We appreciate your interest in The McAfee School of Theology at Mercer University. If you have not already talked with someone at McAfee, we encourage you to contact us directly. We want to take this opportunity to share a little bit about our programs and how we believe God is calling us to form Christian leaders. We hope you too, will see the many ways God is changing lives and transforming communities through the work of McAfee.

McAfee’s program of theological education includes the Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Christian Ministry, and the Doctor of Ministry degree. McAfee’s curriculum is innovative and interdisciplinary, offering both classroom experience and mentoring in local churches and community organizations. Our unique program of study blends the classical disciplines of theological education such as biblical studies, church history, theology, preaching, and pastoral care, with contextual mentoring for developing leadership.

Since beginning in 1833, Mercer University has maintained its strong ties to Baptist life in Georgia and to Baptist theological education, while at the same time, preparing students of all denominations and backgrounds for Christian ministry. During your time at McAfee you will gain a theological education that equips you with the tools for theological inquiry, spiritual witness, and hands-on experience to serve in your ministry context.

We realize that the decision to respond to God’s call to the ministry and come to McAfee for theological education are major steps in your life. In response, we commit to be partners with you, to provide you with the finest academic, spiritual, and practical educational experience, and to help you with the transitions throughout your education and career. We look forward to hearing from you and to working with you as you seek God’s will at this exciting time in your life.
The Mission of McAfee School of Theology is to form Christian leaders whose practice and scholarship, empowered by their passion for God and neighbor, changes lives and transforms communities. The School accomplishes this mission by:

Integrating spirituality with service
- Practicing spiritual disciplines that nurture us for Christian service
- Embracing ethnic, gender, and theological diversity to enhance our spiritual growth and moral formation
- Creating opportunities to learn in community, experience transformation, and risk action

Integrating theological inquiry with prophetic vision
- Interpreting the story of the Christian faith through sacred scriptures and traditions
- Connecting faith to global contexts in ways that engage personal, communal, and political realities
- Critiquing the structures of our society from an informed prophetic voice

Integrating worship with witness
- Celebrating God’s presence in worship as the source of the Church’s call to community and global transformation
- Reading cultural contexts to create holistic strategies for ministry
- Proclaiming the love of God in Jesus Christ through dialogue and in partnership with others

Founding Principles — Based on Jesse Mercer’s vision, McAfee School of Theology is founded on ten principles that have guided its inception and will continue to guide its formation and character:

1. The School shall be founded upon the belief that Jesus Christ is the Word of God, the center and focus of faith.
2. The School shall spring from Mercer University’s conviction about its own vocation as an institution, borne and nurtured by Baptists and Baptist churches and committed to undergirding the work and witness of the church as a community of faith.
3. The School shall seek to educate students who are:
   - literate and disciplined in the study of sacred scripture;
   - articulate in understanding the historical and theological issues of faith;
   - effective preachers and interpreters of the Christian gospel;
   - wise and compassionate in personal and social ministry;
   - prepared to integrate faith and life in the spiritual formation of congregations.
4. The School shall be devoted to the preparation of men and women who combine the call of God’s spirit with the intellectual gifts, the emotional maturity, and the spiritual discipline to become effective and responsible pastors and leaders in ministry.
5. The School shall be inclusive in spirit and practice, affirming the open search for truth, and fostering tolerance for religious and intellectual diversity.
6. By underscoring both scholarly discipline and the experience of ministry, the School shall seek to break through the dichotomy of theory and practice, claiming both reason and compassion, the mind and the heart as gifts of God and conceiving ministry as bringing the sacred to bear upon every dimension of human experience.
7. The School shall hold steadfastly to the high and defining traditions of Baptists, including the priesthood of believers, the separation of church and state, the autonomy of the local congregations as the context for mission and ministry, the centrality of scripture to the life of faith, and the resolve that neither creeds nor human affirmations of faith should stand as tests of orthodoxy.
8. While holding firmly to its high calling and to its specific responsibility for theological education among Baptists, the School shall also accept its responsibility to embrace the whole world as the creation of God and to serve the wider Christian community as the people of God who are called to live out God’s purpose and presence in the world.
9. The School shall embody the historical traditions of Mercer University, valuing both intellectual freedom and the affirmation of faith as the foundations of the University.
10. The School shall serve as a continuing resource to churches, pastors, and professionals in ministry for their continuing education and as a reference and placement service for churches, pastors, and other church leaders.
Priority & Application Deadlines:

