



The Maine School of Ministry
 Christian Studies and Leadership (CSL) Curriculum and Certificate Program
 Maine Conference, United Church of Christ
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CSL Program Certificates and Curriculum Tables

The Maine School of Ministry. The Maine School of Ministry is a leadership development program of the Maine Conference UCC established in 2013 as the successor to the Conference’s Academy for Congregational Life and Leadership. The School was formed to respond to the growing need across our Conference, the region’s Conferences, and our denominational Partners for a regionally based, low cost, and sound program of theological education dedicated to preparing leaders for, and to supporting leaders, in our churches. The School aims to provide those who feel so moved from our own and from our Partner’s congregations the opportunity to explore and to pursue a call to authorized ministry or to spiritual formation per se. Students will thus include *members in discernment* with an Association of the Maine or other UCC Conference or with a denominational Partner; *seekers after knowledge and understanding* per se; and *clergy and lay leaders* presently serving the church who wish to return to studies (sometimes termed recurrent education). All will experience guided inquiry across the School’s four teaching areas—Biblical studies, Church history, Theology/Ethics, and Practical theology—conducted around a seminar table, real or electronic, led by a master Instructor.

The Christian Studies and Leadership (CSL) Curriculum and Certificate Program. In 2015, in dialogue with the Church and Ministry Committees of the Associations of the Maine Conference UCC (<http://maineucc.org/associations-2/>), the Conference launched the four-year twenty-course Christian Studies and Leadership (CSL) Curriculum and Certificate program (<http://maineucc.org/csl-curriculum/>) in these four parts:

- **CSL 1: Christian Studies program** (10 courses, Certificate in Christian Studies, may be completed in 2 years @ 2 courses per semester + 2 June Intensives): an exploratory course of studies whose course credits may be transferred directly to CSL 2.
- **CSL 2: Pastoral Leadership program** (15 courses, Certificate in Pastoral Leadership, may be completed in 3 years @ 2 courses per semester + 3 June Intensives): an educational foundation for UCC Licensed Ministry; the CSL 2 certificate is prerequisite to CSL 3 and CSL 4 studies.
- **CSL 3: Special Ministries program** (Certificate in Special Ministries, 2 years): an educational foundation for UCC Commissioned Ministry (or for a denominational Partner’s like ministry) in such special areas as education, music, health promotion/disease prevention, outdoor ministries; CSL 2 certificate is prerequisite.
- **CSL 4: Word and Sacrament program** (Certificate in Word and Sacrament, 3 years): an educational foundation for UCC Ordained Ministry (or for a denominational Partner’s like ministry); CSL 2 certificate is prerequisite.

	Biblical Studies (BibSt)	Church History (ChHi)	Theology/Ethics (ThEth)	Practical Theology (PrTh)
Foundational (8 courses)	BibSt-Fdn 1: Gospels, Acts BibSt-Fdn 2: Epistles, Revelation BibSt-Fdn 3: Torah, Histories BibSt-Fdn 4: Prophets, Psalms, Wisdom Lit, Other	ChHi-Fdn 1: Church thru Reformation ChHi-Fdn 2: Church post-Reformation	ThEth-Fdn 1: Christian Theology ThEth-Fdn 2: Christian Ethics	
Practice-based (12 courses)		ChHi-Pb 1: Practicing the Word—Branches of Christianity ChHi-Pb 2: Practicing Torah—Branches of Judaism ChHi-Pb 3: Practicing Koran: Branches of Islam ChHi-Pb 4: Practicing Spirit—Branches of Native American religion	ThEth-Pb 1: Theological Reflection ThEth-Pb 2: Ethical Reflection	PrTh-Pb 1: Church Practice--UCC History and Polity PrTh-Pb 2: Church Practice--Congregational Life, Administration PrTh-Pb 3: Church Practice—Whence Ministry PrTh-Pb 4: Church Practice—Worship PrTh-Pb 5: Church Practice--Pastoral Care PrTh-Pb 6: Church Practice--Preaching

Division:	Biblical Studies	Church History	Theology/Ethics		Practical Theology	June Intensive
Course Type:	Foundational	Foundational	Foundational	Practice-based	Practice-based	Practice-based
Year 2016-17 Fall semester	BibSt-Fdn 1: Gospels, Acts				PrTh-Pb 1: Church Practice--UCC History and Polity	ChHi-Pb 1: Practicing the Word—Branches of Christianity
Winter/Spring Semester	BibSt-Fdn 2: Epistles, Revelation				PrTh-Pb 2: Church Practice--Congregation Life, Admin	
Year 2017-18 Fall semester	BibSt-Fdn 3: Torah, Histories				PrTh-Pb 3: Church Practice—Whence Ministry	ChHi-Pb 2: Practicing Torah—Branches of Judaism
Winter/Spring Semester	BibSt-Fdn 4: Prophets, Psalms, Wisdom Lit, Other				PrTh-Pb 4: Church Practice—Worship	
Year 2018-19 Fall semester		ChHi-Fdn 1: Church thru Reformation			PrTh-Pb 5: Church Practice--Pastoral Care	ChHi-Pb 3: Practicing Koran—Branches of Islam
Winter/Spring Semester		ChHi-Fdn 2: Church post-Reformation			PrTh-Pb 6: Church Practice--Preaching	
Year 2019-20 Fall semester			ThEth-Fdn 1: Christian Theology	ThEth-Pb 1: Theological Reflection		ChHi-Pb 4: Practicing Spirit—Branches of Native American religion
Winter/Spring Semester			ThEth-Fdn 2: Christian Ethics	ThEth-Pb 2: Ethical Reflection		