

Unification Theological Seminary's renewal application to
operate as an out-of-state institution in Maryland in
accordance with COMAR 13B.02.01

OOS RENEWAL

MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

Application for Renewal Approval for Out-of-State Degree-Granting
Institutions to Operate in Maryland

Please Note: A separate application form must be completed and submitted with all supporting documentation for each proposed location in Maryland. If an additional, new location is being proposed, an Application for Renewal of Approval must be submitted for that location.

PREVIOUSLY APPROVED LOCATION IN MARYLAND.

Please provide the complete mailing address.

9135 Piscataway Road, Clinton, Maryland 20735

PROPOSED START DATE OF CONTINUED OPERATION. August 27, 2018

Applications should be submitted at least 5 months prior to the proposed start date.

NAME AND ADDRESS OF INSTITUTION APPLYING FOR APPROVAL.

Name of Institution: Unification Theological Seminary

Web Address: www.uts.edu

OPEID Code: 032163

U.S. Department of Education, Office of Postsecondary Education, ID Code -- Title IV eligibility.

Chief Executives Officer: Dr. Hugh Spurgin

Mailing Address: 30 Seminary Drive, Barrytown, NY 12507

Telephone: (203)260-6801

Email: h.spurgin@uts.edu

Institutional Liaison: Name and title of the individual who will serve as liaison to the Maryland Higher Education Commission:

Name: Dr. Kathy Winings

Title: Director, Maryland campus

Mailing Address: 9135 Piscataway Rd., Ste 410, Clinton, MD 20735

Telephone: (240) 244-1125

Email: k.winings@uts.edu

***** CERTIFICATION *****

I hereby affirm that the answers given in this application and its attachments are accurate and complete and further agree to comply with the *Annotated Code of Maryland* and State regulations governing the operation of out-of-State degree-granting institutions (COMAR 13B.02.01).

February 8, 2018
Date

Hugh D. Spurgin
Signature of Chief Executive Officer
President

Please Submit All Information To:

Maryland Higher Education Commission
Division of Planning and Academic Affairs
6 N. Liberty Street, 10th Floor
Baltimore, MD 21201
410-767-3268
acadprop@mhec.state.md.us

A copy of these regulations can be found at the Maryland Higher Education Commission's web site www.mhec.state.md.us (under Academic Approval Process) along with an on-line application form.

I. DURATION OF APPROVAL

Approval to operate at a previously approved location in Maryland must be renewed annually. However, "during of after the fifth year of operation in Maryland and during any subsequent renewal cycle, an out-of-State institution may apply for approval to operate in Maryland for an extended period of time up to 5 years." COMAR 13B.02.01.08C(1)

If the location for which you are applying has been annually approved for at least five years, do you wish to seek approval to operate in the State for an extended period of time of up to 5 years?
☐ Yes, we wish to be approved for _____ years.

II. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Only a complete application can be acted upon. While separate application forms must be completed and submitted for each approved location, the following Supporting Documentation needs to be included only once for each entire package of applications. **CHECK EACH ITEM AS ATTACHED.**

☒ Catalogs and Other Institutional Publications. COMAR 13B.02.01.20A(1)

Have your catalogs, other institutional publications, or awards changed since they were last submitted? ☒ Yes ☐ No If yes, please submit new copies.

☒ Application Fee. (Must accompany all renewals) COMAR 13B.02.01.08B(2)

The institution shall submit a non-refundable application fee in the amount of (a) \$7,500 for up to two degree programs and (b) an additional \$850 for each degree program over two programs. The institution's check should be made payable to: Maryland Higher Education Commission. The application renewal fee will be waived for renewals of out-of-state institutions operating at Regional Maryland Higher Education Center.

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- ☒ Accreditation. (Must accompany all renewals) COMAR 13B.02.01.08B(4)(g)

Provide a copy of the most recent letter of approval (notification) from an organization recognized as an accrediting agency by the U.S. Department of Education. Along with your most recent notification of institutional accreditation, please provide evidence that you are in compliance with that organization's policies and procedures related to off-campus educational activities. If any of your proposed programs require program accreditation provide evidence of that accreditation.

