



STUDENT AND FACULTY HANDBOOK

Unity Urban Ministerial School

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Executive Director



Student Handbook

Welcome to Unity Urban Ministerial School.

This handbook is intended for prospective and current students of

**Unity Urban Ministerial School's
Spiritual Education and Enrichment (SEE) Pre-Ministerial Program
and the Ministerial Studies Program**

info@uums.org

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Treasurer	Rev. Ken Ficklin
Members-at-Large	Ms. Cora Alexander, LUT
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Registrar	Rev. Karen Saunders
Assistant Registrar	Janie Marie Manigault
Administrative Assistant	Alandra Campbell
Bookkeeper	Seiry Perdomo
Webmaster	Rev. Richard Pacheco
Help Desk	Rev. Liesa Chase
UUMSA Representative	

MISSION

The Unity Urban Ministerial School (UUMS) provides individuals with the necessary education and training to become Unity ministers. UUMS works closely with Unity Community & Leaders and its credentialing body to ensure a smooth path to licensing and ordination.

LICENSING AND ORDINATION WITH UNITY COMMUNITIES & LEADERS

Unity Communities & Leaders (UC&L) governs the process of licensing and ordaining Unity ministers. Graduation from UUMS does not guarantee licensing or ordination. Any person interested in becoming a licensed and ordained Unity minister should contact the UC&L Director of Credentialing. Credentialing information can be found at unityworldwide.org/credentialing

CODE OF ETHICS FOR UNITY URBAN MINISTERIAL SCHOOL

The Unity Urban Ministerial School board of trustees, faculty, staff, credential leaders, and ministerial candidates subscribes to and abides by the Unity Communities & Leaders Ethics Policy and Code of Ethics. See the link below.

UNITY COMMUNITIES & LEADERS ACCOUNTABILITY AND ETHICS

Unity Communities & Leaders articulates a vision of ethical behavior grounded in our beliefs and teaching. Its purpose is to provide guidelines for ethical and authentic behavior and encourages us to give full expression to our Christ nature. Foundational to Unity principles and teaching is a belief that we are individualized expressions of God.

As Unity leaders, this calls to us to live our Christ nature in all circumstances, thereby being a harmonizing presence and a role model for those we serve. Because of this, we intend to be accountable to a high level of professional ethics. Students may find a complete description of the UC&L Code of Ethics in their charter at [Revised Charter of Unity Communities and Leaders | Unity](https://www.unity.org/en/static/charter-unity-communities-and-leaders) (<https://www.unity.org/en/static/charter-unity-communities-and-leaders>)

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY - PLAGIARISM AND THE USE OF AI

UUMS is committed to spiritual integrity, authentic learning, and the development of each student's own voice and spiritual consciousness. As emerging spiritual leaders, students are expected to embody Truth, accountability, and ethical discernment in all academic work. All students are expected to adhere to essential academic honesty and integrity standards. All work submitted is expected to be the student's own thoughts and expression unless another source is acknowledged and appropriately referenced. Plagiarism in any form is not tolerated.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (such as ChatGPT and similar platforms) may be used in limited and responsible ways to support learning. However, AI may not replace a student's own critical thinking, spiritual reflection, research, or written expression.

Violation of academic honesty is regarded as a severe offense and will result in a "U" Unsatisfactory for the course and possible termination as a student of UUMS.

PROGRAMS OF STUDY

Unity Urban Ministerial School offers two programs of study:

- **Spiritual Education and Enrichment (SEE) Pre-Ministerial Program**
Provides the coursework required for admission to the Ministerial Studies Program.
- **Ministerial Studies Program**
Leads toward licensing and ordination through UC&L.

Courses are offered online across four terms each year through the Orbund Aspire Learning Management System. Course offerings vary each term.

SPIRITUAL EDUCATION AND ENRICHMENT (SEE) PRE-MINISTERIAL PROGRAM

The Spiritual Education and Enrichment (SEE) Pre-Ministerial Program is open to all individuals, regardless of religious affiliation.

To be admitted, applicants must:

1. Be at least 21 years of age
2. Submit a completed application
3. Submit college transcripts and/or SEE transcripts from UC&L
4. Pay a non-refundable \$25 application fee

The SEE Program includes the first 18 courses in Unity teachings and practices required by UC&L. Upon successful completion of these courses, students are eligible to apply for the ordination path through UC&L and to enroll in the UUMS Ministerial Studies Program.

Prerequisite SEE courses may be completed at UUMS, transferred from Unity Worldwide Spiritual Institute, or accepted from credentialed courses taught in the field, provided all coursework has been successfully completed in accordance with UC&L policy. Graduates of the Unity Worldwide Spiritual Institute SEE Program and Licensed Unity Teacher Program are also eligible to begin the UUMS Ministerial Studies Program.

SEE courses are generally offered in five-week modules, with two sessions per term within the ten-week academic calendar. Detailed schedules are available on the Unity Urban Ministerial School website at www.uums.org.

SEE PRE-MINISTERIAL COURSE LIST

Course#	Course Title	Prerequisites and Former Number
F1100	Unity Foundations	Formerly F1000
F1101	Healing and Wholeness	Formerly F1002
F1102	Twelve Powers of Man	Formerly F1033
F1103	Unity Prayer	Formerly F1023
F1104	Meditation Practices	Formerly F1044
F1105	Self-Awareness	Formerly F1045
F1106	Prosperity	Formerly F1042
F1107	Development of New Thought and Unity	Formerly F1003
F1111	Metaphysics 1	Formerly F1036
F1112	Metaphysics 2	Prerequisite: F1111; Formerly F1037
F1113	Metaphysics 3	Prerequisites: F1111, F1112 Formerly F1039
F1114	Metaphysics 4	Prerequisites: F1111, F1112, F1113; Formerly F1040
F1121	Overview: Hebrew Scriptures	Formerly F1046
F1122	Bible Interpretation: Hebrew Scriptures	Prerequisite: F1121; Formerly F1005
F1123	Overview: Christian Scriptures	Formerly F1047
F1124	Jesus' Teachings in the Bible	Prerequisite: F1123; Formerly F1004
F1125	The Christ	Prerequisite: F1123; Formerly F1006
F1126	Bible Interpretation: Acts to Revelation	Prerequisite: F1123; Formerly F1048

SEE PRE-MINISTERIAL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

F1100 Former No. F1000	Unity Foundations A practical and reflective introduction to the foundational teachings of Unity, with attention to the nature of God, the Unity Trinity, the three-fold nature of consciousness, the Law of Mind Action, denials and affirmations, and the power within. Through reading, reflection, discussion, and applied spiritual practice, students explore how Unity principles support freedom, spiritual growth, affirmative prayer, and the conscious creation of a more abundant and meaningful life.	10 hours
F1101 Former No. F1002	Healing and Wholeness A practical and reflective study of healing and wholeness in the Unity tradition. Drawing on the work of Myrtle and Charles Fillmore as well as contemporary voices, students explore spiritual approaches to healing, the role of consciousness, prayer, denials and affirmations, the Law of Mind Action, and the body as a temple of Spirit. Through reading, discussion, reflection, and applied spiritual practice, the course supports students in developing a compassionate, empowered, and personally meaningful understanding of healing and wholeness.	10 hours
F1102 Former No. F1033	The 12 Powers of Man A practical and experiential study of Charles Fillmore's Twelve Powers as a framework for spiritual development, healing, and conscious living. Through reading, reflection, journaling, discussion, and applied exercises, students explore each of the twelve powers as divine abilities expressed through both personality and Christ Consciousness. The course emphasizes the symbolic meaning, spiritual function, and everyday application of the powers, helping students recognize, strengthen, and intentionally use them in support of growth, healing, purpose, and transformation.	10 hours
F1103 Former No. F1023	Unity Prayer A practical and reflective introduction to Unity prayer as a path of conscious communion with the Divine. Through reading, discussion, guided practice, and reflection, students explore the Unity Affirmative Prayer Method, the 5-Step Prayer Process, and the relationship between prayer, meditation, consciousness, and manifestation. The course also includes prayer for and with others, Silent Unity, prayer chaplain ministry, and the role of group prayer in spiritual support, healing, and transformation.	10 hours
F1104 Former No. F1044	Meditation Practices A practical and experiential study of meditation practices in Unity and related contemplative traditions. Through guided practice, reflection, and instruction, students explore the Silence, centering prayer, mindfulness, concentration, mantra work, and heart-opening meditation as pathways to self-awareness, inner stillness, spiritual realization,	10 hours

emotional healing, and greater harmony in daily life. The course also addresses common challenges in meditation, skillful work with thoughts and emotions, and the development of a sustainable personal practice.