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<th>Fall Priority Deadline for Scholarship Consideration M.Div/M.A.</th>
<th>Fall Final Deadline M.Div/M.A.</th>
<th>Fall Final Deadline for D.Min</th>
<th>Spring Priority Deadline for Scholarship Consideration M.Div/M.A.</th>
<th>Spring Final Deadline for M.Div/M.A.</th>
<th>Spring Final Deadline for D.Min</th>
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<td>Jan 15</td>
<td>June 1</td>
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<td>Oct 1</td>
<td>Nov 15</td>
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Financial Aid / Scholarships

McAfee is committed to lowering student debt and preparing ministers who are financially healthy. With the generous support of our church partners, we are able to provide tuition grants to all of our students. Federal Financial Aid is available to all students as well as merit scholarships for Masters students who qualify. More information regarding scholarships and financial aid can be found on our website.

Housing

Limited on campus housing is available on the Cecil B. Day Mercer campus in Atlanta. Please call (678) 547-6104 for more information. The McAfee School of Theology also maintains a list of apartments and rental properties, and we would be happy to refer you to persons who can assist you in arranging your housing.

Please indicate which degree program you are applying for:

☐ Master of Divinity
☐ Master of Arts in Christian Ministry*
☐ Doctor of Ministry

*Please note that a fully online Master of Arts in Christian Ministry is being developed for enrollment in the Fall 2016 semester. Please contact the Office of Admissions for more details. Check here if you are interested in the online degree: ☐

Mercer University is committed to providing equal educational programs or activities, and equal employment opportunities to all qualified students, employees, and applicants without discrimination on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, disability, veteran status, sex, sexual orientation, genetic information, age, or religion, as a matter of University policy and as required by applicable state and federal laws, including Title IX. Inquiries concerning this policy may be directed to the Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Officer/Title IX Coordinator, Human Resources Office, 1501 Mercer University Drive, Macon, Georgia 31207, phone 478-301-2788 or email nunn_M@Mercer.Edu, or in cases of Title IX concerns, these concerns may be referred to the Office of Civil Rights.
Applying for Admission

to The McAfee School of Theology

We are pleased that you are interested in admission to The McAfee School of Theology. The following instructions and the materials in this booklet should simplify the process for you. Masters degree seeking applicants are required to have a bachelor’s degree with a liberal arts core from a regionally accredited college or university in the United States, or proof of an equivalent degree from a foreign university. In addition to earning a Bachelor’s degree, Doctor of Ministry applicants are required to have a Master of Divinity from an accredited school or an equivalent.

Eligibility for Masters Programs
Admission will be based on your total profile (undergraduate GPA, personal information you supply, letters of recommendation and interviews). A minimum grade point average of 2.75 overall and 3.0 in your major is normally required. Ultimate approval of admission to McAfee School of Theology is given by the admissions committee.

