Admission

General Application Requirements

- Applicants should have a mature Christian faith, a history of active participation in a church community, and have begun a disciplined spiritual life.
- Applicants should have a clear sense of vocation, lay or ordained, and a clear sense of how the degree program will support that vocation.
- A completed application is required. (https://theology.sewanee.edu/apply/)
- Applicants to all degrees should normally hold a baccalaureate degree or its equivalent from an accredited college or university.
- Official transcripts of degree granting undergraduate and post-secondary academic work from each institution attended are required.
- Applicants should have the intellectual ability and academic background to engage the curriculum in a satisfactory way and to fulfill successfully the requirements of the degree to which the student is applying. Applicants may be required to submit additional writing samples.
- An applicant whose first language is not English is required to complete the TOEFL or IELTS. Students who are not U.S. citizens or do not have legal permanent residency in the United States are required to have or acquire a valid U.S. visa.
- Students with non-traditional educational backgrounds will be requested to submit additional writing samples and participate in additional interviews with the associate dean of academic affairs to ensure they are adequately prepared for the seminary's rigorous academic environment and hold the necessary capacities for successful completion of the program.

Program-Specific Requirements

Certificate of Ministerial Studies

- An ecclesiastical endorsement or permission of one's bishop.
- Completion of a recognized local formation program for ordination within The Episcopal Church.
- Evidence of ordination and a minimum of one year of ministry experience.
- Two letters of recommendation, one from a person who can attest to the applicant's academic acumen, normally a professor or college faculty member, and one from a church official or member of the clergy.
- An official interview is required of all applicants.

Certificate of Theological Studies

- Applicants should normally hold a baccalaureate degree or its equivalent from an accredited college or university.
- Two letters of recommendation, one from a person who can attest to the applicant's academic acumen, normally a professor or college faculty member, and one from a church official or member of the clergy.
- An official interview is required of all applicants.

Certificate of Advanced Theological Studies

- Admission normally requires evidence of a Master of Divinity degree or its equivalent; evidence of ordination; and a minimum of three years full-time or equivalent experience in ministry, subsequent to the granting of the Master of Divinity degree.
- A minimum grade of B in post-graduate work is generally required for admission.
- Two letters of recommendation, one from a person who can attest to the applicant's academic acumen and one from a church official or member of the clergy.
- An official interview is required of all applicants.

Certificate of Advanced Study in Preaching

- Admission normally requires evidence of a Master of Divinity degree or its equivalent; evidence of ordination; and a minimum of three years full-time or equivalent experience in ministry, subsequent to the granting of the Master of Divinity degree.
- A minimum grade of B in post-graduate work is generally required for admission.
- Two letters of recommendation, one from a person who can attest to the applicant's academic acumen and one from a church official or member of the clergy.
- An official interview is required of all applicants.

Certificate of Advanced Study in Liturgy

- Admission normally requires evidence of a Master of Divinity degree or its equivalent; evidence of ordination; and a minimum of three years full-time or equivalent experience in ministry, subsequent to the granting of the Master of Divinity degree.

- A minimum grade of B in post-graduate work is generally required for admission.
- Two letters of recommendation, one from a person who can attest to the applicant's academic acumen and one from a church official or member of the clergy.
- An official interview is required of all applicants.

Master of Divinity

- Applicants for admission to the Master of Divinity program should have an ecclesiastical endorsement (normally, postulancy for Holy Orders in the Episcopal Church or permission of one's bishop, or the equivalent endorsement in another faith tradition) and must submit that endorsement. This requirement may be waived when deemed appropriate by the Dean of the School of Theology.
- Two letters of recommendation, one from a person who can attest to the applicant's academic acumen, normally a professor or college faculty member, and one from a church official or member of the clergy.
- An official interview is required of all applicants.

Master of Arts

- Two letters of recommendation, one from a person who can attest to the applicant's academic acumen, normally a professor or college faculty member, and one from a church official or member of the clergy.
- An official interview is required of all applicants.

Diploma of Anglican Studies

- Applicants for admission to the Diploma in Anglican Studies program should normally have a Master of Divinity degree from an accredited seminary.
- Applicants should have an ecclesiastical endorsement (normally, postulancy for Holy Orders in the Episcopal Church or permission of one's bishop) and must submit that endorsement. This requirement may be waived when deemed appropriate by the Dean of the School of Theology.
- Two letters of recommendation, one from a person who can attest to the applicant's academic acumen, normally a professor or college faculty member, and one from a church official or member of the clergy.
- An official interview is required of all applicants.

Master of Sacred Theology

- Application to the Master of Sacred Theology (General Track) program requires a first theological degree, normally a Master of Divinity.
- Applicants for admission to the Master of Sacred Theology (Anglican Studies Track) program should normally have a Master of Divinity degree from an accredited seminary. Applicants to the Master of Sacred Theology (Anglican Studies Track) program should have an ecclesiastical endorsement (normally, postulancy for Holy Orders in the Episcopal Church or permission of one's bishop) and must submit that endorsement. This requirement may be waived when deemed appropriate by the Dean of the School of Theology.
- A minimum grade of B in post-graduate work is generally required for admission.
- Two letters of recommendation, one from a person who can attest to the applicant's academic acumen, normally a seminary professor, and one from a church official or member of the clergy.
- An official interview is required of all applicants.

Doctor of Ministry

- Admission to the Doctor of Ministry program normally requires evidence of a Master of Divinity degree or its equivalent; ordination; and a minimum of three years full-time or equivalent experience in ministry, subsequent to the granting of the Master of Divinity degree.
- A minimum grade of B in post-graduate work is generally required for admission.
- Two letters of recommendation, one from a person who can attest to the applicant's academic acumen, normally a seminary professor, and one from a church official or member of the clergy.
- An official interview is required of all applicants.

Special Students

Students seeking to take classes outside of a degree program must submit copies of their transcripts from each college and graduate-level institution attended, along with a letter addressed to the Director of Admissions outlining which class(es) they wish to take and what they intend to do with the knowledge acquired there. Permission from the instructor of the class(es) may also be required.

Application for Transfer Students to the Diploma of Anglican Studies, Master of Arts, and Master of Divinity Programs

Application for admission of potential transfer students follows the same admission procedures as those listed above. Transcripts and catalog descriptions of all theological studies previously completed are required as part of the application process. The School of Theology accepts credit for transfer and advanced standing after appropriate evaluation described in the catalog section on transfer credits.