- ☒ Registration as an Out-of-State Corporation. (Must accompany all renewals)
COMAR 13B.02.01.08B(4)(f)

To transact interstate business in Maryland, the institution must qualify with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation by making the certification required in the Corporations and Associations Article, §7-202, Annotated Code of Maryland. A public institution is not required to qualify as a foreign corporation. However, a business entity affiliated with a public institution or a private institution (profit or non-profit) must qualify as a foreign corporation. The Foreign Corporation Qualification Form may be obtained from the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation, Room 809, 301 West Preston Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201 or on-line at: www.dat.state.md.us. Once qualified, the institution must provide a copy of the certificate of good standing issued by the State Department of Assessments and Taxation.

- ☒ Certificate of Compliance With Fire and Safety Codes (Must accompany all renewals)
COMAR 13B.02.01.08B(4)(o)

Please provide a certificate for each approved location for indicating that the proposed facility has been inspected and is found in compliance with local and State ordinances pertaining to fire and safety.

- ☒ Board of Trustees Resolution of Financial Solvency (Must accompany all renewals)
COMAR 13B.02.01.08B(4)(e)

Please provide a resolution from your Board of Trustees addressed to the Secretary of Higher Education stating that your institution is financially solvent.

- ☒ Advertisements COMAR 13B.02.01.07D(3)(p)

Are there new advertisements in print format related to your programs in Maryland?

☐ Yes ☒ No If yes, please provide copies of the new advertisements.

- ☒ Enrollment Data as Prescribed by the Secretary. (Must accompany all renewals)
COMAR 13B.02.01.08B(4)(q)

Please provide the information requested on the Student Enrollment Data Form found at the end of this application.

- ☒ Teach-out Plan (Must accompany all renewals) COMAR 13B.02.01.08B(4)(j)(iv)

The institution must provide a copy of its teach-out plan allowing enrolled students to complete their programs if the institution decides to cease operation in Maryland.

II. APPLICATION QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire, properly completed with supporting documentation, shall serve as an application for approval to operate in Maryland under the *Code of Maryland Regulations* (COMAR) 13B.02.01. It must be completed for each proposed location.

1. Programs.

➤ CURRENTLY OFFERED PROGRAMS.

INSTRUCTIONS. Please enter the requested information on your **CURRENTLY OFFERED PROGRAMS** in the spaces provided below, or create an attachment (labeled "A-1: Current Programs") to this application with the required information.

(a) Provide a list of your currently offered programs at this location. For each program provide the following information: (1) the full title of the program; (2) the degree or certificate to be awarded; (3) the mode of instructional delivery; (4) the number of credit hours (semester or quarter); and (5) whether they are offered at the parent campus.

Program Title	Degree	Mode of Instruction	Total Credit Hours	Offered on Main Campus Yes / No
<i>Example: Organizational Management</i>	<i>M.S.</i>	<i>Classroom</i>	<i>36 sem</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Example: Business Administration</i>	<i>B.S.B</i>	<i>Distance Ed.</i>	<i>120 sem</i>	<i>Yes</i>
I				
Master of Religious Education	MRE	Classroom	50	Yes
Master of Divinity	MDiv.	Classroom	80	Yes

➤ NEW PROGRAMS

INSTRUCTIONS. Is the institution proposing any new programs at this location? ☒ Yes ☐ No
If yes, please enter the requested information in the spaces provided below, or create an attachment (labeled "A-1: New Programs") to this information with your responses to the following for each new program:

(a) Provide a list of the new programs at this location. For each new program provide the following information: (1) the full title of the program; (2) the degree or certificate to be awarded; (3) the mode of instructional delivery; (4) the number of credit hours (semester or quarter); and (5) whether they are offered at the parent campus.

Program Title	Degree	Mode of Instruction	Total Credit Hours	Offered on Main Campus Yes / No
<i>Example: Organizational Management</i>	<i>M.S.</i>	<i>Classroom</i>	<i>36 sem</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Example: Business Administration</i>	<i>B.S.B</i>	<i>Distance Ed.</i>	<i>120 sem</i>	<i>Yes</i>
Master of Arts in Religious Studies	MA	Classroom	48	Yes

- (b) If the information does not appear in the catalog or publication you submitted provide (1) a description of the curriculum; (2) the objectives of each course; and (3) a course schedule for the proposed location

See attached document marked "A-1: New Program"

- (c) Please provide a brief description of the student population to be served by the proposed new programs.

