

MTS

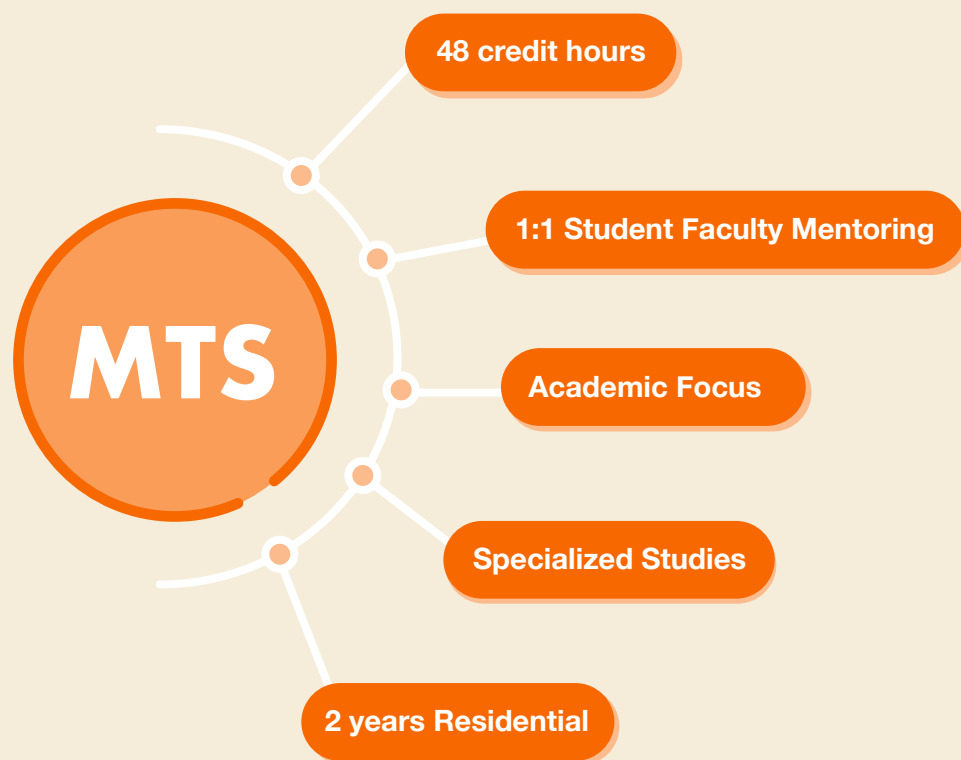
**Master of
Theological
Studies**

MERCER
UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

MTS

The MTS is an academic degree designed to prepare students for advanced and specialized work in religion. The ideal candidate for the MTS degree is intellectually curious, academically focused, and highly motivated. A background in theology or religion is not required.