F1105

Former No.
F1045

Self-Awareness

10 hours

A practical and experiential study of self-awareness that helps students recognize their thoughts, feelings, body sensations, beliefs, values, and patterns of response in the present moment. Through reflection, guided exercises, discussion, and spiritual practice, students explore emotional literacy, stress and imbalance, effective communication, self-esteem, self-love, and the influence of cultural and personal conditioning. The course supports greater wholeness, authenticity, and balance by integrating psychological insight with spiritual principles.

F1106

Former No.
F1024

Prosperity

10 hours

A practical and reflective study of prosperity in the Unity tradition, drawing on the teachings of Charles Fillmore, Eric Butterworth, and contemporary voices. Through reading, discussion, journaling, and applied exercises, students explore prosperity as a matter of consciousness rather than material accumulation alone, with attention to substance, faith, creativity, gratitude, generosity, receiving, debt, tithing, and self-reliance. The course supports students in identifying limiting beliefs, expanding their understanding of abundance, and developing a more aligned and life-giving relationship with money, giving, and the flow of good.

F1107

Former No.
F1003

Development of New Thought and Unity Movement

10 hours

A historical and reflective study of the New Thought movement and the development of Unity. Through readings, discussion, research, and written assignments, students explore the philosophical, spiritual, and practical roots of New Thought; the lives and teachings of its major founders and teachers; and the evolution of Unity's theology, mission, institutions, and practices. The course helps students understand how New Thought principles of mind, oneness, healing, wholeness, prayer, and spiritual transformation developed over time and continue to shape Unity today.

F1111

Former No.
F1036

Metaphysics 1

10 hours

An introductory and practical study of foundational Unity metaphysical principles. Students explore core concepts such as Absolute and relative truth, Divine Mind, life as consciousness, self-knowledge, Christ Consciousness, spiritual evolution, regeneration, divine purpose, guidance, meditation, the Silence, and affirmative prayer. Through reading, reflection, discussion, and practice, students build a working understanding

of metaphysical principles and apply them in daily life.

F1112

Prerequisite:
F1111
Former No.
F1037

Metaphysics 2

10 hours

A study of more complex Unity metaphysical teachings, with attention to Beingness, Oneness, Divine Mind, the spiritual and physical universes, the Trinity, evil, sin, the devil, Jesus and the Christ, the threefold nature of humankind, the phases of mind, and the relationship between personality and individuality. Through reading, discussion, and reflective writing, students compare traditional and Unity perspectives, explore their own embedded theology, and develop a clearer, more grounded understanding of metaphysical concepts and their practical implications.

F1113

Prerequisites:
F1111, F1112
Former No.
F1039

Metaphysics 3

10 hours

A practical study of intermediate Unity metaphysics, emphasizing the relationship between consciousness, thought, feeling, language, and manifestation. Students explore the four functions of consciousness, dominion, cause and effect, the Law of Mind Action, the power of the Word, denials and affirmations, collective consciousness, creation, and the Twelve Powers. Through reflection, self-observation, discussion, and applied exercises, the course helps students develop greater awareness, make more intentional choices, and use Unity practices more effectively in everyday life.

F1114

Prerequisites:
F1111, F1112
F1113
Former No.
F1040

Metaphysics 4

10 hours

An advanced and practical study of Unity metaphysics focused on demonstration and life transformation. Students explore the blocks and keys to manifestation, the metaphysical basis of wholeness, health, and prosperity, and the use of tools such as self-observation, FARU, spiritual law, prayer, meditation, denials and affirmations, and journaling. Through the creation and implementation of a 30-day demonstration plan, the course supports personal transformation and the realization of greater spiritual power in everyday life.

F1121

Former No.
F1046

Overview: Hebrew Scriptures

10 hours

An introductory and interpretive study of the Hebrew Scriptures that explores the Tanakh through historical, literary, and evolutionary lenses. Through readings, discussion, and visual materials, students examine the structure and formation of the Torah, Prophets, and Writings; the Documentary Hypothesis and the J, E, P, and D sources; and the historical and geopolitical setting of ancient Israel and Judah. The course also applies Spiral Dynamics as a framework for understanding the evolving consciousness, values, and images of God reflected in the Hebrew Bible.

F1122 Former No. F1005	Bible Interpretation –Hebrew Scriptures A practical and reflective study of the Hebrew Scriptures through Unity’s metaphysical and maieutic approaches to Bible interpretation. Through reading, reflection, discussion, and written interpretation, students learn to use the seven-step metaphysical process and related interpretive tools to explore biblical characters, symbols, visions, challenging passages, creative expression, and the practical application of spiritual truth to personal life and spiritual growth.	10 hours
F1123 Former No. F1047	Overview: Christian Scriptures An introductory study of the Christian Scriptures that explores the Gospels, Acts, the letters of Paul, and the Book of Revelation through historical and metaphorical lenses. Through reading, discussion, written reflection, and supporting handouts, students examine the distinctive perspectives of the Gospel writers, the emergence of the early church, the missionary work and theology of Paul, and the significance of apocalyptic literature, while developing a deeper understanding of how early Christian communities responded to the person and message of Jesus.	10 hours
F1124 Prerequisite: F1123 Former No. F1004	Jesus Teachings in the Bible A reflective and practical study of the teachings of Jesus through a Unity metaphysical lens. Through study of the Gospels, the Lord’s Prayer, parables, precepts, miracles, and key moments in Jesus’ life and ministry, students explore Jesus as Master Teacher and Way-shower rather than exception. The course emphasizes prayer, healing, forgiveness, kingdom consciousness, abundance, spiritual transformation, and the application of Jesus’ teachings to daily life and the development of Christ consciousness.	10 hours
F1125 Prerequisite: F1123 Former No. F1006	The Christ An experiential and reflective study of the Christ idea in Unity. Through Bible interpretation, meditative practice, affirmations, and reflection on nature as metaphor, students explore the meaning of Messiah, “I AM,” the Christ within, and the ways Jesus’ teachings, miracles, and encounters point toward spiritual awakening, truth, healing, and embodiment in human life.	10 hours
F1126 Former No. F1048	Bible Interpretation: Acts to Revelation A study of Christian Scriptures from Acts through Revelation using metaphysical and maieutic interpretation. Students examine the beginnings of the Christian community, Pauline and later Pauline writings, spiritual gifts, and the symbolic vision of Revelation. Through reading, reflection, discussion, and applied writing, the course helps students relate biblical interpretation to consciousness, spiritual awakening, and personal transformation.	10 hours

CREDIT BY EXAM – MINISTERIAL PREPARATION CLASSES

Accepted and currently enrolled students may be eligible to demonstrate their existing knowledge through the Credit by Exam assessment process. This option allows qualified students to earn credit for up to six (6) Ministerial Preparation classes in lieu of taking the class. The Credit by Exam option is designed to recognize prior learning while ensuring that all students demonstrate the competencies necessary for success in the ministerial program. To request a Credit by Exam assessment, contact the Registrar.

Eligibility - Must be an accepted and current student in the ministerial program. Must meet the requirements established for the Credit by Exam process.

Assessment Fee - A \$50 non-refundable assessment fee is required for each Credit by Exam.

Exam Passed - Students who successfully pass the assessment will receive course credit and will not be required to enroll in the class.