See attached document marked "A-1: New Program"

2. Educational Need. Before the Commission may evaluate the readiness of an out-of-State institution to operate or award new degrees in the State, including the offering of an instructional program or a degree level not previously approved, the institution shall present evidence demonstrating the educational need to establish operations, offer programs, and award the degrees in question in the State. In addition, the out-of-State institution shall demonstrate that the proposed program, for which the institution is making application, meets a critical and compelling regional or Statewide need and is consistent with the Maryland Postsecondary Education. COMAR 13B.02.01.06A&C

INSTRUCTIONS: Please enter the requested information in the spaces provided below, or create an attachment (labeled "A-2: Educational Need") to this application and respond to the following questions for each new program:

- (a) What critical and compelling Regional or Statewide (Maryland) need and demand do your proposed programs meet? In responding to this question provide documentation as indicated below:
- (1) If the programs serve occupational needs, present data projecting market demand and the availability of openings in the job market to be served by the new programs for which the institution is making application. This information may include workforce and employment projections prepared by the federal and State governments, the availability of graduates in the State or region, marketing studies done by the institution or others, and material from professional and trade associations.

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See attached document marked "A-2 Educational Need"

- (2) If the programs serve societal needs (include the traditional liberal arts education), provide a Description of how the proposed programs will enhance higher education in Maryland and contribute society

See attached document marked "A-2 Educational Need"

- (b) If similar programs exist in the State, what are the similarities or differences in your program in terms of the degrees to be awarded, the areas of specialization, and the specific academic content of the programs?

See attached document marked "A-2 Educational Need"

- (c) Is a Maryland employer sponsoring/supporting the application for the program(s) to be offered at this location?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please attach a letter of support from the employer addressed to the Assistant Secretary, Planning and Academic Affairs. The letter should outline the employer's reasons for selecting the institution and its programs and state the benefits to the employees who participate in the program

3. Administrative Staff. The out-of-State institution shall provide for an on-site administrative staff responsible for overall administrative operation of educational activities including counseling, advising, testing orientation, financial aid services, and maintenance of academic records. In addition to being responsible for the administration of the policies and procedures of the parent institution, the designated administrators are responsible for meeting the expectations set forth in this chapter [of the Regulatory Standards of the State of Maryland for Out-of-State Institutions]. The duties and size of the staff shall be adequate for the size of the educational activities offered. COMAR 13B.02.01.15

INSTRUCTIONS: Has any previously reported Administrative Staff information changed since your last approval at this location? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please enter the requested information in the spaces provided below, or create an attachment labeled (labeled "A-3: Administrative Staff Changes") to this application with any changes to the following questions:

- (a) How are you planning to meet the above standard on Administrative Staff?

See attached document marked "A-3: Administrative Staff Changes"

- (b) Who will be assigned to carry-out each of these duties? Please include a curriculum vitae/resume for each administrator.

See attached document marked "A-3: Administrative Staff Changes"

4. Faculty

INSTRUCTIONS: Has any previously reported Faculty information changed since your last approval at this location? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please enter the requested information in the spaces provided below, or create an attachment labeled (labeled "A-4: Faculty Changes") with any changes to the following questions:

(a) List all faculty that are to teach in the first year (or cycle) of the programs at this location. For each faculty member provide the following information: COMAR 13B.02.01.08(4)(m)

- (1) the course(s) the faculty might soon teach;
- (2) the degrees the individual holds
- (3) the degrees areas of specialization; and
- (4) whether or not the faculty member is full-time or part-time (adjunct) at your parent institution

See attached document marked: "A-4: Faculty Changes"

(b) Please include a curriculum vitae/resume for each potential faculty member. For those faculty who are yet to be hired include a job description and minimal qualifications.