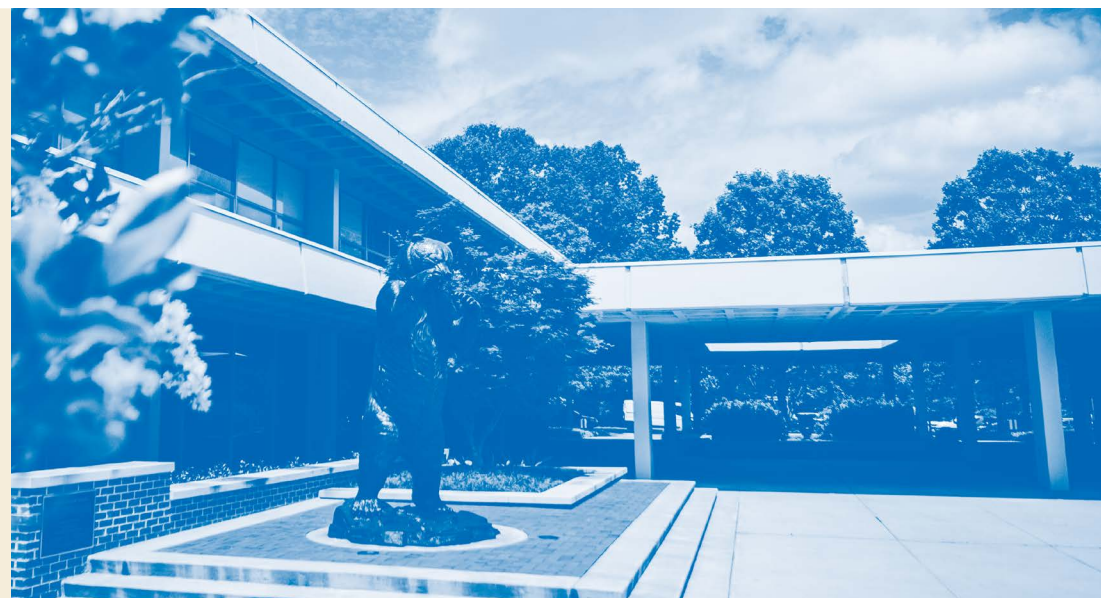


Combined Degrees

MTS & MS in Clinical Mental Health Counseling

- 96 credit hours, as little as 4 year
- Contact copa.admissions@mercer.edu or 678.547.6417 for more information about the Clinical Mental Health Counseling program and its admissions process.

See pages 10-11 for course sequences.



Research Concentrations

Biblical Studies

- The Biblical Studies concentration focuses on Old Testament or New Testament scholarship and the development of Biblical languages. Offerings are available in Greek, Hebrew, Aramaic, Syriac, and Ugaritic.

Church Music

- The Church Music concentration focuses on the foundational studies of theology and church music.

Ethics

- The Ethics concentration focuses on the numerous intersections between religious life and our institutions, communities, politics, and ideas.

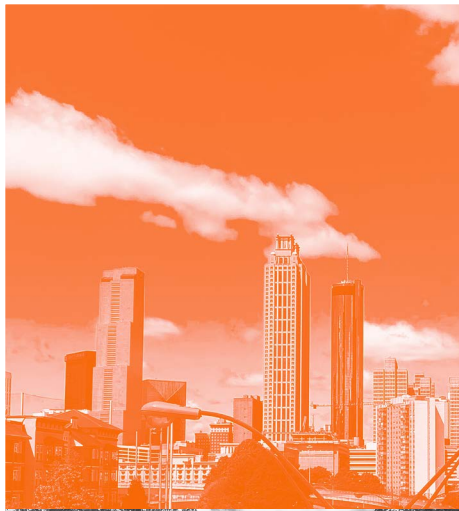
Historical – Theological

- The Historical – Theological concentration focuses on the development of ideas, methodology, and events within the religious and historical fields.

Practical Theology

- The Practical Theology concentration focuses on the theoretical, historical, and philosophical foundations for the practices and traditions of religious communities: spiritual care, interreligious dialogue, and emotional intelligence.

Combined Degrees require a **separate admissions process** with the College of Professional Advancement or the Stetson-Hatcher School of Business at Mercer depending upon your program of choice.



THIS IS WHAT AN *MTS* LOOKS LIKE

Largely because of its academic nature, our MTS graduates go on to further graduate studies or serve in the nonprofit sector, higher education, counseling, or various communities of faith.

Where You Can Serve

- Counseling
- Education
- Higher Education
- Nonprofit Sector
- Publishing Companies
- Various Communities of Faith

Many Continue Studies In

- Comparative Literature
- Ethics
- History
- Law
- Ministry
- Philosophy
- Religion
- Theology



Application

All applicants for admission to the School of Theology at Mercer University are required to hold a bachelor's degree with a liberal arts core from a college or university nationally accredited by an institutional accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education or proof of an equivalent degree from a foreign university. Master of Theological Studies applicants are required to have an undergraduate GPA of 3.0.



1. Submit Online App

- **Submit application online:** <https://theology.mercer.edu/admissions/apply-now/>
- Ask your Admissions Counselor for a code to **waive your application fee!**



2. Background Check

- **Background Check*:** Completed online at Castle Branch. Please allow up to a month for us to receive the report. The package cost is \$31.75, which must be ordered and purchased directly online by the applicant.