Exam Not Passed - Students who do not achieve a passing score will need to enroll, and the \$50 assessment fee will be applied as a credit toward the tuition for that course, reducing the amount due.

The Credit by Exam option is designed to recognize prior learning while ensuring that all students demonstrate the competencies necessary for success in the ministerial program. To request a Credit by Exam assessment, contact the Registrar.

Housing Policy for Unity Churches and Ministries-repository of student transcripts.

Scope

This policy applies to all Unity ministries offering classes that may be applied toward Unity credentialing.

Background

UUMS has successfully piloted this service with several ministries, including Titusville, Flint, New Orleans, and Sacramento. The following policy formalizes the process.

Eligibility: See website for further information at uums.org

MINISTERIAL STUDIES PROGRAM

The Ministerial Studies Program prepares students for internship, licensing, and ordination through experiential study in Unity teachings and practices, ministerial communication, biblical studies, pastoral counseling, diversity and inclusion, urban ministry strategies, metaphysics, prayer and meditation, theology, world religions, church administration, and interdisciplinary studies.

Internship, Licensing and Ordination

Unity Urban Ministerial School offers a two-year full-time program of experiential study in Unity teachings and practices, along with comprehensive ministerial coursework designed to prepare students for ministry in Unity. Students may also complete the program on a part-time basis over a longer period. Because courses are typically offered once each year, students are encouraged to take four courses per term in order to remain on track for timely graduation.

Admission to the UUMS Ministerial Studies Program

For applicants not currently enrolled at UUMS

To be considered for admission, applicants must:

1. Be at least 21 years of age.
2. Submit a completed [online application](#) and nonrefundable \$25 application fee.
3. Submit college transcripts and any other required credentials.
4. Have been active in a Unity church or Center for at least one year.
5. Have completed the 18 required SEE prerequisite courses.

In addition, applicants pursuing ordination through Unity Communities & Leaders must hold a high school diploma or equivalent.

Reference Links

- New UUMS Online Application: https://server1.orbund.com/einstein-freshair/application/online_application_form.jsp?id=68&aid=49
- Application Fee Payment: <https://uums.org/pay-application-fee/>

Transfer Credits

Students who have completed ministerial courses through Unity Institute or Unity Worldwide Spiritual Institute may be eligible to transfer up to 400 credit hours toward the UUMS Ministerial Studies Program. Transfer credit must be verified by UC&L, and official transcripts must be sent directly from UC&L to the UUMS Registrar.

Required Courses

Graduation from this program requires completion of 1,000 hours, including a combination of required and elective courses. The required courses are:

Bible Studies	BI5011, BI5012, BI5013, BI5021, BI5022, BI5023	
Conversation Skills	CM1000	
Talks on Truth	CM3004	
Homiletics I	CM4001	
Homiletics II	CM4002	Former No. CM4003
History of the African American Church	DI1002	Former No. HI1037
Credo: Nature of Man	IS5911	Former No. IS5912
Credo: Belief, Structure and Formative Factor	IS5912	Former No. IS5911
Self-Awareness I	IS5914	Former No. IS5940
Self-Awareness II	IS5915	Former No. IS5941
Planning and Strategies for Urban Ministries	MM1002	Former No. MM3003
Prayer, Meditation and Reflection	IS2001	Former No. IS2011; IS2013

Internship

Students are expected to apply to and participate in the UC&L Ordination Path in accordance with current UC&L requirements and timelines. Prior to graduation, students must complete the UUMS Ministerial Studies internship and the associated Internship Project. The internship is typically undertaken after the student has completed approximately 900 (beginning with as few as 750) hours of coursework and generally lasts six to nine months. It is completed under the supervision of an approved, ordained Unity minister in good standing with Unity Communities & Leaders (UC&L), in cooperation with UC&L and Unity Urban Ministerial School. The internship may be completed through a Unity church or center or through another approved internship placement. Graduation from UUMS does not in itself guarantee licensing or ordination, which remain subject to UC&L requirements, timelines, and approval processes.

The following courses are associated with the internship phase of the Ministerial Studies Program. IY1001 and IY1002 are generally taken as offered. IY1003 Internship Fieldwork is typically registered for in the Fall Term of the senior year, and students are responsible for identifying and securing an approved internship placement in consultation with program leadership. IY2000 Internship Project is typically registered for in the Spring Term prior to graduation. Because course scheduling and internship timing may vary, students should refer to current program guidance and term schedules.

Course		Previously:	Expected Timing
IY1001	Creation of Sunday & Special Services	CM4004	Taken as offered
IY1002	Credo	IS5922	Taken as offered
IY1003	Internship Fieldwork	IY2000	Register in the Fall Term of senior year
IY2000	Internship Project	UUM5000	Register in the Spring prior to graduation

Graduation

Graduation from Unity Urban Ministerial School is awarded to students who have successfully completed all required coursework and accumulated 1,000 credit hours in the Ministerial Studies Program. Students are expected to demonstrate readiness for ministry consistent with program standards and expectations. All requirements for graduation and receipt of the UUMS diploma must be completed within ten years of beginning the program.

Unity Ordination Path

Unity Communities & Leaders (UC&L) oversees the ordination process for Unity ministers. This process includes admission evaluation for entry into the ordination path and ongoing progress interviews, which must be completed in accordance with current UC&L criteria, schedules, and policies. For the most current credentialing requirements and guidance, students should refer to the Unity Worldwide credentialing [website](#).

Reference Link

Unity Worldwide Credentialing: unityworldwide.org/credentialing

MINISTERIAL STUDIES COURSE LISTINGS

Biblical Studies

		Req.	Hours	Former No.
BI5011	Biblical Studies: Old Testament (Genesis–I Chronicles)	R	40	
BI5012	Biblical Studies: Old Testament (II Chronicles–Ezekiel)	R	40	
BI5013	Biblical Studies: Old Testament (Daniel–Malachi)	R	40	
BI5021	Biblical Studies: New Testament (The Gospels)	R	40	
BI5022	Biblical Studies: New Testament (Hebrews–Revelation)	R	40	
BI5023	Biblical Studies: New Testament (Acts–Philemon)	R	40	
BI6005	Search for the Historical Jesus		20	HI1005
BI6006	Introduction to Theology		20	
BI6007	Biblical Studies: The Apocrypha		30	
BI6007	History of Christianity		20	HI1001
BI6008	Introduction to World Religions		20	HI1004

Communication Skills

		Req.	Hours	Prereq.	Former No.
CM1000	Conversation Skills	R	20		
CM2000	Teaching Methods		20		
CM2011	Introduction to Youth and Family Ministry		30		
CM2022	Board of Trustees		20		
CM3003	The Art of Storytelling in Ministry		20		
CM3004	Talks on Truth	R	30		
CM4001	Homiletics I	R	40		
CM4002	Homiletics II	R	40	CM4001	CM4003

Counseling

CS2001	Counseling (Unity Methodology)	30		
CS2002	Counseling Skills: Grief and Loss Support	30		CS2003
CS2003	Ministry at the End of Life	20		CS2005
CS3001	Substance Use Disorder	30		CS4002

Diversity Equity & Inclusion Studies

DI1001	The Soul of Ministry		30	CU4307
DI1002	History of the African American Church	R	20	HI1037
DI1003	Womanist Theology		20	HI1038

Inner/Spiritual Development

		Req.	Hours	Prereq.	Former No.
IS1001	Prosperity		20		IS2003
IS1002	The Art of Quantum Living		20		IS2004
IS2001	Prayer, Meditation and Reflection	R	30		IS2011
IS2002	How We Gather		30		MM2001
IS3001	Advanced Metaphysics I		30		
IS3002	Advanced Metaphysics II		30	IS3001	
IS3003	Advanced Metaphysics III		30	IS3002	
IS3004	Advanced Metaphysics IV		30	IS3003	
IS5911	Credo: Nature of Man	R	20		IS5912
IS5912	Credo: Belief, Structure and Formative Factor	R	20		IS5911
IS5913	Ethics and Boundaries		20		IS5923
IS5914	Self-Awareness I	R	30		IS5940
IS5915	Self-Awareness II	R	30	IS5914	IS5941