5. Library Resources. Out-of-State Institutions offering programs or courses, or both, in Maryland, shall provide adequate and appropriate library resources within State boundaries and within reasonable distance of the instructional site. Usage statistics shall be kept to determine to what extent these resources are available and accessible. COMAR 13B.02.01.17A

INSTRUCTIONS: Has any previously reported library information changed since your last approval at this location? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please enter the requested information in the spaces provided below, or create an attachment (labeled "A-5: Library Changes") to this application with any changes to the following questions.

(a) How are you planning to meet this standard on Library Resources? Briefly describe the types of materials and titles that you will make available to your students and how they will access them. Will there be provision for bibliographic instruction and/or library orientation?

Nothing has changed since our last approval at this location.

6. Student Services. COMAR 13B.02.01.18 concerns student services and activities. These shall realistically reflect the stated objectives, purposes, and philosophy of the out-of-State institution. Further, an out-of-State institution shall ensure that all students have access to a well developed program of counseling, testing, advisement, orientation, financial aid, career development, and placement. The institution may determine the specific organization of services, as well as the resources and staffing provided, as long as provision for these services are made. Student activities that complement the instructional program are particularly encouraged. COMAR Section .18 also requires that the out-of-State institutions keep complete and accurate records of admission, enrollment, grades, scholarships, transfer of

credits, transcripts, graduates, and other essentials in accordance with standard practice. This includes the physical security and confidentiality of such records. The Section requires as well, a published statement of student rights, privileges, and responsibilities and the school's adherence to its student grievance procedures.

INSTRUCTIONS: Has any previously reported Student Services information changed since your last approval at this location? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please enter the requested information in the spaces provided below, or create an attachment (labeled "A-6: Student Services") to this application with any changes to the following questions.

(a) How do you plan to implement the requirements for Student Services cited above?

Nothing has changed since our last approval at this location.

(b) Regarding student records describe the security measures the institution takes to ensure the confidentiality, physical, and electronic security of your record-keeping system.

Nothing has changed since our last approval at this location.

(c) Does the institution have a published statement of rights, privileges, and responsibilities of students?

☐ Yes ☐ No How will it make this available to its students at the proposed instructional site? _____

If this statement is in the Catalog you submitted with the application, please indicate the page number: _____

If not in the Catalog you submitted, please provide us with a copy of the statement.

(d) Does the institution have a published student grievance procedure? ☐ Yes ☐ No If this procedure is in the Catalog you submitted with the application, please indicate the page number _____. If not in the Catalog you submitted, please provide us with a copy of the grievance procedure.

7. Facilities. (See COMAR 13B.02.01.19).

INSTRUCTIONS: Has any previously reported Student Services information changed since your last approval at this location? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes to either question, please enter the requested information in the spaces provided below, or create an attachment (labeled "A-7: Facilities") to this application with any changes to the following questions.

(a) Has a specific facility been inspected and approved for use as a classroom/laboratory space and been found in compliance with local and State ordinance pertaining to fire and safety? ☐ Yes ☐ No

(1) If yes, please provide a copy of the Certificate of Compliance.

(2) If no, the Certificate of Compliance must be submitted at least 30 days prior to the start of classes.

(b) Describe any special instructional facilities and equipment (computers, audio-visual equipment, etc.) that will be used and available to students in this location.

Nothing has changed since our last approval at this location.

(c) Describe what provisions are being made for periodic repair and maintenance of buildings and grounds. What measures are being taken for campus security and fire protection? If dangerous or toxic materials are being handled, what provisions are being made for safe storage, handling and disposal?

Nothing has changed since our last approval at this location.

(d) Describe the office (and conference) space available to full and part-time faculty and administrators.

Nothing has changed since our last approval at this location.

8. Distance Education. "Distance education" means course work for academic credit delivered by telecommunicated instruction to a physical space specifically reserved for the purpose of receiving the instruction, for example, a teleclassroom, and requires the payment of tuition or fees for the instruction. "Distance education" does not include telecommunicated instruction at the student's initiation via an individual personal computer. COMAR 13B.02.01.03(8). An institution operating in Maryland and delivering instruction in Maryland by distance education shall provide evidence to the Secretary of compliance with the standards of good practice found in COMAR 13B.02.01.21.

