIFICATE

A. ADMISSION

Note: Concordia University of Edmonton provides novice instruction in a variety of areas; students may be asked to take additional courses at Concordia University of Edmonton to meet admission requirements before entering the certificate program, depending on their background and experience.

1. Interview with Music Department representative, which will outline the specific program, complete with requirement sheet to take to Admissions.
2. The admission to the certificate program is normally high school completion, and at least one year of post-secondary education (examples include Bible School, university instruction at Concordia University of Edmonton or elsewhere), or over age 21.
3. Harmony Gr. 2 RCM (or equivalent) or higher; if this requirement is not met, MUS 211 and 212 will need to be added to the course requirements.
4. Ample study on private instrument. Individual should be at least at the Gr. 6 RCM level (or equivalent) on their primary instrument to enter this certificate program; the 'church music instrument' choices are piano, organ, handbells, voice or guitar, unless a strong case can be made for using another instrument for this program and for church music leadership.
5. Some previous experience in congregational music (may include directing/singing in choir, preparing/participating in ensembles, working with adults/children).

B. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

1. 30 credits required, to include:
 - a) MUS 261
 - b) MUS 262
 - c) MUS 315
 - d) MUS 321
 - e) MUS 395 and 396
 - f) 4.5-6 credits in primary private lessons (MUP 126-227) in major instrument/voice
 - g) 1.5 credits of secondary private lessons (MUP 122; if piano is not the major instrument, then it is strongly suggested that piano lessons fill this requirement; if piano is the primary instrument, then 1.5 credits in one of the other four designated church music instruments, with a strong suggestion towards fulfilling this requirement in voice).
 - h) 3 credits of an ensemble (MUP 142/3 series, MUP 164/5 series, MUP 166/7 series, MUP 168/9 series): choral or instrumental
 - i) 6 credits, choosing at least three credits from each of the following areas:
 - i) one Religious Studies course (REL 101 or 150, or any senior level REL course)
 - ii) at least 3 credits chosen from MUS 630, MUS 631, MUED 213, RELA 288, RELA 302 or SOC 100
2. achieve a minimum overall GPA of 2.3 in the required courses, with no grade less than C-.

Note: MUS 211 and 212 needed, if not proven to be at least this level at entry into program

Students must complete a minimum of 18 credits at Concordia University of Edmonton.

C. CERTIFICATION

Concordia University of Edmonton issues the Church Music Certificate to students who successfully complete the required course work.

12.4.2 YOUTH MINISTRY CERTIFICATE

Note: The Youth Ministry Certificate is suspended at Concordia University of Edmonton starting in 2015-2016. Students presently enrolled in the program will be able to complete their studies; however, no new applications will be received.

A. ADMISSION

Students must meet the Open Studies admission requirements and have the consent of the Coordinator of the Religious Studies (Applied Emphasis) program.

B. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

1. 30 credits required, to include:
 - a) RELA 301
 - b) RELA 304
 - c) REL 101 or REL 150
 - d) REL 252
 - e) REL 253
 - f) REL 375 or REL 376
 - g) SOC 100
 - h) SOC 377
 - i) 6-21 credits chosen from DRA 352, EDPS 200, RELA 288, RELA 302, RELA 444, RELA 490 or REL 311

2. achieve a minimum overall GPA of 2.3 in the required courses.

Students must complete a minimum of 24 credits at Concordia University of Edmonton.

C. CERTIFICATION

Concordia University of Edmonton issues the Youth Ministry Certificate to students who successfully complete the required course work.

12.5 OTHER CHURCH WORK CAREERS

Students planning to pursue other church work careers such as Deaconess, Director of Christian Education, and Director of Christian Outreach enrol in the Faculty of Arts, choosing a concentration in Religious Studies. Normally students who choose these career paths complete their first two years on the Concordia University of Edmonton campus and then transfer to a post-secondary institution of the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod (LCMS) in the United States. Students are advised to contact the LCMS college or university of their choice for details regarding program planning and requirements.