Ministry Management Skills

		Req	Hours	Prereq.	Former No.
MM1001	Media/Technology for Faith-Based Organizations		30		
MM1002	Planning and Strategies for Urban Ministry	R	30		MM3003
MM1003	Financial Management for Faith-Based Initiatives		30		MM3004
MM1004	Church Administration		20		MM3005
MM1005	Evolving Ministries and New Church Planning		20		MM4205

Social Justice

SJ1001	Unitive Justice	20	CU2001
SJ1002	Unitive Leadership Skills	20	CU4308
SJ2000	Prison Ministry Workshop	10	
SJ2001	Prison Ministry I (Working with Inmates)	20	
SJ2002	Prison Ministry II (Working with Returning Citizens)	20	SJ2001
SJ2003	Prison Ministry III	20	SJ2002

Internship

		Req.	Hours	Prereq.	Former No.
IY1001	Creation of Sunday and Special Services		50		CM4004
IY1002	Credo: Nature of God/Relationship to Man		30		IS5922
IY1003	Internship Fieldwork		30		
IY2000	Internship/Project		20		UUM5000

Workshops

W1003	Introduction to Theology	10	HI1006
W1004	A Work of Heart	10	IS2006
W1005	Awakening the Divine Mother Within	15	
W1006	Media Technology for Faith-Based Organizations	10	
W1007	Music Ministry	10	

MINISTERIAL STUDIES PROGRAM COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Biblical Studies

These courses provide a systematic study of the historical and metaphysical interpretation of the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures. They examine how historical events—and the community's memory of those events—shaped the Hebrew people's understanding of God, identity, and relationship. The courses also explore how biblical writers understood the relationship between God and humanity, how that understanding has been inherited through tradition, and where it converges with or differs from contemporary perspectives.

BI5011 Required	Biblical Studies: Old Testament, Genesis—I Chronicles 40 hours A study of the historical and metaphysical background of the Hebrew Scriptures from Genesis through I Chronicles, with attention to origins, covenant, law, leadership, and the shaping of communal identity. Through reading, reflection, and discussion, students explore how these texts inform understanding of the relationship between God and humanity for ministry and teaching.
BI5012 Required	Biblical Studies: Old Testament, II Chronicles—Ezekiel 40 hours A study of the historical and metaphysical background of the Hebrew Scriptures from II Chronicles through Ezekiel, with attention to exile, wisdom literature, prophecy, and the shaping of communal identity. Through reading, reflection, and discussion, students explore how historical events, cultural influences, and spiritual interpretation inform understanding of the relationship between God and humanity for ministry and teaching.
BI5013 Required	Biblical Studies: Old Testament, Daniel—Malachi 40 hours A study of the historical and metaphysical background of the Hebrew Scriptures from Daniel through Malachi, with attention to prophetic literature, exile and restoration, apocalyptic vision, and the shaping of communal consciousness and the relationship between God and humanity. Through reading, reflection, and discussion, students explore responsible and spiritually grounded interpretation for ministry and teaching.
BI5021 Required	Biblical Studies: New Testament, The Gospels 40 hours A study of the historical and metaphysical background of the canonical Gospels, with brief attention to selected non-canonical Gospels from early Christianity. Through reading, reflection, and discussion, students explore the life and teachings of Jesus, the distinctive theological perspectives of the Gospel writers, and responsible, spiritually grounded interpretation for ministry and teaching.

BI5022 Required	Biblical Studies: New Testament, Hebrews—Revelation 40 hours A study of the historical and metaphysical background of the New Testament writings from Hebrews through Revelation, with attention to the development of early Christian thought, faith, and community. Through reading, reflection, and discussion, students explore theological themes, apocalyptic vision, and responsible, spiritually grounded interpretation for ministry and teaching.
BI5023 Required	Biblical Studies: New Testament, Acts—Philemon 40 hours A study of the historical and metaphysical background of the New Testament writings from Acts through Philemon, with attention to the formation of the early church, the ministry of Paul, and the development of Christian thought and community. Through reading, reflection, and discussion, students explore responsible and spiritually grounded interpretation for ministry and teaching.
BI6005 Former No. HI1005	Search for the Historical Jesus 20 hours A study of major historical, theological, and comparative approaches to Jesus of Nazareth, with attention to first-century Jewish context, gospel interpretation, Christological development, mythicist debates, and the relationship between the historical Jesus and the Christ of faith. Through reading, reflection, and discussion, students examine how interpretations of Jesus have been formed and how they continue to inform ministry and spiritual understanding.
BI6006 Former No. FI002	Introduction to Theology 20 hours The course provides an overview of the fundamental categories of Christian theology and Unity theology. Additionally, it explores foundational concepts in the "theology of pluralism" and "comparative theology," examining their relevance to Unity thought and spirituality.
BI6007 Former No. HI1001	History of Christianity 20 hours The objective of this course is to comprehensively understand the historical development and significant turning points of Christianity, beginning with the life of Jesus and extending to contemporary times. Students will examine the formulation of doctrinal beliefs and practices and analyze the causes of schisms and divisions within the Christian tradition.
BI6007	Biblical Studies--Apocrypha 20 hours A study of the historical, theological, and metaphysical significance of the Apocryphal/Deuterocanonical books, with attention to their role as a bridge between the Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament. Through reading, reflection, and discussion, students explore issues of canon, diaspora identity, wisdom, martyrdom, and the development of Jewish and early Christian thought for ministry and teaching.

BI6008 Former No. HI1004	Introduction to World Religions This course offers a comprehensive overview of world religions, exploring their origins, belief systems, and contemporary functions.	20 hours
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Communication Skills

CM1000 Required	Conversation Skills A practical study of communication skills for emotionally charged and challenging conversations, grounded in spiritual practice, Nonviolent Communication, and dialogue-based learning. Through reading, reflection, peer practice, and interactive exercises, students develop skills in deep listening, emotional awareness, authentic expression, conflict navigation, and compassionate communication for ministry and leadership.	20 hours
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CM2000 Former No. IS5950	Teaching Methods A practical study of effective teaching for adult learners in Unity and spiritual education settings. Through lesson planning, guided practice, creative exercises, and reflective engagement, students learn to design and facilitate dynamic classes that integrate spiritual principles, discussion, meditation, storytelling, movement, music, and other experiential methods for ministry and leadership.	20 hours
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CM2011	Introduction to Youth and Family Ministry A practical introduction to Youth and Family Ministry in Unity, with attention to spiritual formation, developmental stages, program planning, volunteer support, curriculum, sacred safety, teen leadership, and multigenerational community building. Through reading, reflection, interviews, and applied assignments, students explore how to create safe, spiritually grounded, and developmentally appropriate ministry environments for children, youth, and families.	30 hours
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CM2022 Former No. IS5950	Board of Trustees A practical study of spiritual leadership and effective collaboration with church boards in Unity ministry settings. Through reading, reflection, case studies, and discussion, students explore board culture, governance, ethics, leadership development, and the principles needed to build healthy, effective boards of trustees in church communities.	20 hours
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CM3003	The Art of Storytelling in Ministry A practical study of storytelling as a tool for ministry, leadership, and spiritual communication. Through reading, reflection, discussion, performance, and recorded practice, students develop skills in narrative structure, personal story development, humor, audience awareness, embodied delivery, and the use of story to convey sacred truth with authenticity and impact.	20 hours
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CM3004 Required	Talks on Truth A study of Charles Fillmore’s <i>Talks on Truth</i> as a foundational Unity text, with attention to core Truth principles, early Unity teachings, and their practical application in spiritual life and ministry. Through reading, reflection, discussion, and student presentations, learners develop the ability to understand, articulate, and communicate Unity fundamentals while strengthening their own voice in ministry.	30 hours
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CM4001 Required	Homiletics I A practical introduction to the art and skill of preaching for Unity ministry. Students explore the development of inspiring Sunday talks through attention to message purpose, audience connection, emotional literacy, verbal and nonverbal delivery, and spiritually grounded presentation. Through reading, reflection, observation, discussion, and recorded practice, students progressively build toward the preparation and delivery of a full transformational talk.	40 hours
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CM4002 Prerequisite: Homiletics I Required Former No. CM4003	Homiletics II A practical continuation of homiletic training that develops skills in creating and delivering effective Sunday lessons in Unity ministry. Through reading, reflection, live presentations, video practice, peer feedback, and speaking exercises, students strengthen note-free delivery, vocal variety, audience engagement, message organization, and confidence in communicating spiritually grounded and metaphysically informed talks.	40 hours
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Counseling