INSTRUCTIONS. Is the institution providing distance education as defined above? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If yes, please contact the staff at the Maryland Higher Education Commission for a copy of the Standards of Good Practice and provide evidence of compliance as an attachment (labeled "A-8: Distance Education") to this application

Educational Need

Attachment: A-2 Educational Need

General Need, Occupational Need, Societal Need and Differences

The presence of the Unification Theological Seminary supports multiple educational needs in the Maryland area. They include the following:

General Need:

- (a) The churches with which UTS is working currently do not have accredited seminaries or theological schools in Maryland that are able to provide the level of theological education and training sought by its prelates, clergy and membership. Several prelates and clergy approached UTS to provide such educational training for their members who are interested in a theological education and the specific concentrations provided by the Seminary's Master of Arts in Religious Studies.
- (b) UTS is the only graduate theological institution for the sponsoring denomination. There are a large number of members from the denomination living in the Maryland/Washington, DC area.
- (c) UTS is the only theological institution in the state of Maryland that offers the Master of Arts in Religious Studies with the specific concentrations that are offered in the degree. The three unique concentrations are: a) Interfaith Peace building, b) Unification Studies and c) Non-Profit Leadership. In addition, UTS is the only accredited seminary in Maryland with an interfaith focus. The one seminary that is an interfaith seminary located in the District of Columbia, the New Seminary, is not accredited and focuses heavily on conducting interfaith services and rituals.
- (d) The UTS focus in Maryland is distinctive in terms of the employability of our students. UTS is the only graduate level seminary in Maryland to emphasize an entrepreneurial ministry approach. As more and more individuals are creating their own ministries or are opening up their own non-profit organizations, it is critical that they be able to do so with the best knowledge and skills available. Ministry is a changing field and today's clergy and lay leaders need an understanding of management, economic literacy, non-profit leadership, virtual ministry, professional fundraising, as well as pastoral care and counseling. UTS is also the only seminary in Maryland to emphasize nutrition and substance abuse counseling and care, supported by neuroscience courses as part of its pastoral care and counseling content and under the rubric of holistic spiritual care and counseling and integrative health. Students complete internships in unique settings including an integrative medicine facility and urgent care facility where they develop the practical skills and learn how to integrate theory and praxis necessary in providing effective spiritual care and holistic counseling.

As the majority of the students at UTS are from historically underrepresented populations, the needs of these communities throughout Prince George's County, Maryland as well as within the District of Columbia and Baltimore County are challenging today's clergy and lay ministers to address the very real issues of substance abuse, nutrition and spiritual care in a holistic and integrative manner.

The discipline of integrative medicine is expanding to include those trained in theological/ministerial institutions. This places UTS on the forefront of this work. Students in the Master of Arts degree program will be able to register for courses required not only for their degree program but also for certification and membership in these areas such as those sponsored by NAADAC and CACREF.

Occupational Need:

There are a range of occupations that graduates of our Master of Arts in Religious Studies will be equipped for in which the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation has projected employment needs in Maryland: Religious Workers (34.41%), Mental Health and Substance Work (32.19%), Director of Religious Activities and Education (16.63%), Human Resource Management (32.03%), Counselors (28.26%), Clergy (18.94%), Philosophy and Religion Teachers in Higher Education (16.4%) and Substance Abuse and Behavioral Counselors (30.07%). Within Prince George's County, percentages in the same occupational fields are more modest but still present such as Mental Health and Substance Abuse Workers (12.7%), Philosophy and Religion Teachers in Higher Education (10.4%), Human Resource Management (9.7%) and Directors of Religious Activities and Education (10.3%).

Social Need:

As noted in the "2017-2021 Maryland State Education Plan for Postsecondary Education" the state values many of the characteristics found in the Seminary's Master of Arts degree program. As the "Plan" noted, "The State of Maryland is among the nation's leaders of innovation in Higher Education" (*2017-2021 Maryland State Education Plan for Postsecondary Education*, 11). Innovation is a central characteristic of the proposed Master of Arts program as found in the foundational courses that emphasize interfaith peace building and the innovative concentrations such as Non-Profit Leadership, Unification Studies and Interfaith Peacebuilding.

