Student: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY DIVINITY SCHOOL

**Master of Theological Studies**

***General Plan of Study***

48 semester hours (9 hours transferred from CDA)

**Required Common Courses (18 hours)**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 6500 Hebrew Bible [3] *First year-first semester*

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 6600 New Testament [3] *First year-second semester*

An approved course [3] in Historical Studies (courses designated in YES) *May be taken at any point.*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sem / Year | Course # | Course Title | Hours |
|  |  |  |  |

An approved course [3] in Theological Studies. (Students are encouraged to take 6801 Introduction to Christian Theology.) *Typically second year*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sem / Year | Course # | Course Title | Hours |
|  |  |  |  |

An approved course [3] in Ethics (courses designated in YES) *May be taken at any point.*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sem / Year | Course # | Course Title | Hours |
|  |  |  |  |

An approved course [3] in Religion, Personality and Culture (courses designated in YES) *May be taken at any point*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sem / Year | Course # | Course Title | Hours |
|  |  |  |  |

**Focus**

\_\_\_ **Project 360 Statement** submitted. *By August 1 (or post-24 hours of coursework)*.

By the beginning of their second year, M.T.S. students are required to provide to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, their advisor, and the Director of Vocational Planning and Stewardship a statement about the focus of their studies as it relates to their vocation.

***One*** *of the following:*

**\_\_\_ MTS Portfolio** *Due one month prior to graduation.*

The portfolio should contain a graded assignment, with instructor comments, from each of the required common classes. Artifacts should be chosen that demonstrate a high degree of competence or mastery of the MTS program learning goals, especially in the student’s chosen focus. The portfolio must also contain an opening integrative statement (500-1250 words) that addresses how the supporting artifacts and the students’ educational experience have met the degree program goals.

\_\_\_ **MTS Project/Thesis (3 hours)** *Typically during final semester.*

The Thesis is an original work of scholarship which should be roughly 10,000 words or more (bibliography and citations inclusive). Students must submit the petition for completing the MTS thesis before registration occurs for their final semester. The petition entails a preliminary research project proposal that is approved by the academic advisor and the identified first reader.

Before registration, students pursuing a M.T.S. Concentration Project must provide a thorough proposal, approved by their first reader, describing the nature, scope, and the theoretical, practical, and creative engagement their Project will achieve. Because projects will vary by Concentration and student interest, all final Projects must also include a summative document detailing the justification for and production of the Project, as well as how it addresses the M.T.S. Degree Learning Goals. This document must be at 5,000 words or more (bibliography and citations inclusive), engage relevant scholarship in the focus area to contextualize and ground the Concentrators’ Project, and explain how and why their work makes particular interventions (whether theoretical/practical/theological or other) in conversations or communities connected with their Project Concentration.

Both Thesis and Project students are also encouraged to enroll and participate in DIV7996, the zero-credit M.T.S. Project/Thesis writing workshop offered every Spring.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sem/Year | Course # | Course Title | Hours |
|  | 7999 | Master of Theological Studies Degree Thesis/Project | 3 |
|  | 7996 | M.T.S. Thesis/Project Writing Workshop | 0 |

**Electives (30 hrs Portfolio Option or 27 hrs Thesis Option; 9 hrs transferred from CDA ):**

Student will select the remaining 30/27 credit hours based on their interests and in discussion with their adviser. [9 credit hours of graduate level courses (5000+) may be taken outside the Divinity School. Cross-listed course do not count against these outside hours.]

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sem / Year | Course # | Course Title | Hours |
|  |  | CDA transfer |  |
|  |  | CDA transfer |  |
|  |  | CDA transfer |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

\_\_\_ Completion of “**ATS Graduating Student Questionnaire**” *By commencement*