CS2001	Counseling (Unity Methodology) A practical study of spiritual counseling in ministry settings, with attention to the differences between spiritual and psychological counseling, ethical and legal responsibilities, confidentiality, boundaries, rapport, communication skills, and pastoral presence. Through reading, reflection, discussion, and applied learning, students explore the Strategic Pastoral Counseling model and develop foundational skills for compassionate and responsible spiritual care.	30 hours
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CS2002 Synchronous Former No. CS2003	Counseling Skills – Grief and Loss Support A practical study of grief, bereavement, and end-of-life support in ministry settings. Through weekly synchronous sessions, reading, reflection, discussion, and applied learning, students explore grief theories, hospice care, cultural perspectives on death and mourning, and compassionate support for individuals and families facing serious illness, loss, and transition. The course emphasizes pastoral presence,	30 hours
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spiritual sensitivity, and responsible companioning in times of grief.

CM2003
Synchronous
Former No.
CS2005

Ministry at End of Life

20 hours

During our human experience, everyone faces the existential issue of death and the desire to find comfort or comfort others. Ministers especially are called upon to help congregants cope with aging, dying, death, grief, and bereavement issues. This course focuses on the function of ministry to individuals and family members within such circumstances. Students will explore spiritual, medical, ethical, legal, and cross-cultural factors related to the end-of-life experience.

CS3001
Former No.
CS4002

Substance Use Disorder

30 hours

Addiction has a major impact on health, relationships, finances, spirituality, communities, families, society at large—and on churches. This course is grounded in the prevailing scientific assessment that addiction is a biological, psycho-social, spiritual disease that can be arrested with appropriate engagement in effective treatment strategies. We will explore what addiction is in its essentials and its variety of forms, how family and societal relational systems are a part of the addictive process, and most importantly what recovery is and how it works. We will explore the myriad ways that addiction impacts churches and discuss effective strategies ministers and congregations can employ to support recovery.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

DI1001
Former No.
CU4307

The Soul of Ministry, Creating a Beloved Community

30 hours

What leadership qualities does it take to create the Beloved Community, as envisioned by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.? Exploring the emotional and spiritual awareness necessary to navigate a diverse set of worldviews, engage in mindful social action, as well as looking within for continued, sustainable growth along this spiritual journey, this course prepares leaders to move with humility, spiritual poise, and authenticity. With a focus on Spiral Dynamics, shadow work and other transformative practices in doing the inner and outer work to manifest King's vision of the Beloved Community.

DI1002
Required
Former No.
HI1037

History of African American Church

20 hours

A study of the history, traditions, spiritual expressions, and social witness of the African American church, with attention to its roots in African spirituality, slavery, liberation, ritual life, denominational development, and community transformation. Through reading, reflection, discussion, and applied assignments, students explore the relationship between the African American church and the Urban Truth

movement and develop insight for communicating Truth in urban and African American ministry contexts.

DI1003	Womanist Theology	20 hours
Former No. HI1038	Womanist Theology is a methodological approach to theology which centers the experience and perspectives of Black women, particularly African American women. The first generation of womanist theologians and ethicists began writing in the mid to late 1980s, and the field has since expanded significantly.	

Inner/Spiritual Development

IS1001	Prosperity	20 hours
Former No. IS2003	A practical and reflective study of Unity prosperity principles, with attention to abundance consciousness, belief systems, tithing, prayer, intuition, emotional healing, and the development of a personal prosperity practice. Through reading, reflection, discussion, journaling, and applied exercises, students explore prosperity as a spiritual way of life grounded in metaphysical understanding, generosity, self-awareness, and alignment with Divine Source.	

IS1002	The Art of Quantum Living	20 hours
	The primary objective of The Quantum Living Process is to enable participants to engage in a self-directed 21-day exploration of triggering or challenging moments, with the intent of uncovering unconscious cultural and social programming established in early childhood and still functioning by default. By identifying and transforming this unconscious, limiting patterns of thought, feeling, and behavior, participants pave the way for heart-centered evolutionary transformation.	

IS2001	Prayer, Meditation and Reflection	20 hours
Required Former No. IS2011	A practical and experiential study of prayer and meditation in the Unity tradition. Through reading, reflection, journaling, prayer partnership, discussion, and applied assignments, students explore affirmative prayer, denials and affirmations, centering practices, spiritual self-awareness, and the development of an authentic prayer life. The course supports students in deepening their relationship with Spirit and in applying Unity prayer principles in personal growth and ministry settings.	

IS2002	How We Gather	30 hours
Former No. MM2001	A practical and reflective study of spiritual self-awareness, self-image, and inner transformation in ministry. Through reading, reflection, discussion, and applied spiritual exercises, students explore self-love, forgiveness, purpose, prosperity of consciousness, and the release of	

limiting beliefs in order to strengthen their ability to see the Christ within themselves and others. The course supports the development of an authentic, compassionate, and spiritually grounded ministerial presence.

Advanced Metaphysics Certificate

IS3001	Advanced Metaphysics 1	30 hours
IS3002	Advanced Metaphysics 2	30 hours
IS3003	Advanced Metaphysics 3	30 hours
IS3004	Advanced Metaphysics 4	30 hours

This series of courses focuses on the study of the texts of Carole M. Lunde and Walter C. Lanyon through lecture, reading, writing, observation, and discussion. The sequence leads students into deeper metaphysical study, and Lanyon's writings are widely recognized within Unity for their metaphysical interpretation. *Courses in this series must be taken in order.* To earn the Certificate in Advanced Metaphysics, students must complete all four courses and maintain an A average in each course.**

IS5911	Credo: Nature of Man	20 hours
Required	A reflective and exploratory study of the nature of humanity through Unity teachings, contemporary spiritual thought, and personal theological inquiry. Through reading, reflection, discussion, and writing, students examine beliefs about human identity, potential, destiny, and spiritual evolution, while clarifying how those beliefs shape personal life, ministry, and the development of a ministerial credo.	
Former No. IS5912		

IS5912	Credo: Belief, Structure and Formative Factor	20 hours
Required	A reflective and exploratory study of belief structures and the formative factors that shape personal and ministerial life. Through reading, reflection, discussion, and writing, students examine how beliefs are formed, how they influence identity, relationships, and behavior, and how greater awareness can support transformation and the development of a personal credo.	
Former No. IS5911		

IS5913	Ethics and Boundaries	20 hours
Former No. IS5923	A practical and reflective study of ethics and boundaries in ministry, with attention to integrity, confidentiality, power, relationships, self-care, collegiality, congregational leadership, community responsibility, and clergy accountability. Through reading, reflection, discussion, and applied writing, students examine contemporary ethical challenges in ministry and develop a personal code of ethics to support wise, compassionate, and responsible spiritual leadership.	

IS5914	Self-Awareness I	30 hours
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Required
Former No.
IS5941

A practical and reflective study of self-awareness as psycho-spiritual wholeness in ministry and daily life. Through reading, journaling, discussion, embodiment practices, and applied exercises, students explore beliefs, emotions, habits, body awareness, inner child patterns, self-regulation, and authentic self-expression in order to strengthen emotional intelligence, communication, self-understanding, and spiritually grounded ministerial presence. The course emphasizes psycho-spiritual maturity as a lifelong process essential to healthy ministers and healthy ministries, and it lays the foundation for Self-Awareness II.