Other characteristics and values noted in the Education Plan included "embracing diversity" (13, 15), "entrepreneurship" (11) and "non-traditional students" (14). The Seminary is the only accredited Seminary in the State to provide coursework in entrepreneurial ministry and leadership for students. In addition, as UTS has chosen to work with underrepresented populations, the Seminary has chosen to fully embrace racial, ethnic and gender diversity within its student body as working with non-traditional students is an important value to the Seminary.

The proposed Master of Arts proposed program will serve to enhance higher education in Maryland and contribute to the life of Maryland communities by strengthening the percentage of first generation graduates of the Master of Arts degree, increasing the number of professionals equipped to provide pastoral care and counseling especially in the areas of holistic and integrative counseling, and enhancing the number of leaders of non-profit ministries and associations who have course background in management that

provide knowledge and skills in order to financially support their families and the local community.

Differences:

The proposed degree program of UTS is unique from the other programs in Maryland that have Master level programs similar to a Master of Arts in Religious Studies degree. There are five religiously based Master programs in Maryland. One school offers a Spiritual Care and Counseling Master, two offer a Master of Theology, one offers a Master of Theology and a Master of Christian Ministry and one offers a Master in Non-Profit Management. However, none of these programs have an interfaith focus in its core courses, none of the programs offer a concentration in non-profit leadership within their theological Master programs, no school offers a concentration in interfaith peace building and no school offers a concentration in Unification Studies as they are sponsored by different denominations. The closest program is one of the Master of Theology programs. It offers a course on Islam and a course on Islamic/Christian relations. However, this program is not focused on interfaith peace building nor are its core courses based on interfaith peace building and interfaith theological studies. Nor do the schools require students to take a course in two faith traditions beyond their own tradition. The proposed MA and the option to study interfaith peace building is particularly valuable for the Maryland/District/Virginia region with the large number of embassies and consulates and the number of national and international faith headquarters and interreligious associations located in Washington, DC.

In addition, the one Master in Spiritual Care and Counseling emphasizes traditional pastoral counseling courses and does not offer courses to equip students to work in holistic integrative counseling contexts or courses connected to an integrative medical practice. For example, two innovative elective courses in the UTS MA program are Principles of Pharmacology for Counseling and Anatomy and Physiology for Ministry.

Course descriptions from the College's catalog

Attachment: A-1 New Program
Description of Degree, Curriculum, Program Outcomes and Course Schedule
(This information is included in the UTS Catalog)

Master of Arts in Religious Studies Degree Program

I. Goals and Outcomes of the Master of Arts in Religious Studies Program

The overall goals of the M.A. in Religious Studies challenge students to integrate faith and knowledge and recognize the impact that the world's faith traditions have on society; to equip students for a variety of ministries; to prepare students to become bridge-builders among diverse religions and cultures; and to prepare students for further graduate work in religion.

Program Outcomes

Religious Heritage

- Students should be able to formulate their own theological perspective, in conversation with theologies, sacred texts and/or exemplary individuals of their own religious tradition and other faiths.
- Students should be able to explain and appraise a faith tradition other than their own.

Cultural Context

- Students should be able to discuss and analyze issues – theological, cultural and historical – for bridging divides between religious communities.
- Students should be able to analyze contemporary cultural realities and social issues for how they pertain to peacebuilding.

Personal Spiritual Formation

- Students should be able to demonstrate spiritual maturity appropriate for one invested in religious studies.
- Students should be able to examine their experiences in light of faith, theology, and tradition.
- Students should be able to describe their calling and demonstrate initiative to carry it out.

A. Concentration in Interfaith Peacebuilding

Similar to the Interfaith Peacebuilding concentration in the M.R.E. degree program, this concentration takes students through a process whereby they gain a valuable understanding of “the other” in today’s world with the goal of developing a more harmonious and peaceful world and an identity as a human family. As one of the two professional concentrations, students in this area will undertake both a theoretical and experiential study of interfaith peacebuilding.

Outcomes

- Students should be able to apply skills and techniques for peacebuilding.
- Students should be able to demonstrate skills for ecumenical and/or interfaith dialogue and collaboration.