3. Additional Written Documents

The following can be uploaded by the applicant to the online application portal or emailed to **theologyadmissions@mercer.edu**

- **Resume:** Including church positions and service; secular occupations; community involvement; academic honors; and research, civic, or leadership awards.
- **Autobiographical Essay:** In 1,250-1,500 words speak to the following three questions: What factors have led you to apply to McAfee School of Theology? What are your professional goals? What are your scholarly interests?
- **Writing Sample:** 2,000-2,500 words of an academic paper on any topic. This may be an excerpt of an academic paper on any topic. Please include bibliography and in-text citations or footnotes.



4. Official Transcripts

The following will need to be submitted to us **directly from** your recommenders and your higher education institutions:

- **Official Transcripts:** Required from all higher educational institutions previously attended. Applicants are required to have a regionally accredited bachelor's degree or proof of an equivalent degree from a foreign university. Transcripts can be submitted electronically from your previous school's ordering service or through the mail in a sealed envelope to:

McAfee School of Theology, Mercer University
Office of Admissions
3001 Mercer University Drive
Atlanta, GA 30341



5. Recommendations

Applicants will need a total of three recommenders to complete our Master of Theological Studies Recommendation Form. Your recommenders can submit the completed form to us at **theologyadmissions@mercer.edu** Recommenders chosen must consist of the following:

- Professor
- Professor
- Professor/Supervisor from a work environment who can speak to your work ethic and character



Admissions Interviews are conducted on an as needed basis.

Note: Failure to undergo the background check will result in exclusion from admission consideration. An individual with a criminal conviction is not automatically excluded from admission; the School will evaluate the time frame, nature, gravity, and relevancy of the conviction or charge offense in making a decision. Applicants may appeal the decision and will have the opportunity to present information to dispute the background check.



Transfer Credit

Students may receive credit for courses taken at another institution as transfer credit. The number of hours accepted as transfer credit will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. The maximum allowed credit is 12 credit hours for the MTS. Transfer credit can only be considered when a student has not yet had their degree conferred from their previous higher education institution. Only courses taken at a regionally accredited college or university are considered for transfer credit.

Scholarships and Tuition

Tuition is \$545 per credit hour after a 60% tuition grant has automatically been applied. A completed application for admission also serves as a student's application to be considered for a merit-based scholarship. Scholarships are not guaranteed, but we recommend applying for admission as soon as possible. We have rolling admissions which means you can apply up until classes begin.

For priority consideration for scholarship and admission into the program, you'll want to apply by our Priority Deadlines.

- Fall Priority Deadline: January 15

Tuition Breakdown by Credit Hour:



In addition to tuition, there is a facility and technology fee that will be a maximum of \$150 per semester.



Financial Aid

Federal student loans, FAFSA inquiries, and tuition balances and payments are administered through Mercer Office of Student Financial Planning (OSFP). You can contact their office here:

- Call: 678.547.6444
- Text: 478.841.9558

To find out more about Financial Aid at Mercer, check out:

- <https://financialaid.mercer.edu/>

To start your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), go to:

- <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>
- Mercer's school code is **001580**.

Have more questions? Schedule an appointment with your Admissions Counselor or go to <https://theology.mercer.edu/admissions/faq/>

MTS Final Project Options

Research Thesis

Complete a Research Thesis in your area of focus throughout your MTS program.

Take 6 hours of courses and produce a 60-page thesis:

- THEO 713 Research Methodology
- THEO 714 Thesis Writing 1
- THEO 715 Thesis Writing 2

Praxis Project

Complete a Praxis Project in your area of focus as part of one of your directed electives in your final year.

Take 7 hours of courses:

- Take THEO 713 Research Methodology,
- 3 hours of internship (choosing THPT 701, THPT 702, or THPT 703),
- One credit hour attached to the Directed Elective in which you are writing your praxis project.





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