IS5915
Required
Prerequisite:
IS5914
Former No.
IS5941

Self-Awareness II

30 hours

A practical and reflective continuation of self-awareness as psycho-spiritual wholeness in ministry. Building on Self-Awareness I, the course explores healthy boundaries, relational patterns, projection, self-care, clergy mental health, addiction and recovery, and the emotional life of congregations. Through reading, journaling, reflection, discussion, and applied exercises, students deepen personal maturity and strengthen their ability to support healthy, spiritually grounded ministry communities.

Ministry Management Skills

MM1001

Media/Technology for Faith Based Initiatives

30 hours

Students will learn about and engage with the uses of technology in ministry. They will explore how their vision of ministry can best be achieved through judicious use of the ever-expanding field of technological innovation.

MM1002
Required
Former No.
MM3003

Planning & Strategies for Urban Ministry

30 hours

A study of urban planning as a theological and ministerial concern, with attention to the social, economic, political, and spiritual realities that shape city life. Through reading, reflection, discussion, and applied writing, students explore urbanization, housing, gentrification, public policy, community development, and the role of ministry in fostering justice, belonging, and renewal in urban communities.

MM1003
Former No.
MM3004

Financial Management for Faith-Based Initiatives

30 hours

A practical study of financial management for ministry and faith-based initiatives, with emphasis on stewardship, budgeting, accounting reports, internal controls, fundraising, donor relations, nonprofit responsibilities, and the minister's role in financial leadership. Through reading, reflection, discussion, interviews, and applied assignments, students learn to interpret financial information, support wise administrative decisions, and cultivate a prosperity consciousness aligned with mission and service.

MM1004
Former No.

Church Administration

20 hours

A practical study of church administration and organizational

UMM3005 leadership in ministry settings. Students examine legal, financial, personnel, facilities, communication, and governance issues that shape congregational life, while developing skills in proactive management, healthy systems thinking, problem-solving, and responsible decision-making. The course emphasizes the relationship between administrative effectiveness, spiritual leadership, and the long-term health of the church.

MM1005 **Evolving Ministries & New Church Planting** **20 hours**
 Former No. A structured experience of planning and pioneering new centers/churches.
 MM4205 Students will explore the strategies for starting or renewing a ministry, study-group, satellite, or alternative ministry. It will include the experience of creating a business plan and the study of successful practices of research and marketing to a pioneer market.

Media Technology Certificate

MM2002 **Media Technology I (Social Media/ Video Technology)** **20 hours**
MM2003 **Media Technology II (Artificial Intelligence)** **20 hours**
MM2004 **Media Technology III (formerly The Journey IS5945)** **20 hours**
MM2005 **Media Technology IV** **20 hours**

This course series explores the effective and ethical use of media, technology, and digital communication in contemporary ministry. Students develop practical skills in digital identity, content creation, livestreaming, branding, audience engagement, and the thoughtful use of artificial intelligence in support of ministry, outreach, administration, and spiritual formation. The series also supports students in clarifying their ministerial voice and creating media and portfolio materials for leadership in both online and in-person settings.

For students who are not credentialed leaders (Ordained Unity Ministers or Licensed Unity Teachers), three prerequisite courses must be completed before the Media Technology Certificate is awarded. These prerequisites may be taken at the same time as the Media Studies courses. Course dates are listed on the UUMS Academic Calendar.

Prerequisites

- **F1100** Unity Foundations
- **F1101** Healing and Wholeness
- **F1103** Unity Prayer

Social Justice

SJ1001 **Unitive Justice** **20 hours**
 Former No. This class provides an in-depth study of healing principles as set forth by Charles
 CH2001 Fillmore interpreted by "The Detroit Eight" (the first graduating class of the Unity Urban Ministerial School, 1982). This course explores Charles Fillmore's

materials coupled with the unique challenges of the prison ministries & family. The course explores themes of Healing, such as “Goodbye Daddy, Carrying the Load, Heartbreak, Separating the Twins, Changing Rules, College Choices, Rape, Murder, and a whole host of the challenges of letting the “Christ” do the Healing. This class is an experiential course in which the student reviews the book Jesus Christ Heals and seeks to employ the tenets of the book as a tool for prison outreach.

SJ1002

Former No.
CU4308

Unitive Leadership Skills

20 hours

A practical and reflective study of the Unitive Justice Model and Unitive Circle Process for ministry, peacemaking, and community building. Through reading, reflection, partner practice, discussion, and applied writing, students develop self-awareness, spiritual counseling, conflict resolution, and restorative dialogue skills. The course introduces the 14 Arcs to a Unitive Justice Community and explores how circle processes foster connection, understanding, collaboration, and healing by moving individuals and communities from confrontation to connection.

Prison Ministry Certificate

SJ2001

Prison Ministry I

20 hours

SJ2002

Prison Ministry II

20 hours

SJ2003

Prison Ministry III

20 hours

This three-course certificate series is designed to familiarize students, at both macro and micro levels, with how the prison system operates and how ministry can support incarcerated individuals, returning citizens, and families impacted by incarceration. The series begins with foundational study, builds through deeper engagement in the second course, and culminates in practical exploration of how students and their spiritual communities may participate in prison ministry. By the end of the series, students are expected to have deepened their understanding of spiritual freedom and gained practical tools for empowering others. Students must complete all three courses to earn the Prison Ministry Certificate.

Internship

IY1001 Required Former No. CM4004	Creation of Sunday and Special Services A practical study of the creation and leadership of Sunday and special services in Unity ministry, including worship design, rituals of life transition, blessings, inductions, and holiday observances. Through reading, reflection, observation, discussion, and the development of original service materials, students explore energy flow, theme integration, sacred atmosphere, and the design of meaningful services for both in-person and virtual settings.	50 hours
IY1002 Required Former No. IS5922	Credo: Nature of God/Relationship to Man A reflective study of the nature of God and humanity and the relationship between them, with attention to spiritual identity, co-creation, personal and professional integrity, and the alignment of beliefs with action. Through reading, reflection, discussion, and the writing and presentation of a personal credo, students deepen theological clarity and articulate a ministerial foundation grounded in authentic spiritual practice.	20 hours
IY1003 Required Former No. UUM5000	Internship Project This course is typically offered in the Spring Term prior to graduation. As a cohort practicum, it enables students to demonstrate critical thinking, decision-making, collaboration, and other competencies essential to effective ministry leadership. The course includes a collaborative project developed by the senior cohort to support the ongoing growth and development of UUMS and the UUMS Alumni Association.	30 hours
IY2000 Required	Internship Fieldwork This course is typically taken after a student has completed approximately 900 hours of coursework and is generally registered for in the Fall Term of the senior year. It provides the experiential fieldwork component of the Ministerial Studies Program and is completed through an approved internship placement in a Unity church, Unity center, or other approved setting. Students are responsible for identifying and securing an approved internship placement in consultation with program leadership. Specific requirements are detailed in the Handbook for Internship in Church Ministry and Handbook for Spiritual Leader on the UUMS website: www.uums.org	20 hours

Workshops

W1001 Former No. IS2006	A Work of Heart This workshop is designed to help students define and develop their role and purpose in ministry. Spiritual leadership is a work of the heart. To learn how God prepares one for leadership, we will explore how God's heart shaping work by studying four of the most prominent Biblical Leaders. This exploration into the leadership of Moses, David, Paul and Jesus will provide some well-rehearsed biographies for spotting the signs of divine heart shaping.	10 hours
W1002	Awakening the Divine Mother Within This workshop explores the Divine Mother within as it relates to the history, the origin and in the Bible.	10 hours
W1003	Media Technology for Faith Based Organizations	10 hours
W1004	Music Ministry Workshop	10 hours

UC&L Ordination Path and Credentialing Information

Students who have completed, or are in the final term of completing, the required SEE prerequisite courses may be eligible to apply to the Unity Communities & Leaders (UC&L) Ordination Path. Applicants should indicate any courses still in progress and their expected completion dates and should request that updated transcripts be sent to the appropriate credentialing office.

