GTF Overview

The Graduate Theological Foundation (GTF) is an ecumenical and interreligious institution providing advanced educational opportunities to practicing ministry professionals, including flexible and convenient online and on-site learning opportunities. The GTF degree programs are designed for ministry professionals who are unable or disinclined to leave their current place of employment in order to pursue full-time residential educational opportunities. We strive to provide quality education to professionals from a variety of faith backgrounds. The GTF aims to serve those within faith communities who are engaged in the wide range of traditional and emerging forms of ministry as a way to strengthen their quest for a deeper sense of unity both among themselves and in their developing relations with other religious traditions and secular society.

We are a gathering of dedicated people in a community of colleagues seeking to learn together through the sharing of professional and vocational experience, insight and reflective knowledge. International in scope and fully ecumenical in purpose, the GTF is open to members of all religious communities as well as secular society.

The GTF offers degree specializations in many areas of study, including Applied Ministries, Pastoral Care and Counseling, Pastoral Psychology, Pastoral Logotherapy, Clinical Pastoral Psychotherapy, Clinical Pastoral Supervision, Spiritual Formation, Jewish Spiritual Direction, Health Care Ministries, Ecumenical Ministries, Denominational Studies, Tribunal Studies, Liturgy, Scripture, Islamic Studies, and others.

Coursework may be completed by taking courses directly from the GTF in the form of online or on-site study, by taking courses at other approved venues, or by using transfer credit. Students enjoy the flexibility of designing their own curriculum based on their preference of degree specialization, venue location, course delivery method, and time and financial commitment. Students work at their own pace within the timeframe of their degree programs. Both professional level (praxis-oriented) and academic level (research-oriented) graduate degrees are offered at the GTF.

Professional Degrees

Professional degrees are oriented toward praxis in the relevant field of study with an emphasis placed upon topical issues, problem-solving agendas and mechanisms for implementation strategies. The exit project may be presented through the use of various media such as workbooks and manuals, videos, CD-ROMs, websites and DVDs. The end product is evaluated by the faculty. No oral defense is required.

Doctor of Education (Ed.D.)
Doctor of Mediation (D.Med.)
Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.)
  - several concentrations available
Doctor of Psychology (Psy.D.)
- also offered: Psy.D. in Clinical Pastoral Psychotherapy; Psy.D. in Pastoral Logotherapy; Psy.D. in Clinical Pastoral Supervision
Doctor of Sacred Music (D.S.M.)
Doctor of Tribunal Studies (D.Tr.S. - residential)
Master of Business Administration in Pastoral Planning and Church Management (M.B.A.)
Master of Mediation (M.Med.)
Master of Pastoral Counseling (M.P.C.)
Master of Sacred Music (M.S.M.)
Master of Religious Education (M.R.E.)
Master of Tribunal Studies (M.Tr.S. - residential)

Academic Degrees

Academic degrees are research-oriented and based upon an information retrieval and utilization agenda requiring the use of the GTF E-Library or comparable physical research library. The end product is a master's or doctoral thesis written under faculty supervision and endorsed by the supervisor. An oral defense is required for the doctoral thesis.

A.B.D. Ph.D. completion program (for students with All-But-Dissertation status)
Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)
- also offered: Ph.D. in Biblical Studies; Ph.D. in Church History; Ph.D. in Clinical Pastoral Psychology;
  Ph.D. in Clinical Pastoral Psychotherapy; Ph.D. in Islamic Studies; Ph.D. in Pastoral Logotherapy; Ph.D. in Pastoral Psychology; Ph.D. in Philosophical Studies; Ph.D. in Theological Studies
Doctor of Theology (Th.D.)
Doctor of Tribunal Studies in Canon Law (D.Tr.S. - online)
Master of Theology (M.Th.)
- also offered: M.Th. in Buddhist Studies; M.Th. in Islamic Studies; M.Th. for Roman Catholic Deacons
Master of Tribunal Studies in Canon Law (M.Tr.S. - online)

Please visit the GTF website at www.gtfeducation.org for complete descriptions of all degree programs and specializations.