Application Checklist for Masters Programs

- Complete the application for admission and return it to the office of admissions by post or email. Please note Appendix A (pages 11 and 12) is for D.Min. applicants only.
- Submit $50 non-refundable application fee payment. Make Checks payable to McAfee School of Theology.
- All applicants must complete a certified background check by going to certifiedprofile.com and creating a username and password. Please enter: MR81 for package code. All reports are confidential. You may request a personal copy of your report from Certified Profile free of charge.
- Answer personal and biographical essay questions located on page 10 of the application and email to hardeman_ln@mercer.edu.
- Ask your pastor to complete and return the “Pastor’s Recommendation” to McAfee School of Theology.
- Ask a professor or supervisor to complete and return the “Professor’s/Supervisor’s Recommendation” to McAfee School of Theology.
- Ask a lay leader/minister in your church who knows you well to complete and return the “Church Leader’s Recommendation” to McAfee School of Theology. Each recommendation form should be mailed directly by the recommender to the Office of Admissions. We suggest you provide stamped, pre-addressed envelopes to them. No recommendations from relatives will be accepted.
- Arrange for EACH institution of higher education (regardless of whether you received your final degree there) that you have attended to send an official transcript of your work to the attention of McAfee Admissions.
- Schedule a campus visit and arrange for 2 admissions interviews. At least an unofficial transcript must be received by the admissions office before scheduling an interview.
- For international students and those for whom English is a second language, the TOEFL is required. Have official score report sent to the Office of Admissions.

Materials should be addressed to:

OFFICE of ADMISSIONS, McAFFEE SCHOOL of THEOLOGY
MERCER UNIVERSITY
3001 MERCER UNIVERSITY DRIVE, ATLANTA, GA 30341-4115

All of the above entry requirements will compose a profile of the applicant which will be reviewed by the Admissions committee. Each applicant will be notified when an admissions decision has been made.

All applicants are encouraged to visit our campus. To arrange a campus visit please call the Office of Admissions at (678)547-6474 or toll free at (888) 471-9922.
Eligibility for D.Min Program

The Doctor of Ministry Committee of the faculty grants admission to the Doctor of Ministry degree program. Decisions are based on the total profile of the applicant, including an analysis of the applicant’s writing ability as seen in the admission essays; quality of recommendations; grade point averages of academic work; standardized test scores; and the nature and extent of the applicant’s ministry experience. No single area of deficiency will disqualify an applicant from admission.

Successful applicants will complete and submit the following application materials to the Office of Admissions:

- Official transcripts from all higher education institutions previously attended. A grade point average of 3.25 from all master’s degree study in theology is preferred. Applicants must have completed a Master of Divinity degree (or a master’s degree in theology with a 74 hour M.Div. equivalence) from a school fully accredited by a regional accrediting agency recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (or a recognized international accrediting organization). Applicants are expected to have served in full-time ministry for at least three years following receipt of the masters degree.

- A description of roles and responsibilities in active ministry in which the applicant can complete meaningful research integrating biblical, theological, and pastoral insights into the practice of specific ministry. Most applicants must have been engaged in active ministry for at least three years following receipt of an acceptable master’s degree in theology (a limited number of highly qualified applications with ministry experience completed prior to completion of the degree may be accepted).

- A Miller Analogies Test (MAT) or Graduate Record Examination (GRE) completed in the previous five years. A score on the MAT above the fiftieth (50th) percentile is preferred, but not required. If English is a second language, a score of at least 215 (new scale) on the TOEFL is required.

Application Checklist for Doctor of Ministry Program

- Complete the Application for Admission.
- Submit non-refundable payment for $50.00 application fee. Make check payable to McAfee School of Theology.
- All applicants must complete a certified background check by going to www.certifiedprofile.com and creating a username and password. Please enter: MR81 for package code. All reports are confidential. You may request a personal copy of your report from Certified Profile free of charge.
- Provide a recommendation form to three persons qualified to assess you and your skills in ministry. Each recommendation form should be mailed directly by the recommender to the Office of Admissions. We suggest you provide stamped, pre-addressed envelopes to them. No recommendations from relatives will be accepted.
- Answer personal and biographical essay questions located on page 10 of the application and email to hardeman_ln@mercer.edu.
- Complete the career assessment information and declaration of specialization in Appendix A (pages 11 and 12) for D.Min Applicants.
- Arrange to take the MAT or GRE (and the TOEFL if English is your second language). Have official score report sent to the Office of Admissions.
- Have official transcripts sent from EACH educational institutions attended, regardless of whether a degree was earned. A grade point average of 3.25 from all Master Degree work is normally expected, but a lower GPA will not eliminate you from consideration. Please send to the attention of the Office of Admissions.
- Complete an on-site or telephone admissions interview with an admissions representative or faculty member.