Prerequisites to Apply

Applicants must meet current UC&L credentialing requirements, which include:

1. Completion of the UUMS Spiritual Education and Enrichment (SEE) Pre-Ministerial Program, or approved equivalent coursework
2. A high school diploma or equivalent
3. At least one year of involvement in a Unity church or Center

Application Information

Students should consult current UC&L for credentialing guidance for the most up-to-date application procedures and requirements. The information below is provided as a general guide. Students should refer to the Unity Worldwide credentialing website for the most current requirements, deadlines, fees, and procedures.

- Application deadline: August 1st through December 31st
- Initial application fee: \$250
- UUMS contact for questions: info@uums.org
- UC&L contact: Rev. Diane Venzera venzeradf@unityonline.org
- To request an application can request it at: unity@unityonline.org.
- Credentialing website: unityworldwide.org/credentialing
- For the Ministerial / LUT Admissions Application Information: [Download](#)

Admissions Process

Admissions decisions are based on the current UC&L credentialing process and may include review of the written application, interviews, psychological assessment, background check, references, and other required materials.

Admissions interviews may address areas such as:

- Communication
- Leadership
- Maturity
- Empathy and nurturing
- Decision-making
- Unity knowledge

Notification and Next Steps

Applicants are notified of acceptance or redirection through the current UC&L credentialing process. Students are strongly encouraged to apply as soon as they are eligible. Completion of UUMS coursework does not guarantee acceptance into the ordination path, licensing, or ordination.

UC&L Progress Interviews

General Information

Students accepted into the UC&L Ministry Path are expected to participate in progress interviews in accordance with current UC&L requirements, schedules, and policies. These interviews are part of the ongoing discernment and evaluation process leading toward recommendation for credentialing.

Students should refer to current UC&L guidance for the most up-to-date information regarding interview schedules, formats, and expectations.

Candidate Participation Requirements

Each candidate is expected to complete required progress interviews within the timelines established by UC&L. In general, candidates participate in both team interviews and one-on-one interviews during their time on the Ministry Path.

At the time of this handbook revision, the following structure is provided as a general guide and should be verified with current UC&L guidance:

- The first set of team progress interviews is to be completed within one year of acceptance to the Ministry Path.
- The first one-on-one progress interview is to be completed within one year of acceptance to the Ministry Path.
- Candidates typically participate in a minimum of three sets of team interviews and four one-on-one interviews between admission to the Ministry Path and recommendation for a credential.
- Team interviews are typically scheduled in May.
- One-on-one interviews are typically scheduled in September, December, and March.

Progress Interview Criteria

Progress interviews are used to evaluate each candidate's growth, readiness, and preparation for ministry. Individual interviewers and interview teams use the following criteria as a basis for evaluation and recommendation:

- Active enrollment in Unity Worldwide Spiritual Institute or Unity Urban Ministerial School within one year of admission to the Ministry Path
- Continued active enrollment in ministerial studies through graduation
- Satisfactory academic achievement
- Demonstration of skills and knowledge at the **Competent** level in the Standards Expected of Unity Ministers

These standards may include, but are not limited to, the following areas:

- Emotional maturity
- Self-awareness
- Self-care
- Character
- Prayer and meditation techniques and application
- Pastoral care

- Faith-filled and ethical living
- Prosperity consciousness
- Spoken and written communication skills
- Interpersonal, listening, and relationship skills
- Sacred services, ceremonies, and gatherings
- Administration
- Financial intelligence
- Board relations
- Teaching skills
- Youth and family ministry
- Technology skills
- Visionary leadership
- Spiritually inspired social action
- Unity community building
- Diversity and inclusivity
- Bible knowledge and Bible metaphysics
- Unity theology and history
- Commitment to serving a Unity ministry in an approved area of leadership
- Commitment to the Unity movement

Candidates are also expected to demonstrate conduct consistent with the Unity Communities & Leaders Code of Ethics, Sexual Conduct Policy, and the professional expectations of Unity ministry.

Purpose of Progress Interviews

Effective ministry depends upon both spiritual consciousness and practical ministerial skills. Candidates are expected to develop the ability to think theologically, metaphysically, and spiritually, to live a God-centered life, and to help others do the same in loving, creative, and responsible ways.

Interview Format

Team Interviews:

Candidates participating in a progress interview cycle typically meet with an interview team. The team evaluates the candidate, and interview statements are based on those evaluations.

Academic Information and Policies

Financial Information

Application Fee

A one-time, non-refundable application fee of \$25 is required. See the Admissions section for the application and payment link.

SEE Pre-Ministerial Courses

Tuition is \$150 per course. SEE courses are five weeks in length.

Ministerial Studies Courses

- One course: \$400
- Two courses: \$800
- Three to five courses: \$1200

For enrollment in more than five courses, tuition is \$400 per additional course.

Payments

Unless alternative payment arrangements have been approved by the UUMS Executive Director, all balances must be paid in full by the end of the first week of class.

Refund Policy

The one-time \$25 application fee is nonrefundable. All other tuition and fees paid by the applicant or student are refundable if a request is made before the end of the first week of class. Refunds will be issued within 30 days.

Scholarships

Unity Urban Ministerial School offers scholarship opportunities to qualifying students. Scholarship awards are based on available funds. Because application deadlines, essay topics, award amounts, and submission procedures may change from year to year, students should refer to the UUMS website and current scholarship application materials for the most up-to-date information.

Reference Link: [RefScholarships - Unity Urban Ministerial School](#)

Rev. Dr. Ruth M. Mosley Scholarship

Established in 2020 in honor of our beloved founder, Rev. Dr. Ruth M. Mosley, this scholarship provides financial assistance to eligible students in the Spiritual Education and Enrichment (SEE) Program.

General Eligibility

Applicants must:

1. Be enrolled in the SEE Program.
2. Have completed at least three SEE classes with satisfactory grades.
3. Intend to pursue credentialing as a Licensed Unity Teacher or Unity minister.

General Application Materials

Applicants are generally required to submit:

- a completed scholarship application, [RuthMosleyScholarship-2026-v3.pdf](#)
- a recent photo (JPEG),
- a letter of application describing the applicant's commitment to Unity and including a brief autobiography,
- three letters of recommendation, including one from the applicant's minister or spiritual leader,
- an essay responding to the current scholarship prompt, typically 350 to 500 words,
- and any additional supporting materials identified in the current application cycle.

Essay responses should follow the word count and prompt provided in the current scholarship application materials. Students should rely on the current scholarship materials for the official eligibility criteria, deadlines, and submission requirements for each scholarship cycle.

Revs. Charles and Myrtle Fillmore Scholarship

Established in 2010 by Revs. Dr. Glenn and Martha Moseley, the Charles and Myrtle Fillmore Scholarship supports students in their spiritual growth and development as they prepare for ordained Unity ministry.

General Eligibility

Applicants must:

1. Be enrolled in the UUMS Ministerial Studies Program.
2. Have successfully completed at least three classes in the UUMS Ministerial Studies Program.
3. Have a grade point average of B or better at the time of application.
4. Priority may be given to first-time applicants.

General Application Materials

Applicants are generally required to submit:

- a completed scholarship application, [Charles-and-Myrtle-Fillmore-Scholarship-v6.pdf](#)
- a recent photo (JPEG),
- a letter of application including the applicant's biography and ministerial goals,
- three current letters of recommendation, including one from the applicant's minister or spiritual leader,
- a recent transcript,
- an essay responding to the current scholarship prompt, typically 350 to 400 words,
- and any additional supporting materials identified in the current application cycle.

Award Criteria

Awards are based on available funds and may consider the applicant's academic performance, essay content, letter of application, activities, community service, and employment.

The Charles and Myrtle Fillmore Scholarship is generally offered at the beginning of the calendar year. Because deadlines, prompts, and award amounts may change from year to year, students should refer to the current scholarship application materials for the most up-to-date information.

For additional information about scholarship opportunities, contact Rev. Carolynne Jeane Rhodes at revcarolynne@uums.org.