B. Concentration in Non-Profit Leadership

The contribution and impact of non-profit organizations in today's world has increased tremendously. For these non-profits to continue to grow and be effective in eradicating the problems and issues they seek to address – whether these are global or local issues, they will need a trained and educated leadership. As the second professional concentration in this degree program, students will focus on such vital areas as financial management, human resource development and essential leadership skills for the non-profit sector, again from the theoretical as well as experiential perspective.

Outcomes

- Students should be able to apply tools and skills for leading and managing a non-profit organization.
- Students should be able to appraise their professional accountability in the workplace and in relating with other professionals.

C. Concentration in Unification Studies

As one of the two academic concentrations, Unification Studies guides students to a more focused and in-depth understanding of the theology, philosophy, guiding principles and history of the Unification Movement. Unification students in particular will have the opportunity to study and investigate their own faith more deeply. Students will be able to choose from a wide range of courses including the History of the Unification Movement, the Life and Thought of Sun Myung Moon, and the Divine Principle.

Outcomes

- Students should be able to examine and evaluate the distinctive components of Unification theology and faith.
- Students should be able to use Unification concepts to analyze and interpret issues of ministry and society.

D. Concentration in Theological Studies

Theological Studies is the second academic concentration in the M.A. program and is the most basic concentration in the degree program. Students are able to broaden their academic background in Religious Studies by embarking on a more in-depth look at Scripture, Theology, Church History and Living Traditions. This concentration effectively prepares students for doctoral studies or further studies in specific world religions.

Outcomes

- Students should be able to analyze and critique theologies, sacred texts, and religious history.
- Students should be able to construct and defend their own critical theological viewpoint.

II. The Academic Program in Master of Arts in Religious Studies

A. Graduation Requirements

To be awarded the Master of Arts in Religious Studies degree, a student must fulfill the following requirements:

48 credit hours (less transfer credits)

A minimum grade point average of 2.50

Mid-Program Review

Masters Thesis or Project, presented in the Masters Colloquium in the final term prior to graduation. Course requirements for the Master of Arts in Religious Studies degree are listed in the *UTS Catalog*. The policy on transfer credits is also described in the *Catalog*. Course offerings each term are listed on the Master Schedule, published by the Registrar prior to registration in September.

Candidates are responsible for fulfilling the graduation requirements listed in the catalog published for the academic year in which they matriculate at the Seminary, regardless of any program or policy changes published in catalogs of subsequent years, unless special provision is made for a student to opt into a program. Graduation requirements for the Master of Arts in Religious Studies students entering in academic year 2015-2016 are stated in the *UTS Catalog 2015-2016*, and are also available on the web at www.uts.edu.

B. Master of Arts in Religious Studies Curriculum

The curriculum of the Master of Arts in Religious Studies Program consists of 3 components (for those choosing a Concentration, 4 components):

- . Foundation Courses
- . Free Electives
- . Masters Thesis or Project
- . Concentration Curriculum (Optional)

Foundation Courses

- SCR5151 World Scriptures and World Peace
- THE5132 Theology of Peacebuilding
- THE5141 Ethics and Social Justice in the Age of Globalization
- LTR5513 World Religions and Global Conflict
- LTR/SCR/THE Elective in one's own tradition
- LTR/SCR/THE Elective in a second tradition
- LTR/SCR/THE Elective in a third tradition
- Masters Thesis or Project
- MIN5804A & MIN580B Masters Colloquium

Elective Courses

Students are free to choose any UTS course offered for their elective options

Concentration Courses

1. Interfaith Peacebuilding

- Courses for Theological Communication/Teaching
- Courses for Pastoral Skills for Reconciliation
- Courses for Dialogical Skills
- Courses for Management Leadership
- Field Education Internship

2. Non-Profit Leadership

- Four Elective Courses from Management/Ministerial Leadership areas
- Field Education Internship

3. Unification Studies

- THE5631 Divine Principle
- THE5601 Unification Theology
- LTR5151 Unification Movement
- THE5611 Unification Philosophy

4. Theological Studies

- Four Courses in the area of Scripture, Theology or Church History
- One Scriptural Language Course (New Testament Greek or Biblical Hebrew)

