

PASTORAL STUDIES WITH A CONCENTRATION IN DIGITAL COMMUNICATION (MA)

The Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies (MAPS) degree program prepares students for ministerial service in a variety of contexts. Embracing four areas of development—human, spiritual, intellectual, and ministerial—the program guides students in the development of their own pastoral identity through an integrated exploration of theology and pastoral practice.

Through graduate coursework, focused contextual experiences, and an integration project, students explore and work to develop those personal qualities necessary for faithful service, spiritual practices grounded in God's Trinitarian life, theological knowledge and intellectual skills, and the pastoral abilities appropriate to their gifts and ministerial context. The MAPS degree at the Institute of Pastoral Studies offers students a systematic and broad foundation for a variety of ministries and the tools necessary to engage critically and constructively the challenges and opportunities of our contemporary context.

The MAPS degree concentration in Digital Communications allows students to hone their communication skills and learn best practices for using digital media in the dissemination of parish/congregation/diocese news, events, and the message of the Gospel in order to reach a wider audience through social media, webpages, video, and more.

In addition, for the MAPS concentration in Digital Communications:

- An understanding and integration of best practices in communications using digital media into their ministerial context and work.

Related Programs

Master's

- Pastoral Studies (MA) (<https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/institute-pastoral-studies/pastoral-studies/pastoral-studies-ma/>)
- Pastoral Studies with a Concentration in Church Management (MA) (<https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/institute-pastoral-studies/pastoral-studies/pastoral-studies-church-management-concentration-ma/>)
- Pastoral Studies with a Concentration in Healthcare Chaplaincy (MA) (<https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/institute-pastoral-studies/pastoral-studies/health-care-chaplaincy-concentration/>)
- Pastoral Studies with a Concentration in Religious Education (MA) (<https://catalog.luc.edu/graduate-professional/institute-pastoral-studies/pastoral-studies/religious-education-concentration/>)

Curriculum

MAPS - Digital Communication Concentration Curriculum

This traditional MAPS curriculum, designed to provide a solid first-degree experience in education for ministry includes courses in scripture, pastoral theology, and ministerial skills along with a selection of courses offered by Loyola's School of Communication. In addition to traditional courses, students complete Contextual Education (<https://www.luc.edu/>

[ips/resources/contextualeducation/](https://www.luc.edu/ips/resources/contextualeducation/)) and a capstone writing project: the Integration Paper (<https://www.luc.edu/ips/resources/procedures/#124694>). Students have the option at any point during their degree program or upon completion of their degree program to apply for the MDiv degree, and all of these courses will count toward their MDiv degree.

| Code | Title | Hours |
|--|--|-----------|
| Core Courses | | |
| IPS 570 | Introduction to Theology and Ministry | 3 |
| IPS 416 | Introduction to New Testament | 3 |
| IPS 417 | Introduction to the Old Testament | 3 |
| IPS 531 | Christian Doctrine | 3 |
| IPS 402 | Church and Mission | 3 |
| IPS 541 | Liturgy and Christian Sacraments | 3 |
| IPS 553 | Moral Theology and Christian Ethics | 3 |
| IPS 555 | Human Person and Psychological Development | 3 |
| School of Communication Courses | | 9 |
| Contextual Education | | |
| IPS 578 | Contextual Education Preparation | 0 |
| IPS 579 | Contextual Education Introduction | 1.5 |
| IPS 580 | Contextual Education I | 1.5 |
| Integration Paper | | |
| IPS 593 | Integration Project | 0 |
| Total Hours | | 36 |

Graduate & Professional Standards and Regulations

Students in graduate and professional programs can find their Academic Policies in Graduate and Professional Academic Standards and Regulations (<https://catalog.luc.edu/academic-standards-regulations/graduate-professional/>) under their school. Any additional University Policies supersede school policies.

Learning Outcomes

MA in Pastoral Studies

By completing the Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies, students will be able to demonstrate:

- A fluency with the theological, ministerial, and interpersonal resources that make successful service to the church and world feasible in positions of formation, scholarship, or ecclesial leadership.
- The capacity to understand and critique the social and cultural contexts in which the graduate will be called to serve, always with an eye toward the marginalized, excluded, and systems of oppression.
- The ability to articulate with rhetorical skill and persuasion convincing command of relevant theological and ministerial themes and applications to various potential audiences, both orally and in writing.
- Personal engagement with, and an ability to draw upon, spiritual and psychological insights and scholarship that will nourish them as they make successful ministerial or academic contributions to their particular settings and contexts.
- With the Concentration in Digital Communications, students also demonstrate an understanding and integration of best practices in

communications using digital media into their ministerial context and work.