Enrollment and Academic Administration

Registration Information

Enrollment in a course is not considered official until the required registration forms have been processed by the Administration, and all financial obligations have been met, unless approved payment arrangements are in place. No academic credit will be awarded unless tuition is paid in full by the last day of the term.

Credit for Previous Academic Experience

Students who have completed ministerial coursework through UWSI may be eligible for up to 400 transfer credits for courses equivalent to those offered in the UUMS Ministerial Studies Program. Students who hold advanced degrees from other accredited institutions may be eligible for up to 100 transfer credits for equivalent ministerial coursework. Transfer credit may be awarded from only one of these sources.

Academic Records

UUMS maintains all permanent academic records, including transfer of credits accepted from other schools and applied toward a student's program requirements. Transcripts are updated at the end of each term. Students are also encouraged to keep copies of their academic records.

Transcripts

Federal law requires that transcript requests be submitted by individual students. Requests should include the following:

- Student's full name, including maiden name if applicable
- Date of last attendance, or certificate earned and date of graduation
- Name and mailing address of the person or institution to which the transcript should be sent
- Any required fee for copying and mailing transcripts to non-Unity organizations

Re-Entrance

With the approval of the Executive Director, students may re-enter the UUMS Ministerial Studies Program and complete the remaining program requirements within a ten-year period.

Withdrawal

Students wishing to withdraw from a course must obtain approval from their Advisor or appropriate UUMS administrator and the UUMS Curriculum Coordinator or Registrar. Students who do not officially withdraw from the term will receive a final grade of Incomplete (I) in each course in which they are enrolled.

Academic Standards and Student Progress

Evaluations and Accountability

Students admitted to UUMS are considered adult learners. Faculty assume that students are self-motivated, capable of receiving meaningful feedback about their progress, and responsible for their own growth in relation to coursework.

Recording of Academic Evaluation

Evaluation of assignments within each term is intended to provide students with regular and accurate information about their progress and to support the process of self-evaluation.

Academic evaluation for assignments within each term is recorded as follows:

Evaluation	Points	Grade
Excellent	500	A
Above Average	400	B
Acceptable/Passing	300	C
Incomplete	299 or below	I

Incomplete (I)

Faculty may assign a grade of Incomplete (I) when course assignments have not been completed. Students are encouraged to contact the instructor as soon as possible to arrange for completion of outstanding work. All incomplete coursework must be completed within five weeks after the end of the term. In cases of extenuating circumstances, one additional five-week extension may be granted on an individual basis.

Attendance

All students are required to attend all mandatory meetings, and all required licensing and ordination reviews.

Appeals Process

Appeals regarding a student's status in the program, as well as requests for exceptions to academic policies and regulations, must be submitted in writing, with supporting documentation, to the appropriate UUMS administrator or designated program representative. Final decisions rest with the UUMS Executive Director.

Student Rights, Policies and Compliance

Complaints

Students are encouraged to bring concerns to the Executive Director at director@uums.org. Students who wish to file a formal complaint may do so through the State of Michigan at www.michiganps.net.

Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

Unity Urban Ministerial School, Inc. complies with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). FERPA gives students certain rights regarding their education records, including the right to inspect and review records, request amendment of records believed to be inaccurate or misleading, consent to most disclosures of personally identifiable information, and file a complaint regarding alleged FERPA violations.

Students are encouraged to address FERPA concerns first with UUMS. FERPA complaints generally must be filed within 180 days of the alleged violation or within 180 days of the date the complainant knew or reasonably should have known of the alleged violation. For the most current FERPA information, complaint procedures, and complaint forms, students should refer to the U.S. Department of Education's Student Privacy Policy Office.

Student Privacy Policy Office

U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20202-8520

FERPA.Complaints@ed.gov
studentprivacy.ed.gov/contact
studentprivacy.ed.gov/file-a-complaint

Accreditation

Unity Urban Ministerial School is an accredited member of Accrediting Commission International, Inc. (ACI), a nongovernmental accrediting association that is not affiliated with the U.S. Department of Education or any state department of higher education. Transfer of credit is determined by the receiving institution, and UUMS cannot guarantee that credits will transfer to other schools. UUMS also does not guarantee employment upon completion of the program.

Educational Pathways

Although a high school diploma or equivalent is required for UC&L ordination, a bachelor's degree or higher may be required for students who wish to pursue an advanced degree at another theological seminary.

Frequently Asked Questions

What does it cost to attend UUMS?

Tuition is as follows:

- **SEE courses:** \$150 per course
- **Ministerial Studies courses:** \$400 per course
- **Audit/Continuing Education courses:** \$50 per course

Students may take up to five courses in a ten-week term. At the SEE level, total cost depends on the number of courses taken. At the Ministerial Studies level, tuition is capped at **\$1200 per term for three to five courses**. This means that if a student takes five courses in one term, the fourth and fifth courses are offered at no additional charge. If more than five courses are taken in one term, each additional course beyond the fifth is billed at \$400.

Can a student receive financial support from UUMS?

UUMS offers limited scholarships. See the **Scholarships** section of this handbook for more information. Students are also encouraged to check with their Unity Region for additional scholarship opportunities.

Is there a new student orientation or interview before classes begin?

New student orientations are generally held quarterly, or more often as needed based on enrollment.

What are the office hours for Unity Urban Ministerial School?

Office hours are **Monday through Thursday, 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time.**

Do all 20-hour classes require the same amount of work?

Not necessarily. Courses are weighted primarily according to workload expectations, and UUMS reviews course requirements regularly and adjusts as needed.

How can a student make sure they are on track for ordination? What should they do if they are not?

Students should consult the UUMS Registrar and/or the UC&L Credentialing Office regarding their progress and next steps.

What is the role of an advisor? Do advisors help students choose classes?

Advisors intend to maintain contact with students and review student progress so that appropriate adjustments can be made in course planning. Students are encouraged to consult their advisor, the UUMS Registrar, and/or the Curriculum Coordinator for assistance with course selection and progress questions.

What should a student do if they do not receive timely feedback from an instructor or advisor?

Students should first contact the instructor. If the matter is not resolved, they should then contact the appropriate UUMS administrator, such as the Registrar or Curriculum Coordinator, and, if necessary, the Executive Director.

How do students and staff receive timely updates about program changes?

Communication is typically shared through the learning management platform/student portal, email, the UUMS website, the UUMS monthly newsletter, and phone calls as needed.

How long does a student have to make up work for an Incomplete (“I”) grade?

Faculty may assign a grade of Incomplete (I) when assignments have not been completed. Students are encouraged to contact the instructor as soon as possible to arrange for completion of outstanding work. Incomplete coursework must be completed within **five weeks** after the end of the term. In cases of extenuating circumstances, one additional five-week extension may be requested.

Are there substantial differences between UUMS and UWSI? What role does UC&L play in ordination?

Yes, there are some differences. UUMS courses are generally asynchronous unless otherwise noted. Students are not usually required to be in a classroom setting at a designated time; instead, they work independently and participate virtually through discussion threads and occasional face-to-face meetings. Timely completion of weekly assignments and written work is an important part of the UUMS curriculum.

UWSI includes some hybrid requirements, with in-person and online participation during designated days and times.

UC&L is the credentialing authority for Unity Ministers and Licensed Unity Teachers. After a student completes the educational requirements through UUMS or UWSI, licensing and ordination remain under the authority and processes of UC&L.

How long does an instructor have to submit grades?

Grades are typically submitted to both students and the Registrar by the end of the week following course completion.

What should a student do if they have questions about transcripts or grades?

Students should contact the Registrar.

How can a student provide additional feedback on course content beyond feedback given to the instructor?

Students may contact the Registrar, Curriculum Coordinator, or Executive Director.

What is required if a student wants to transfer from UWSI to UUMS?

Students should contact their current school’s Registrar and request that official transcripts be sent to UUMS. Students wishing to transfer from UUMS to another program should contact the UUMS Registrar to request transcript processing