III. Course Schedule

Classes for the MA program will be offered each week night on a schedule of 7:00pm-9:50pm for 15 weeks. If there is a final exam, the exam is given in week 16. This is the same schedule design as used currently for students. As many of the courses meet degree

program needs for more than one degree program, one course can meet the needs of multiple students. For example, students choosing to take the Non-Profit Leadership concentration in the MA program can take numerous Ministry courses from the Master of Divinity degree program as those courses provide the skill and knowledge required for the Non-Profit Leadership concentration such as Congregational Development and Ministerial Leadership. For students choosing no concentration in the MA program are allowed to take any course as an elective offered by the Seminary that fits their personal, professional or ministerial needs and interests. Therefore, the current Term Class Schedule will continue to be utilized.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7:00-9:50pm	7:00-9:50pm	7:00-9:50pm	7:00-9:50pm	7:00-9:50pm
Course 1	Course 1	Course 1	Course 1	Course 1
Course 2	Course 2	Course 2	Course 2	Course 2

The facility allows for several courses each evening if needed.

IV. Brief Description of the Student Population for the MA Program

The students attending the Maryland campus represent an historically underrepresented population. The current students are African-American, Caribbean and African. The majority of students come from a denominational grouping that has no accredited seminary or theological school (United Kingdom International). What is most relevant here is the fact that a presiding elder/bishop from this denominational grouping serves as a Seminary Trustee who has been and will continue to be instrumental in recruiting the students.

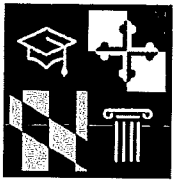
As many of the current students are from one denominational grouping, they have applied to UTS as small cohorts. This trend will continue with the new degree program. The initial entering student cohorts also completed their undergraduate degree in a similar manner by attending a faith-based college sponsored by the same denominational grouping. This has served to provide a strong support base for retention and persistence purposes for each student. This too would continue.

A second group of students, also from historically an underrepresented population, from affiliated denominational groups with no accredited seminary locally are beginning to apply. A third representative student cohort are African-based (Rwanda and Burundi) seeking to attend UTS because of the courses offered by UTS and because a key pastor from Rwanda is currently completing the Seminary's doctoral program.

A fourth student population includes members of the Seminary's sponsoring denomination. UTS is the only accredited seminary in the United States for the sponsoring denomination. The Maryland/ District of Columbia/Virginia geographic area is home to one of the largest number members of the sponsoring denomination. Therefore

the availability of a campus that is geographically located in the Maryland area is very important. The region is also home to a large number of UTS alumni who wish to add the Master of Arts in Religious Studies to their educational background as the MA was not available when many of them attended the Seminary.

Recent Approval Letter



MHEC

Creating a state of achievement

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Lt. Governor

Anwer Hasan
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James D. Fielder, Jr., Ph.D.
Secretary

February 16, 2017

Dr. Hugh Spurgin
President
Unification Theological Seminary
30 Seminary Dr.
Barrytown, NY 12507

Dear President Spurgin:

The Maryland Higher Education Commission has received a renewal application from the Unification Theological Seminary to offer instructional programs in Maryland at 9135 Piscataway Rd., Suite 410, in Clinton, MD. I am pleased to inform you that the Unification Theological Seminary is authorized to offer the programs listed below until August 31, 2018.

Approved programs:

- I. Master of Religious Education (M.R.E.)
- II. Master of Divinity (M.Div.)

An electronic renewal form and the regulations for out-of-state institutions are available on the Commission's website under "Academic Approval Process" at www.mhec.maryland.gov. In order to operate at the approved locations after the stated expiration date, the renewal application should be completed and submitted to this office no later than five months before the institution proposes to commence operation for the academic year 2018-2019. If applicable, the use of VA benefits for these programs should be coordinated through Ms. Trish Gordon-McCown, Associate Director of Veterans Affairs. She can be reached at 410-767-3098.

Please keep us informed of any changes contemplated in your offerings in Maryland. We look forward to continuing the cooperative relationship developed between your institution and the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

Sincerely,

James D. Fielder, Jr., Ph.D.
Secretary

JDF:MRW:jmc

C: Dr. Kathy Winings, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Unification Theological Seminary