



Advance Course of Study Fulfillment Of Theological Studies

This form shall be filled out by each candidate for provisional or full membership on the Elder track and placed in the candidate's district file before the interview by the district committee seeking recommendation for commissioning or the observation interview prior to the candidate seeking full membership (§324.10).

The Book of Discipline, 2016, §324 states that Local Pastors may fulfill the (academic) requirements for provisional membership as elders when they have: §324.6d *completed an Advanced Course of Study consisting of thirty-two semester hours of graduate theological study offered by a seminary recognized by the University Senate or its equivalent as determined by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. The Advanced Course of Study shall include the basic graduate theological studies (§ 324.4a).* The graduate theological studies are listed below. The Board of Ordained Ministry requires that a grade of "C" or above be earned in each of the courses below, or the candidate will not be credited with having completed that requirement. This applies to all courses taken after June 2010. A description of the required courses can be found on the back page.

Next to each required area of study, list the course or courses you have taken (or will have taken prior to your commissioning) which you believe fulfill that requirement, the institution where you took those courses, and the semester hours (or equivalent) for each class. The same class may not be listed to fulfill more than one area.

Candidate's Name: _____ Date: _____ Status Sought: _____

Courses Required by Discipline prior to Provisional Membership for Deacon and Elder Candidates			
These must be completed in a University Senate Approved Seminary/Theological School or in the Advanced Course of Study.			
	Name of Course	Semester	Institution
<i>Old Testament</i>			
<i>New Testament</i>			
<i>Theology</i>			
<i>Church History</i>			
<i>Mission of the Church in the World</i>			
<i>Evangelism</i>			
<i>Worship/Liturgy</i>			
<i>United Methodist Doctrine</i>			
<i>United Methodist History</i>			
<i>United Methodist Polity</i>			
TOTAL ACOS CREDIT HOURS ON TRANSCRIPT:			
<i>Must have at least 32 to be eligible for provisional membership</i>			

Courses Required by South Carolina prior to Full Membership and Ordination			
<i>(Homiletics/Preaching must be graduate level. Black Studies & Women's Studies may be undergraduate or graduate level. CPE & Homiletics/Preaching hours can count toward the required 32 for ACOS completion. If taken at the graduate level, Black Studies & Women's Studies courses can also count toward the required 32 for ACOS completion.)</i>			
	Name of Course	Semester	Institution
<i>Black Studies</i>			
<i>Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)</i>			
<i>Homiletics or Preaching</i>			
<i>Women's Studies</i>			

DESCRIPTIONS OF DISCIPLINARY REQUIRED COURSES FOR ALL CANDIATES
(Must be completed prior to Commissioning and Provisional Membership in South Carolina)

No course may be used to satisfy more than one requirement. (Exception: UM Polity/Doctrine Course specially designed to meet both requirements and providing increased course hours

Old Testament: A survey course on the Old Testament

New Testament: A survey course on the New Testament

Theology: A survey course in systematic theology

Church History: A survey course in church history

Mission of the Church in the World: A course focused on the mission of the church beyond the local church in South Carolina

Evangelism: A course on the theory or practice of evangelism

Worship/Liturgy: A course on the theory or practice of worship / liturgy

United Methodist Doctrine: A course on UM theology and doctrine

United Methodist Polity: A course on UM polity

United Methodist History: A course on UM History

The courses below are required by the South Carolina Conference prior to Ordination
(unless otherwise noted, at least 3 quarter hours or 2 semester hours at a University Senate approved Seminary/School of Theology or for Local Pastors Approved Advanced Course of Study Schools)

FOR ALL FULL MEMBER/ORDINATION CANDIDATES

Black Studies: A survey course on the history or culture of African Americans (May be undergraduate. May not be distance learning.) *Courses must focus on the required area. Courses which merely include the focus area are not acceptable.*

Women's Studies: A survey course on the history and experiences of women in America or on feminist or womanist theology. (May be undergraduate. May not be distance learning.) *Courses must focus on the required area. Courses which merely include the focus area are not acceptable.*

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE): A basic unit of CPE from an ACPE accredited site

FOR ELDER FULL MEMBER/ORDINATION CANDIDATES ONLY

Homiletics: A course on the theory or practice of preaching

FOR DEACON FULL MEMBER/ORDINATION CANDIDATES ONLY

Public Speaking/Communications: A course on the theory or practice of public speaking