

**COMPETENCIES TO BE ACHIEVED BY M.DIV. STUDENTS
ADDENDUM TO 2022-2023 HANDBOOK**

The faculty desires the following capacities/abilities/qualities for students upon completion of the M.Div. program at JST:

Bible Competencies

1. To have a working knowledge of the literary, historical, and theological ground of a least two of these areas of the Old Testament canon: Pentateuch-History, Prophets, and Wisdom/Deutero-canonical Writings.
2. To have a working knowledge of the socio-historical setting, sources, literary features, theologies, Christologies, of at least two of the following: the Synoptics, Johannine corpus, Pauline writings.
3. To be able to negotiate the various representations of God (Creator, Redeemer, Liberator, Savior, the Christ, etc.) across the testaments with good theological understanding.
4. To be able to enunciate the unique revelation of each of the testaments as sources of faith and to be able to identify the various levels of the relationship between the Old Testament and the New Testament.
5. To be able to appropriately enlist Scriptures in an explication of the nature and practice of prayer in the Catholic tradition.
6. To be conversant on the following topics: Biblical notions of justice, dealing with violence in the Bible, sin, narratives of the miraculous, and fundamentalism.
7. To explain the following notions in conjunction with the Pauline teaching on these topics – Baptism, Salvation, Eucharist, Church, Life of Faith, Reconciliation, and Grace.
8. To be able to address the developments of these topics across the canon – Creation, Covenant, Salvation, Christology, Apocalypticism, and Eschatology.

Systematic Theology and History Competencies

1. To be able to apply critical methodology to the interpretation of magisterial texts.
2. To have a working knowledge of the history of the Church, appropriate to the interpretation of the major theological themes in various pastoral settings and in relation to your own ministerial role.
3. To be able to correlate biblical, historical, and theological development of the theological themes of God, Christ, Human Person, Church, and Sacraments.
4. To be able to address these topics across the history of Christianity to 1400: God, Christ, Sacraments, and Church.
5. To be able to address these topics across the history of Christianity from 1400 to the present: Church, Justification, Grace, Church and State, Evangelization, and Pietism.
6. To demonstrate understanding of the principles and issues basic to ecumenical and/or inter-religious dialogue.
7. To have a working knowledge of one or more Christian spiritual traditions, for example,

Ignatian spirituality.

8. To be able to responsibly and critically integrate Christian spiritual topics, themes, and practices into the analysis of biblical, theological, historical, and pastoral theology contexts.

Ministry, Ethics, and Society Competencies

Ministry

1. To be able to lead a church community in prayer through the rites of the Roman Catholic Church.
2. To communicate effectively in preaching, teaching, presiding, celebrating, listening, and counseling.
3. To be able to organize and work with liturgical ministers – ordained and lay – in preparing worship services.
4. To be familiar with the Praxis Circle method and demonstrate its relevance for theological reflection and pastoral planning.
5. To hone a competency in group facilitation and Christian discernment, especially in an environment characterized by racial and ethnic diversity.
6. To be able to explain pastoral practices in a manner that relies upon important ideas within the Catholic theological tradition.
7. To bring Gospel values to bear in attending to issues concerning power and privilege.
8. To demonstrate a commitment to professional and ministerial ethics.
9. To integrate spirituality as both a personal characteristic and a pastoral resource.
10. To integrate service and learning in solidarity with the poor and marginalized.

Ethics

1. To understand and, when addressing pressing moral issues, be able to use the following sources of ethical deliberation: Scripture, Tradition, normative and descriptive accounts of the human person.
2. To be able to explain the following notions concerning natural law/theological anthropology: moral norms, freedom and the fundamental option, and conscience.
3. To understand the relationship among the individual's formation of character and conscience, moral discernment, magisterial authority, and the role of the minister in the Church.
4. To be able to explain the connection between ethics and spirituality vis-à-vis: grace, sin, conversion, and reconciliation at both the individual and social levels.
5. To address the meaning of justice in Roman Catholic social teaching as well as its relationship to human rights.
6. To have a working knowledge of the following themes in Roman Catholic social teaching: subsidiarity; common good; human dignity; preferential option for the poor; stewardship; solidarity; work; just war theory and pacifism; justice (commutative, distributive, social).
7. To explain and assess the various contributions of ecumenical, interreligious, feminist/womanist/mujerista, liberationist, and other inculturated ethics.
8. To have a theoretical and practical knowledge of the following ethical methods:

deontology, relationality/responsibility ethics, consequentialism, proportionalism, teleology, and virtue ethics.

9. To be able to marshal the sources, methods, and ideas from Catholic moral theology and social ethics in addressing the following topics: sexuality; marriage and the family; bioethics and medical ethics; economic ethics; traditions of just war, Christian pacifism, and nonviolence; professional ethics, including ministerial ethics; discrimination (e.g., sex/gender, race, ethnicity, class).

Society (identical with “Society Themes” in Comps Packet except where noted)

1. To be able to articulate a basic understanding of culture as well as how it shapes identity and steers human agency.
2. To interpret culture and relate it to Christian scripture and tradition.
3. To be able to explain the meaning of secularization and how it affects religious commitment and worldviews.
4. To give an account of the ways and extent to which religion influences social solidarity, conflict, and change.
5. To understand the difference and mutual relationship between “official” and “nonofficial” (or popular) religion and its ramifications for theology and ministry.