All of the above entry requirements will compose a profile of the applicant which will be reviewed by the D.Min. studies committee. Each applicant will be notified by the Associate Dean when an admissions decision has been made.

All applicants are encouraged to visit our campus. To arrange a campus visit please call the Office of Admissions at (678)547-6474 or toll free at (888) 471-9922.
Application for Admission

Please print clearly or type. Application requires $50 non-refundable fee.

Applicant Data

Date of Birth ____/____/_____

Social Security #______________________________

Name ________________________________

First               Middle                Name Called                (Previous Last Name)

Permanent Home Address

P.O. Box or Street     City   State   Zip code

School or Current Address (if different from above)

P.O. Box or Street     City   State   Zip code

Cell Telephone ( _____ ) ________________________________ Other Telephone ( _____ ) ________________________________

Primary Email

Citizenship (if other than United States) _________________________ Visa type___________________ Expiration:________________

If not U.S., are you a permanent resident? ☐Yes ☐No

Is English your native or birth language? ☐Yes ☐No

If permanent resident, what is your Alien registration number? _______________________

If not a permanent resident, what is your residency status? _______________________

Applicants for whom English is not their native or birth language must take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). This applies even to applicants who are U.S. citizens. Date when TOEFL was or will be taken _______________________ .

Have you ever been convicted of a crime?* ☐Yes ☐No

*Failure to disclose a conviction may result in denial of admission to the McAfee School of Theology.

Academic Data

Are you a Mercer University student or alumni? ☐Yes ☐No (The application fee is waived for current Mercer students and alumni)

Have you previously applied to the McAfee School of Theology? ☐Yes ☐No   If yes, when? _________________________________

Expected enrollment date: 20_____ ☐ Fall ☐ Spring   Expected course load: ☐ Less than 12 hours ☐ 12 hours or more

What is your estimated undergraduate GPA? _______ What is your major? _______ Graduate GPA if applicable? _______

In your own view, is your academic record reflective of your scholastic ability? ☐Yes ☐No   If not, please explain in writing.

One official transcript of your academic record must be sent to McAfee Admissions by the registrar of EACH institution of higher education previously attended, even if a degree was not earned. Transcripts for former Mercer University students are on file in the Records Office, but must be requested by the applicant to be sent to the School of Theology. Please list below all institutions attended.

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<th>Name of Institution</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Month and Year of Attendance</th>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Degree (or number of hours completed)</th>
<th>Date of Degree</th>
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Ecclesiastical Data

Religious/denominational affiliation (ex: CBF, AME Zion, Disciples of Christ) ____________________________

Current congregational membership and location ________________________________

List current and past involvement in your communities of faith (churches, campus ministries, advocacy group, etc.) including any leadership positions. You may attach a separate sheet if needed.

Work Experience Data

List employment and military service. Omit summer and part-time work unless directly relevant to your educational goals. You may submit your resume to fulfill this criteria.

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<th>Employer</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Inclusive Dates</th>
<th>Kind and Level of Work</th>
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References/Recommenders

Ask three persons who know your qualifications and gifts for ministry to write recommendations on your behalf using the following recommendation form (you may make copies). List their names and contact information below. Masters degree applicants are required to submit a recommendation form from a pastor, church leader, and a professor or supervisor; no recommendations from relatives will be considered. Be sure to fill out the information at the top of each form. These forms are to be sent directly to McAfee School of Theology by the recommender by post or email.

