

# Master of Arts with Concentration in Religion and the Environment

The concentration is designed for those students who intend to pursue further graduate education in theology or its cognate disciplines or those who seek additional depth of knowledge in a particular field of study. It may be appropriate in some cases for those who do not plan to pursue doctoral study but who expect to teach in a specific discipline in institutions overseas.

Graduation from the School of Theology follows the successful completion of all requirements for the specified program of study and the approval of the degree by the Senate of the University upon nomination by the faculty of the School of Theology.

A Master of Arts (M.A.) student who has successfully completed all prescribed work, has completed all non-credit degree requirements, has submitted a complete portfolio if applicable, and who has a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.33, is eligible for the award of the degree of Master of Arts. Work toward the M.A. degree is to be concluded within four consecutive years from the date of matriculation.

## Requirements

Drawing on the distinctive strengths of the School of Theology and the Environmental Studies Program and affiliated departments of the College of Arts and Sciences, the M.A. with a concentration in religion and the environment is a flexible program that utilizes Sewanee's unique ability to contribute to an internationally recognized and vibrant field of interdisciplinary inquiry. After a basic grounding in the tools of Biblical studies, theology, and ethics, distribution requirements guide students so they are exposed to a variety of perspectives on environmental issues, ranging from the "hard sciences" to policy studies. Further elective work within the concentration allows the student to pursue specific interests, and a research project serves as the capstone in the concentration.

### Core Courses

BIBL 501	Old Testament: Foundations I	3
BIBL 502	Old Testament: Foundations II	3
BIBL 511	New Testament: Foundations I	3
BIBL 512	New Testament: Foundations II	3
CEMT 511	Introduction to Moral Theology	3
THEO 511	Systematic Theology I	3
THBR 531	Bibliography, Research, and Writing	1

### Concentration <sup>1</sup>

Environmental Theology (select at least three hours from the following):		3
CEMT 553	Many Sides of Sustainability	
THEO 552	God and Nature	
THEO 559	Readings in Contemporary Eco-Theology	
THEO 560	Creation, Evolution, and God	
Environmental Ethics (select at least three hours from the following):		3
PHIL 230	Environmental Ethics	
CEMT 560	Environmental Ethics	
Environmental Policy (select at least three hours from the following):		3
FORS 201	Natural Resources Issues and Policies	
FORS 270	Water Resource Policy and Law	
POLS/ECON 381	The Political Economy of Sustainable Development	
ENST 334	Environmental Policy and Law	
ECON 335	Environmental Economics	
Comparative Religious Environmentalism (select at least three hours from the following):		3
RELG 307	Religious Environmentalism	
RELG 341	Religion and Ecology	
RELG 353	Buddhism and the Environment	
RELG 393	Rural Religion	
Environmental Science (select at least three hours from the following):		3
BIOL 130	Field Investigations in Biology	
BIOL 209	Advanced Conservation Biology	

BIOL 210	Ecology (Lab)	
BIOL 211	Biodiversity: Pattern and Process (Lab)	
FORS 121	Introduction to Forestry (Lab)	
GEOL 121	Physical Geology (Lab)	
Select twelve additional hours from the courses above or from the list of approved electives: ( <a href="http://e-catalog.sewanee.edu/archives/2015-2016/theology/programs-of-study/master-arts/master_of_arts_with_concentration_in_religion_and_the_environment/electives">http://e-catalog.sewanee.edu/archives/2015-2016/theology/programs-of-study/master-arts/master_of_arts_with_concentration_in_religion_and_the_environment/electives</a> ) <sup>2</sup>		12
THEO 598	Research Project <sup>3</sup>	3
<b>Total Semester Hours</b>		<b>49</b>

- <sup>1</sup> From time to time, additional courses may be offered that satisfy the distribution requirements. Students should consult their advisor (and, when appropriate, the associate dean for academic affairs) to determine if a course not listed above may be used to satisfy the distribution requirements.
- <sup>2</sup> These courses will be chosen in consultation with the student's advisor to create a focus on policy, humanities/arts, or science, preparatory to the work of the research project. Certain courses require specific academic background, while others are open without prerequisite. Students should consult with their advisor and with the instructor of courses of interest to determine appropriate placement. Three elective hours may be taken outside of the concentration and the core curriculum.
- <sup>3</sup> The student will undertake an independent research project in the last year of enrollment. In the Advent semester, the student secures the agreement of a faculty member from the School of Theology and a faculty member from the College to supervise the project. The student develops a project proposal in consultation with the supervisors, and no later than November 15 submits the proposal to the advisor and the Office of Academic Affairs. In the Easter semester, the student registers for three credit hours of research (THEO 598). The research paper is to be a contribution to scholarly discussion. It is to be 5,500-7,500 words in length, exclusive of documentation and is to be submitted to the project supervisors once it is completed, no later than April 15 for graduation in May.

### Non-credit Degree Requirements<sup>1</sup>

Safeguarding God's People Workshop

Safeguarding God's Children Workshop

Cultural Diversity Workshop

Education for Ministry Experience

- <sup>1</sup> For details on these workshops, see the Non-credit Degree Requirements for Graduation ([http://e-catalog.sewanee.edu/archives/2015-2016/theology/programs-of-study/noncredit\\_degree\\_requirements\\_for\\_graduation](http://e-catalog.sewanee.edu/archives/2015-2016/theology/programs-of-study/noncredit_degree_requirements_for_graduation)) section.