

VII. ACADEMIC PROGRAMS - SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

A. MASTER OF ARTS IN GLOBAL URBAN MINISTRY (MAGUM)

1. Program Description

The Master of Arts in Global Urban Ministry (MAGUM) degree introduces students to a theological foundation and practical skills for leadership ministry in a global urban environment. These leaders typically are involved in church, para-church and missions related organizations, community programs, and urban or intercultural settings. This degree is a component of the School of Theology at BGU with 18 units of theology courses, 6 units of Perspectives Core within which students attend an International or Urban Field Experiences, 9 units of Urban Studies Concentration, and 3 units of Thesis or Philosophy of Ministry Project to complete their programs.

The BGU MAGUM program equips students with a practical understanding of how Judeo-Christian ethics and values influence the above skill sets and substantive knowledge, so that graduates are better prepared to build values-based organizational cultures, make ethical decisions, and transform individuals and organizations to make significant positive impacts upon both a locally-oriented and global society.

Graduates will not only have knowledge, comprehension and application of non-profit and community leadership skills, but they will also have the ability to analyze, synthesize, evaluate, and advocate from the perspective of stewarding resources for social and religious purposes.

2. Program Outcomes

The objectives of the MAGUM program are as follows:

- Character development and ethical behaviors globally, by examining not just best practices of social responsibility, but individual leadership and management of processes, and empowerment of organizations and groups to make decisions in contexts that are based on sound biblically-based principles;
- Critical-thinking and problem-solving skills based on core understanding and uses of the above-identified global, urban, biblical and servant leadership substantive knowledge.
- Surveys of key concepts in Bible, Global Christian History, and Christian theology to prepare leaders to understand the Christian worldview for global urban ministry endeavors.
- Biblical understanding and practical application of ministry opportunities from a Judeo-Christian perspective of historic contexts of ministry roles, and theology of work paradigms.

The MAGUM offers full-time and part-time students the opportunity to advance their own knowledge and careers, while completing a graduate degree in Global Urban Ministry through classes taught by experienced, internationally-oriented faculty with global urban experience. Students will be exposed to cross-cultural faculty, case-studies, historic, and

emerging trends in the *various vulnerable populations in urban settings worldwide*, plus students will have opportunities to travel as part of their field education nationally or internationally to see first-hand the application of these skills sets and principles in real life contexts.

Outcomes will be measured by assessment tools of papers, projects, homework, simulations, role plays, class participation, and other written, oral, individual and group assignments in class by the instructor. Moreover, BGU will utilize course evaluations by students of faculty, regular surveys of alumni and professional consultants in the field in which Global Urban Ministry courses are taught, and benchmarking of other similar programs to consistently evaluate and improve on the objectives and desired learning outcomes sought generally and for each course in the BGU MAGUM program. Students will also be asked to prepare a self-evaluation of each course and a final self-evaluation at graduation to assess outcomes.

3. Advanced Standing

If students have accumulated credits from other seminaries or institutions which they feel may be applicable to the MAGUM, they may petition the Academic Affairs Committee at the time of admission for advanced standing entrance into the MAGUM degree, transferring in approved credits at the transfer credit rate. It is the discretion of the Academic Affairs Committee to determine which courses may be transferred in and which requirements or electives they will replace.

4. Degree Requirements

Students working toward the MAGUM degree shall complete 36 semester credit hours by taking coursework in the four core theological courses, four core perspectives courses, two courses in their concentration, one elective and a final project. Students must maintain a 3.0 grade point average to meet MAGUM degree requirements. See the section on Grades in this Catalogue for policies related to grade changes.

Students who have completed approximately three quarters of their degree program may apply for candidacy. The Academic Affairs Committee will oversee the qualifying of students for candidacy. Request for candidacy will include the following procedures:

- a. The prospective candidate will have fulfilled all entrance deficiencies and other conditions stipulated at the time of admission into the program;
- b. The prospective candidate will have demonstrated a capacity for individual research, indicated by the quality of written work submitted in conjunction with course work;
- c. The prospective candidate will submit a Request for Candidacy form to the Office of the Registrar;
- d. The prospective candidate will submit a project proposal to the Academic Affairs Committee for approval. A sample proposal is available from the Registrar's Office. A project fee equal to the current course tuition for a four-credit course is to be submitted with the project proposal; and
- e. All candidacy requirements must be completed by the second week of May in the year prior to graduation (see Chapter 9, Academic Calendars).

5. Master's Final Project Policy

The MAGUM program concludes with a Master's Final Project or Philosophy of Ministry project that integrates both theory and practice of ministry. It is this combination of theory and practice in the field of the candidate's ministry which distinguishes this program from other programs that focus only on academic and experimental research. Before actual candidacy is received, students are allowed and encouraged to submit final project

proposals early in their degree program in order to allow sufficient time to complete specialized work related to their project. The final project is to be written in proper form and must make a unique contribution to the body of Christian ministry knowledge. An advisor will be selected by the student from an "Approved Advisor" list to function as the primary mentor on the final project. The Academic Dean will also be available for consultation. (See Master's Final Project Handbook for details or the Philosophy of Ministry project syllabus on the BGU website.)

6. Curriculum

The BGU Master of Arts in Global Urban Ministry (MAGUM) Program consists of the following curriculum.

<i>Theological Core (16 credits)</i>		
<i>Course No.</i>	<i>Course Title</i>	<i>Credit hrs.</i>
THE 601	Intro to Global Urban Ministry	3
THE 605	Old Testament: A Narrative Theology	3
THE 606	New Testament: A Narrative Theology	3
TOW 601-A	Theology of Work	3
HST 601	Global Christian History	3
<i>Perspectives Core (3 or 6 credits)</i>		
MIS 605	Faith and Culture in a Pluralistic World (Int'l)**	6 or
PRM 606	Urban Field Experience (Nat'l) + a 3-credit elective	6
<i>Urban Studies Concentration (9 credits)</i>		
USC 601	Intro to Relief	3
USC 602	Intro to Development	3
USC 603	Intro to Advocacy	3
<i>Master's Final Project (3 credits)</i>		
MFP 601	See <i>Master's Final Project Handbook</i> , which can be downloaded from the BGU website.	3
TOTAL		36

** Students may select a city/country of their choice to fulfill this requirement in consultation with the Academic Dean.