Name ______________________  Position: __________________ Phone: _______________  E-mail: __________________

Name ______________________  Position: __________________ Phone: _______________  E-mail: __________________

Name ______________________  Position: __________________ Phone: _______________  E-mail: __________________

I certify that the information provided in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I agree that, if accepted, I will abide by all the rules, procedures, and policies of the University, now and hereafter adopted, as set forth in the University Bulletin, the Code of Conduct for Students, and the Honor System. I understand that falsification or misrepresentation of information in any admission document is grounds for denial of admission or may result in dismissal from Mercer University.

Signature of Applicant ______________________ Date _______________
Recommendation Form

To The Applicant

Please complete this section before giving it to references you have requested to evaluate you. Then submit the recommendation form to the respondent. You may make copies of this form or download them at theology.mercer.edu. Masters students should request their three recommendations from a Pastor, Church Leader, and Professor/Supervisor.

Application for the ☐ Fall or ☐ Spring of 20____

Name_______________________________________________________________________________________________________
Address_____________________________________________________________________________________________________
Home Telephone ( _____ ) _________________________ Work Telephone ( _____ ) _________________________
I waive _____ / I do not waive _____ all future rights to review this form once submitted to McAfee School of Theology and agree to respect the confidentiality of the remarks made by the respondent.

Signature of Applicant

To The Recommender

The student named above is applying for admission to The McAfee School of Theology at Mercer University. Your recommendation should refer to the applicant’s Christian commitment through ministry. It should also highlight distinguishing intellectual and personal traits, character, integrity and fitness for the ministry, as well as creative and special talents of the applicant. Statements will be kept confidential and made available only to those directly concerned with admission to the degree program. You will note the statement above signifying whether or not the applicant waives all future rights to review this form once it has been submitted to the McAfee. Thank you for helping us evaluate the qualifications of this candidate.

After completing this form, email it or mail it directly to:
OFFICE of ADMISSIONS, McAFFEE SCHOOL of THEOLOGY
MERCER UNIVERSITY
3001 MERCER UNIVERSITY DRIVE, ATLANTA, GA 30341-4115
HARDEMAN_LN@MERCER.EDU

Please complete the sections A-C.

A. Knowledge of the applicant

1. How long have you known the applicant? _____ Years _____ Months
2. How well do you know the applicant? ❑ Casually ❑ Well ❑ Very Well
3. Please identify your relationship to the applicant. ❑ Pastor ❑ Church Leader ❑ Professor ❑ Supervisor ❑ Other_________________________
4. Describe the applicant’s involvement in their local church or his/her current ministry setting.
B. Ability of the applicant

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<th></th>
<th>Below average</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Somewhat above average</th>
<th>Good</th>
<th>Very Good</th>
<th>Truly exceptional</th>
<th>N/A</th>
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<td>Christian Commitment</td>
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<td>Leadership Potential</td>
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<td>Integrity/Character</td>
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1. Please tell us any information related to the character, temperament or physical and mental health that should be considered by an Admissions Committee in considering the applicant for advanced theological study.

___________________________________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________________________________

2. Would you recommend this person as a candidate without reservation?
If no, or with reservations, please explain.

___________________________________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________________________________

C. Please comment on the candidate’s depth of Christian commitment, relationship to the church, gifts for ministry, community involvement, ability to serve others and other pertinent information you believe to be important to the Admissions Committee in considering this applicant. Attach any additional pages you require.

___________________________________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Your name________________________________________________  Title______________________________________________
Your signature_____________________________________________
Your address_________________________________________________________________________________________________
Your institution or organization name_____________________________________________________________________________
Telephone ( _____ ) ___________________________  Email________________________________________________________
Date________________________
Personal/Autobiographical Information

Please answer the following items in a separate document, giving attention to style and content.

1. Give an account of your Christian pilgrimage.

2. Describe your commitment and call to ministry.

3. What are the ministry goals that have led you to pursue this degree (what kind of vocation do you envision for yourself)?

4. What factors have led you to apply to McAfee School of Theology for your theological training?